

The Smithfield Herald

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SHERIFF GRIMES TAKES A STILL

Sheriff Grimes and Messrs. C. H. Johnson, D. L. Luncford and Allen Smith captured a whiskey still Wednesday of this week in Bentonville township about half a mile from the home of Mr. Atlas Johnson. There was one charge in the still and another nearby ready for use. A fire was going under the still and everything was just ready for making some whiskey. While going from the road to the still they met a white man and near the still saw two negroes. It was about forty five gallon capacity. It was brought here and placed inside the jail for safe keeping until other arrangements are made about it.

Sheriff Grimes was notified about the presence of this still a few days ago and at once made steps to take it. It seems that it had been moved from its original location and had just been put down at the place where he found it. The still was made from some galvanized tubs.

The laws of North Carolina require all sheriffs and their deputies and all police officers to use their efforts to take all stills operated in violation of the law when the same has been reported to them. In order that the public may know the law on the subject, we are publishing herewith the act in full.

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the sheriff of each county in the state and of the police of each incorporated town or city in the state to search for and seize any distillery or apparatus used for the manufacture of intoxicating liquors in violation of the laws of North Carolina and to deliver the same with any materials used for making such liquors found on the premises, to the board of county commissioners, who shall confiscate the same, cause said distillery to be cut up and destroyed, in their presence or in the presence of a committee of said board, and who may dispose of said material, including the copper or other materials from the destroyed still or apparatus, in such manner as they may deem proper.

Section 2. That it shall be the duty of said officers to seize and then and there destroy any and all liquors which may be found at such distillery, and to arrest and hold for trial all persons found on said premises engaged in distilling or abetting in the manufacture or sale of any intoxicating liquors.

Section 3. That for every distillery seized under act the sheriff or other police officer shall receive the sum of twenty dollars, which shall be allowed by the commissioners of the county in which the seizure was made.

Section 4. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 5. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified this the 8th day of March, A. D. 1909.

OFFICER FAILING TO DISCHARGE DUTY REMOVED FROM OFFICE.

Section 3525. of the revival of 1905 reads as follows: "If any officer mentioned in sections three thousand five hundred and thirty three and three thousand five hundred and thirty four shall fail or refuse to use due diligence in the execution of the provisions of such sections, after being informed of violation thereof, he shall be guilty of laches in office and such failure be cause for removal therefrom."

The reference above to section 3533 is as follows: "It shall be the duty of the sheriff and his deputies, and of any police officer to search for and seize any distillery or apparatus used for the manufacture of spirituous liquors in violation of any state law, and to deliver such distillery or apparatus to the proper authorities of the United States government for confiscation."

The Registration books for the town Election will close tomorrow. Mr. C. E. Bingham is registrar.

SECRETARY BRYAN'S NO-WINE DINNER

Last week much comment was caused in Washington because of the absence of wine at a dinner given to diplomats by Secretary and Mrs. W. J. Bryan. On account of the comment Mr. Bryan has issued the following statement:

"We did not intend to magnify, by mentioning it, the importance of the non-use of wine at the dinner given to Ambassador Bryce Monday night, but as the papers have made some inaccurate references to the matter, the facts might as well be known.

"This was the first dinner which we have given to members of the diplomatic corps and, therefore, the first time when we came into conflict with the social custom of serving wine at dinners.

"The seven other ambassadors then in the city and their ladies were invited to meet Ambassador and Mrs. Bryce, and as all the gentlemen guests present were from foreign countries, I thought it proper to explain to them the reason for our failure to conform to what seems to have been customary in this matter.

"Believing that the issue should be met frankly in the beginning, I told them, when we sat down to the table, that Mrs. Bryan and I had been teetotalers from our youth, as were our parents before us, and had never served liquor at our table; that when the president was kind enough to tender me the portfolio of state, I asked him whether our failure to serve wine would be any embarrassment to the administration, and that he generously left the matter to our discretion.

"I suggested that I thought it unfair to assume that those coming to us from abroad would judge us harshly or be unwilling to tolerate the maintenance of a traditional custom, and expressed the hope that our friendship would be made so apparent to them and our hospitality so cordial that they would overlook this weakness in us, if they regarded it as a weakness. My remarks were applauded by the company and we never spent a more enjoyable evening.

"That is all there is to the matter, and we can consider the incident closed and the custom established so far as we are concerned."

WEBB-KENYON BILL.

Has Caused a Number of Virginia Distilleries to Close Down.

Richmond, Va., April 29.—Practically all the distillers in the Second Virginia District are expected to shut down their plants on April 30, according to Colonel W. H. Chapman, revenue agent in charge of this district.

This contemplated action is due to the fact that certain changes in their methods of operations are required under the Federal law and new bonds must be furnished May 1.

Before adjusting themselves to the new order of things, it is believed that some of the distillers, at least, will defer resumption of operations until the fall. Others will probably resume business within the next month or two.

An especially disturbing factor in this line of business is the prohibitory feature of the Webb-Kenyon act in regard to interstate shipments. This of itself is said to have prompted the Virginia distillers to determine to move slowly in giving bond and in otherwise conforming to the Federal statutes.

CAUSE MANY FIRES.

A traveling man was here this week, who said that the fire which burned the News and Observer building last week was started by a negro who struck a match across his pants to get a light for a smoke. Some nearby gasoline caught from the match and very soon the fire spread over the building. Whether this is true or not, we cannot say, but we know that very many fires are caused by cigars, cigarettes and the careless use of matches.

Attend the town meeting tonight and help to nominate a good ticket for aldermen of Smithfield.

KENLY HIGH SCHOOL FINALS

We are in receipt of a handsome invitation from the Kenly High School to attend the commencement exercises May 2-6.

The exercises begin tonight with the Senior Class program. The President of the Class, Mr. George Earl Walston, will deliver an address, to be followed by the Class History by Miss Alice Faye Barnes. The Class prophecy will be read by Mith Ethel Grace Hardison.

The Senior Class will also present a play, "Who are We?" Three characters make up the cast.

The following are the members of the senior class:

Alice F. Barnes, Beulah Mae Bailey Agnes Hales, Ethel Grace Hardison, Mary Carrie Rolling, George Earl Walston and Wilbert Freeman Weltons.

On Sunday morning, May 4, at 11 o'clock, Dr. W. A. Harper, President of Elon College, will deliver the baccalaureate address.

On Monday, May 5, at ten A. M., the Junior Elocution and music Recital will be given.

On Monday at eight o'clock the Essay Contest will be held. The Oratorical Contest will take place Tuesday morning at ten o'clock. At this hour the diplomas, prizes and medals will be presented.

Tuesday night at eight o'clock, the Elocution and Music Recital will be given.

An entertaining and instructive program will be presented on each occasion, and taking it all in all, the commencement exercises will be exceedingly interesting.

WILMINGTON GIRL WEDS.

Miss Annie Wooten Becomes the Bride of Thomas W. Harrison.

Wilmington, April 26.—A wedding which will be of interest to many friends here was celebrated at 2:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, when Miss Anna E. Wooten, the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Edward Wooten, and Thomas W. Harrison, a well known young business man, were united in the holy bonds of matrimony. In deference to the wish of the couple, the ceremony was quietly performed at St. John's Episcopal church. A number of friends were present to witness the impressive ceremony.

The service was in accordance with the impressive ritual of the Episcopal faith. The officiating clergymen were Rev. Edward Wooten, father of the bride, and Rev. William E. Cox, rector of St. John's Episcopal church. The bride entered the church with her brother-in-law W. A. Davis, by whom she was given away. Little Miss Emily E. Jewett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen E. Jewett, was the flower girl. The bride was attired in a traveling suit, with hat to match.

Immediately after the wedding Mr. and Mrs. Harrison were driven to the union station, whence they departed via the Seaboard Air Line for their honeymoon.

Advent of Charles Aycock Poe.

A news item of very general interest is the arrival in the home of Editor and Mrs. Clarence Poe of Charles Aycock Poe. The baby is a grandson of the late Charles B. Aycock, and the universal wish will be that he will be worthy of the great name he bears.—Charity and Children.

CHURCH MEMBERS IN COURT.

Cheap reflections are sometimes made upon church members as better than nobody else. Court records, however, seem to prove the contrary. For instance, Judge Lewis L. Faucett, of New York, recently made the statement that out of 2,700 cases he has tried in five and half years, none was at the time of the alleged offence or ever had been an active member of the church. Judge Faucett has also been in the habit of asking each young defendant if he was a member of an attendant at a Sunday school and never yet has he been answered in the affirmative. No wonder he believes in churches and Sunday schools.—Biblical Recorder.

DR. RANKIN ON PUBLIC HEALTH

On Tuesday night Dr. W. S. Rankin, the North Carolina Apostle of Good Health, delivered an address to a good crowd in the Baptist church here on "Public Health and Individual Responsibility." Dr. Rankin came upon the invitation of the Baptist Baraca Class, and while the meeting had been well advertised, the attendance was not as large as it should have been. The question of health is one of the greatest before any people and it is surprising sometimes to see the indifference of the folks in regard to it.

Dr. Rankin used some charts illustrating the death rate on certain diseases and showed that the death rate in North Carolina is 18 per thousand while the average of the entire country is only 15 per thousand, and showing that if the proper efforts had been made by everybody all over the State our rate would have been lower. The death rate in Cuba, that hot country, is only 13 per thousand. North Carolina has been spending only 2 cents per capita for health work, while Cuba spends 46 cents per capita. See the difference?

Dr. Rankin showed conclusively to the unprejudiced mind that every one can have and should have a part in helping to better health conditions. It is our duty to look after the health of our community.

Those who were interested enough to go out and hear Dr. Rankin were more than pleased with his address and believe that it will do good. He will come to Smithfield again in the near future and it is hoped that a great crowd may greet him next time.

SELMA NEWS.

Selma, April 30.—Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Richardson, of Enslaw Ala., are on a visit to Mr. Richardson's mother, Mrs. Clem Richardson.

It is so fashionable for parties to drive to Raleigh that we can hardly keep up with them.

Mr. J. C. Warren of Wilson, was here Sunday to see his mother Mrs. I. H. Warren.

Mr. D. H. Graves, of Goldsboro, was in town Monday.

The town commissioners are hard at work cleaning out ditches and fixing bridges. They have one hand at work. It has been so long since any work was done on the South side of the railroad that it has been forgotten.

By the way, when will the town commissioners and road commissioners make their annual report? April has come and gone and no report. Don't the law say that reports shall be made in April?

Next Tuesday is election day for the town, and also election day for Trustees of the Graded school. So far, there are no candidates for the Mayoralty, or town commissioners.

For Trustees of the Graded school the old board, composed of Messrs. R. E. Richardson, R. J. Noble, W. H. Hare, and Messrs. R. M. Adams, H. A. Pearce, W. B. Roberts and J. W. Foster are candidates. They stand for a continuance of the excellent school we now have. If elected the school will go forward as it has been doing for the past five years, getting better each year and will prove a blessing to the little folks.

BACHELOR OF ARTS AT 15.

William James Sidis, 15, gives promise of obtaining a Harvard bachelor of arts next June. This youthful mathematical wizard entered the university at 11 as a specialist in mathematics. Meanwhile he has included sufficient other courses to make his college schedule an evenly balanced one.

Young Sidis is the son of Dr. Boris Sidis, one of the foremost psychologists in the country. His younger years were spent at the knees of his father, where he imbibed the rudimentary knowledge of mathematics which was later to make him known as one of the scholastic marvels of the country. At 8 he entered the Brookline High School, and two years later saw him at Tufts, where he remained for one year before entering Harvard.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHINESE REPUBLIC

New York April 27.—Churches in this city and throughout the country joined today the Christian Churches of China in praying for that Nation as requested by the present Chinese authorities. The response here was in connection with a worldwide movement to heed the appeal from the new Republic, said to be the first that ever came to Christian forces from a non-Christian land.

Points specified by China as being subjects for petitions were the Chinese people, the President to be chosen, the constitution, and its making and clean men wisely selected for members of Congress. To this, in this country, petitions were added that Christians of American birth now in China may act wisely toward that country and that Christians in America may be liberal with money and tolerant in spirit.

Episcopal, Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, and other mission boards appealed to their respective Churches to observe today in such petitions. Bishop Greer prepared a prayer which was used in all Episcopal Churches in New York and Presbyterians prepared another which was held in concert at a union service held this afternoon at the brick church on Fifth avenue where the address was given by the pastor, Rev. Dr. William P. Merrill.

BENSON NEWS.

Benson May 1.—Prof. Z. H. Rose spent last Saturday in Raleigh.

There were services at the Baptist church Sunday morning and night by the pastor, Rev. J. M. Duncan.

Mrs. Jos. P. Lee and children are visiting relatives at Garner this week.

Mrs. Fred Royall, of Emporia, Va., is visiting her mother, Mrs. M. C. Benson this week.

Mr. Judson Cavenaugh, of Wallace, spent several days with friends in town recently.

Messrs. R. T. Surlis, J. R. Barbour, Rufus Smith and Chas. F. Neighbors spent Wednesday in Lillington.

Mr. J. H. Rose, of Benson, and Mr. J. J. Rose of Meadow township, went to Rocky Mount Monday on business.

Mr. J. C. Stansil and family, of Smithfield, have been visiting relatives in town recently.

Sheriff Grimes was in our midst Monday for a few hours.

Dr. J. C. Johnson, of Durham, and Dr. Floyd Johnson, of Goldsboro, were in town Sunday.

The ordinance of Baptism was administered to three candidates at Stroups pond near town last Sunday afternoon, by Rev. J. M. Duncan of Hon. E. S. W. Dameron, of Burlington, will deliver the commencement address at the Benson High school on Tuesday morning at eleven o'clock, May 6th.

The commencement exercises of the Benson school will begin Friday night May 2, with exercises by the smaller children of the lower grades Sunday morning will be the usual sermon to the graduating class. The exercises will continue Monday, Monday evening, and Tuesday morning and evening by the higher grades. Everybody invited to come.

WALTER H. PAGE.

There is something really exhilarating about the appointment of Walter H. Page as ambassador to Great Britain.

A Southerner who knows the North; a literary man who is also a practical man of affairs; a fine public speaker; a man imbued with the spirit of democracy and of this country as democracy's representative, he has all the qualities that it ought to be necessary for a good ambassador to have. Besides he is a Johns Hopkins man.

He has not great wealth, or, if he has, he has successfully concealed the fact. But if President Wilson's object was to get the best man available with whom to test the theory that it is possible for an American ambassador to one of the great capitals of Europe to live decently and to represent his country influentially upon something like the salary the country pays him, we think he has shown great sagacity in picking his man.—Baltimore Sun.

DEMOCRATS WANT POST OFFICES

There is a feeling of deep concern among the Senators and Members of the House as to just what action will be taken by the present administration respecting the fourth class post-offices, which offices were placed under civil service by president Taft on October 15th, 1912, just twenty-two days before the election of a Democratic president and at a time when it was evident that the Taft administration would be repudiated and the government placed under the control of the Democrats. By this order, more than 35,000 Republican postmasters throughout the United States were covered into the classified service and can be removed only for cause, unless President Wilson should revoke or modify President Taft's order. That this order classifying fourth class postmasters was a debauchery of the civil service law, even prominent Republicans admit, and many of them are as anxious as the Democrats to see the order revoked. The effect of the order is to require that after October 15th, 1912, all appointments at fourth class offices where the compensation is \$500.00 a year or more shall be made from certification after examination by the civil service commission and where the compensation is less than \$500.00 all appointments shall be made on the recommendation of postoffice inspectors. One of the chief objects of the civil service is to take from politics the filling of government offices and providing that the various positions in the government service shall be filled according to merit which is to be ascertained by competitive examination. But it is not always the case that the party standing the best examination secures the position, for the law contains one big "Joker," and it is this: after an examination is held all passing satisfactory examination are placed on the eligible list, from which all vacancies in the department, for which the examination was held, are filled. These names are placed on the list in the order of the average attained. Now should a vacancy occur, the commission certifies to that department the names of the three highest eligibles, and the chief in charge of the division in the department, in which the vacancy exists, is permitted to choose any one of the three names certified to him.

The result is, that should any one of the three be of the same political faith as the chief of the division, he is chosen. Since nearly all the heads of the departments are Republicans, it is claimed that over eighty percent of the voters holding positions in the departments belong to the Republican party. Unless President Wilson revokes President Taft's order more than 35,000 Republican postmasters, covered into the classified service by executive order, will continue to hold office; though a majority of them are absolutely unqualified for the position.

There are in North Carolina only 7 first, 74 second, and 101 third class post offices. All the other postoffices in the state are in the fourth class and the present Republican incumbents will continue to hold on, until the Postmaster General and President Wilson devise some means of getting rid of them. Just what will be done no one can say at this time, and it is this that is giving the members of the House no little trouble.

Of the 142 first, second and third class postoffices in the state, sixteen are in the Fourth Congressional District represented by Mr. Pou. There is one first class office, Raleigh; one second class office, Henderson; and fourteen third class offices. Six recommendations have been sent to the Postmaster General by Mr. Pou to fill vacancies in the following: Selma, Clayton, Siler City, Kittrell, Spring Hope and West Raleigh. A. M. N., Washington City.

KENLY VOTES SCHOOL BONDS.

Kenly, April 29.—An election today authorizing an issue of fifteen thousand dollars in thirty-year five per cent bonds for a graded school building was carried, seventy-four for; seven against.