



By Arthur Brisbane

WORST OF ALL CRIMES. THE MICROSCOPE. PAGAN RELIGIONS. THE KING'S PRAYER BOOK.

California and the whole country are shocked by a dreadful kidnapping and murder in Los Angeles. The unhappy father, obeying the orders of the kidnaper, handed him \$1,500 in gold certificates, and in return received part of the body of his twelve-year-old daughter, dreadfully mutilated.

The worst of crimes is kidnapping, since it inflicts upon fathers and mothers torments most horrible. That crime should be punished with utmost severity, and when guilt is certain with no delay.

Dr. William J. Mayo, one of the famous brothers, says science learns more about diseases from the microscope than in any other way. Man's brain is a "visual organ," and must see, to know. The introduction of the microscope by the Jansses, late in the sixteenth century, has done more to advance learning than any other agent, says Dr. Mayo.

Real learning owes more to Galileo's introduction of the telescope, at the beginning of the seventeenth century, than to the microscope. Seeing the germs that cause disease is important, but less so than seeing distant stars and nebulae. Perhaps, as the great German scientist Haeckel suggested, men of the future will train one eye for telescopic, the other for microscopic work, the two eyes combined dealing with the real world about us.

Earthquake in Burmah frightened inhabitants. A loud roar, lasting ten seconds, accompanied the shaking. Gautamas, finest temple at Rangoon, was badly damaged, but that will not shake faith in Buddhism.

That is the convenient thing about pagan religions. When anything goes wrong, the pagan priest tell the faithful, "It's your fault. Your donations have been inadequate." Nothing is ever wrong with the pagan god, supposed to control earthquakes, or at least potent his own temples. Even fundamentalist Christian churches put rods on their steeples, which seems strange.

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It is believed in the West that the Tri-State Colorado River Commission, representing California, Arizona and Nevada, will reach an agreement to start work on the Boulder Dam project. Whatever helps one State helps the whole country. Arizona will gain by allowing California to use water and power now going to waste.

The British House of Lords has approved the new and changed readings in the Church of England prayer book, but it has been disapproved by House of Commons. King George is interested because his oath requires him to stick to that book.

Some low church Britishers complain that the new book is not strictly "Protestant" as the old. The opinion of the only authority that really counts can unfortunately not be obtained.

Diplomatic circles in Pekin are shocked by a shipment from Turkey to Pekin's "Anti-Opium Monopoly Bureau." The shipment

# The Smithfield Herald

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CONSIDER THIS! The Herald has the largest circulation of any newspaper published in Johnston County. That's something to consider, Mr. Advertiser!

## Wilson Bank Opens A Branch In Selma

Safe at Home Again



Photo shows Bennet Doty, American member of the French Foreign Legion, who has just returned to the United States. Doty was decorated for bravery under fire but later deserted the Legion and was sentenced to death. His sentence was commuted and he was discharged.

Selma Institution In Hands of Bank Examiner; County Deposit Fully Covered With Bond

The Branch Banking and Trust company of Wilson has established a branch bank in Selma in the building of the People's Bank and Trust company which institution is in the hands of the State bank examiner. The new banking concern began business in Selma Tuesday, the Selma bank having closed its doors December 31. It is understood that the Wilson bank will liquidate the People's Bank and Trust company. Auditors are at work on the books and it is not known at this time what the assets and liabilities are. It is hoped that a hundred cents on the dollar will be paid.

County Treasurer Creech had a deposit of approximately \$14,000 of the county's money in the People's Bank and Trust company, but the bank was fully bonded to cover the amount and there will be no loss whatever to the county.

Officers of the Selma bank were: M. R. Wall, president; T. M. Benoy, vice-president; Mrs. H. A. Brown, cashier. The directors were J. W. Bailey, Dr. G. D. Vick, Dr. J. B. Person, Dr. W. B. Johnson, H. B. Pearce, W. A. Green, M. R. Wall, T. M. Benoy, L. W. Richardson and L. D. Debnam.

The Wilson bank that has opened a branch in Selma has five banks in eastern North Carolina with combined resources of over \$5,000,000, and is one of the largest banking institutions in the state.

## P. O. Receipts Larger In 1927

Christmas Rush Comes First Four Days of Christmas Week; Shows Effect of Mail Early Campaign

Whether the population of Smithfield is increasing or whether the folks are writing more letters and taking more newspapers and magazines is not known, but at any rate, the postal receipts for the Smithfield postoffice show an increase of business during 1927. Last year, the postal receipts were \$15,463.33 as compared with \$15,448.35 in 1926.

The receipts during the month of December were greater in 1927 than in 1926 but in spite of this fact, the Christmas rush was handled with more ease than in previous years, due largely to the results of mail early campaigns that have established the habit of mailing Christmas cards and packages early, instead of waiting until the last two or three days before Christmas day. The biggest rush at the local office this December came during the first four days of Christmas week instead of the last days of the week. The receipts during the month totalled \$2,408.94 as compared with \$2,381.15 in 1926.

The regular force of the office consists of the following: J. C. Stancil, acting postmaster; J. R. Barbour, senior clerk and local secretary for the Civil Service Board; W. E. Parker, clerk, in charge of the parcel post; B. M. Brannan, clerk, who dispatches most of the mail; Ida Batten, regular substitute, who looks after the money order department. This force was augmented during the Christmas season by Miss Elsie Boyett, Miss Minnie Eason, Raymond McK. Peedin and Thelbert Barbour, temporary substitute clerks, and J. Gilmer Wharton, who served part of the time as temporary substitute clerk and part of the time as temporary substitute carrier.

## PERFECT ATTENDANCE ROLL PLAINFIELD SCHOOL

First grade: Elmer Martin, Luby Moore, Raymond Willford, Jesse Willford, Herman Willford. Second grade: Myrtle McLamb, Sallie Stafford, Albert Willford. Third grade: Leon Martin, Herman Martin, Ruby Moers, Bulie Willford. Fourth grade: Vera Beasley, Milton Moore, Willie Martin. Fifth grade: Hettie Bell Willford, Edward Willford. Seventh grade: Elsie Moore.

was 52,000 pounds of Turkish opium. That reminds you of our own alcohol proposition, in spots. One New York cabaret keeper, asked if prohibition agents bothered him, replied, "Yes, I had to give one of them \$200 just an hour ago."

## Kiwanians Hear Rev. D. H. Tuttle

Questionnaire on Kiwanis Reveals Knowledge of Local Kiwanis of Their Organization

Rev. D. H. Tuttle, a former member of the Smithfield Kiwanis club, made an inspiring address at the regular meeting this week. "Kiwanians should be kings, or rulers, of themselves, controlling their thoughts and their evil natures," said the veteran preacher. "With a will to help all worthy causes and an eye to see the needs of the city, the Kiwanis can accomplish great good."

Mr. Tuttle's remarks were received with deep interest and attention. After Mr. Tuttle's talk a questionnaire on "Kiwanis" was passed, and the answers were read before the meeting adjourned. The information contained in the answers showed how much some of the members really knew about this great civic organization.

Plans for "Ladies Night" on Thursday, January 10, are in charge of R. P. Holding.

## New Auto Firm Opens Up Here

Hudson-Essex Agency Located in Rear Red Star Filling Station—N. T. Bailey, Mgr.

Another automobile firm is added to the galaxy of agencies now operating in the capital of Johnston, the newest firm being styled the Smithfield Motor Company. The manager of the new firm is N. T. Bailey, formerly with the Motor Sales Company of Wilson. Mr. Bailey has the agency for Johnston county for Hudson and Essex cars. He has been in the automobile business for fourteen years and is fully acquainted with the details of salesmanship and service.

The company is located in the rear of the Red Star Filling Station on the corner of Fourth and Market streets. Associated with Mr. Bailey is Lehman Johnson who has been for some time with the local Chevrolet dealer. The new firm will have cars on display by Saturday.

Smithfield welcomes this new enterprise which handles an old and well-known product. In connection with the sales department, a service department will be conducted. A first class mechanic will be in the employ of the firm.

## SENATOR T. L. JOHNSON IS PAINFULLY INJURED

LUMBERTON, Jan. 3.—Former State Senator T. L. Johnson of Lumberton was painfully though not seriously injured about 7 o'clock Saturday evening when his Chrysler automobile went over an embankment, turned over twice and was wrecked two miles from Benson.

Mr. Johnson was returning to Lumberton from Smithfield at the time of the accident. He had been noticing his car pulling to the left. When going to Smithfield he was aware of this but was unable to determine the cause. Near Benson on the return the car suddenly swerved to the left and went down the embankment. Mr. Johnson was knocked unconscious. When he came to his senses, an 18-year-old boy, whom he had passed, was rendering his assistance. Mr. Johnson was carried to Benson, given medical treatment and then carried home, arriving about 10:35, and is under care of his physician at his home. He is confined to his home with injuries to his nose, right hand, shoulder and other minor bruises that are painful but not serious.

Every glass in the car was broken and Mr. Johnson's escape from serious or fatal injury seems miraculous. The wreck was caused by something wrong with the steering arrangement, for the car was being driven at moderate speed time to see them vanish into the night. For a time there was little hope of saving them.

## To Be President's Host



President Gerardo Machado, of Cuba, who will be President Coolidge's host when the President of the United States visits Havana to attend the opening of the Sixth International Conference of American States on January 16.

## Funeral Service Held For Mrs. Tomlinson

Widow of the Late J. H. B. Tomlinson Dies At Rex Hospital; Interment Here Wednesday Afternoon

Funeral services for Mrs. J. H. B. Tomlinson who died at Rex hospital, Raleigh, early Tuesday morning, were held at the Methodist church here Wednesday afternoon, and interment was made in the city cemetery beside her husband who preceded her to the grave in September, 1925.

Rev. D. H. Tuttle of this city and Rev. Fabius Cheatham of Pinhurst, cousin of the deceased, conducted the service. The church was banked with lovely floral offerings sent by sympathizing relatives and friends. William Puckett, of Raleigh, sang a solo entitled, "There is No Night There," during the service which was simple and brief.

Mrs. Tomlinson who was the widow of the late J. H. B. Tomlinson had been ill for several weeks, having undergone an operation at Rex Hospital and for some time her condition was known to be serious. Before her marriage in May, 1924, she was Miss Olivia B. Cheatham of near Oxford. Since her husband's death, she had made her home with her sister, Mrs. Allen of Auburn.

The deceased was a woman of deep Christian character and she possessed a personality that won for her a wide circle of friends. She is survived by four brothers, V. T. Cheatham, of Southern Pines; C. B. Cheatham, of Henderson; J. H. Cheatham, of Oxford, and J. T. Cheatham, of Oxford. She is also survived by the following five sisters: Mrs. P. C. Parham, and Mrs. R. A. Shirley, of Oxford; Mrs. S. W. Ferrebee, of New Bern; Mrs. John R. Allen, of Auburn, and Mrs. L. S. Baker, of Louisville.

Among those here to attend the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. Parker Rand, of Garner; Mrs. F. D. Hobart, of Davidson; Miss Mabel Tomlinson, Milliard Turner and David Turner of Greenville.

## FIRE GUTS RALEIGH THEATRE

Old Grand Vaudeville House Damaged to Extent of \$40,000

Raleigh, Jan. 3.—Fire early to night destroyed the stage section and part of the auditorium of the Grand theatre, Raleigh vaudeville house, entailing a loss estimated at \$40,000.

The building was unoccupied except for theatre employes when the fire was discovered about 6:45 o'clock, the evening's performance not having been scheduled to commence until 7:30. Firemen worked in a freezing temperature to combat the flames for an hour before getting them under control. Several of them were coated with ice before the job was done, water sprayed from the nozzles quickly freezing.

## Mrs. Bost Speaks To Woman's Club

Large Number Listen With Interest As Speaker Tells of Club Work—Choose Nominating Committee

"The test of a club program," declared Mrs. W. T. Bost of Raleigh, who addressed the local Woman's club at its regular meeting here Wednesday afternoon, "should be whether the program is meeting the needs of the town in making it a better place in which boys and girls may live and develop." The establishment of a library, the espousal of better movies, the building of boys and girls camps, the sale of only the best magazines on the newsstands were some of the worthwhile objectives touched on by the speaker who was heard by a goodly crowd of ladies interested in club work in Smithfield.

Mrs. Bost's talk dealt not only with suggestions for purely local propositions, but she pointed out how local clubs may be in touch with the State federation. She told of the federation headquarters established in the Sir Walter hotel at Raleigh, of the help that may be had there in preparing programs for meetings, in securing speakers for the furtherance of projects undertaken by the various clubs. She called attention to things that the club woman is able to have a part in because she is a club woman. The work that is done through the Sallie Southall Cotton Loan Fund in financing the education of twenty-one girls this year is alone, thinks Mrs. Bost, enough to justify the existence of the clubs in North Carolina. The part the federation had in securing Samaritan, is another achievement to be proud of.

Mrs. Bost closed her remarks by telling what other clubs are doing in the way of building club homes, this part of her talk having a special interest to the Smithfield club because, for several years this has been the aim of the local club. A lot has been purchased and for several years the club has been carrying shares in the Building and Loan Association.

At the meeting Wednesday, Mrs. W. H. Lyon presided. She is the club president for this month, carrying out the plan for each former president to have oversight of the club for a month each during this club year. After hearing the reports of the different departments, a nominating committee was elected which will name officers for next year. This committee will report at the February meeting, the report to lay on the table for another month when the ticket named will be voted on. Those constituting the nominating committee are: Miss Ruth Jones, chairman, Mrs. H. L. Skinner, Mrs. T. J. Lassiter, Mrs. L. G. Stevens and Mrs. Kirby Rose.

After the program, Mrs. Roger Smith's circle served delicious hot tea and sandwiches.

Those accompanying Mrs. Bost from Raleigh were Mrs. R. H. Garrison, Mrs. Lawrence Higgins and Mrs. Carl Williams.

## MANY FISH DIE FROM COLD IN FLORIDA WATER

Daytona Beach, Fla., Jan. 3.—Unable to withstand the sudden drop in temperature of the water, resulting from the new year colid wave, thousands of small fish have died in the Halifax river here. The surface of the water literally was covered today with dead and dying mullet and trout.

## Tantalizer

There are exactly enough letters in the line below to spell the name of a person in Smithfield, and if the right one decipher his name and will present it to The Herald office, we will present him with a complimentary ticket to the Victory Theatre. Tickets must be called for before the following issue.

Corbin Young recognized his name last issue. Today's Tantalizer: ecikhydac

## Three Fires Is Record For The New Year

Asks \$25,000



Mrs. Doris Mercer Kresge, wife of the multi-millionaire chain store owner, is suing her husband for \$25,000 to cover lawsuit expenses incurred during the court airing of the Kresge divorce triangle.

## Smithfield Couple Weds In Pine Level

Miss Ruth Brown Becomes the Bride of Howard Stephenson; Quiet Wedding

A marriage of interest to friends here took place in Pine Level Saturday afternoon at six o'clock when Miss Ruth Brown became the bride of Howard Stephenson of this city. The ceremony was performed at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Brown, the officiating minister being Rev. E. W. Price, pastor of the Freewill Baptist church. The ring service was used, the ring-bearer being the niece of the bride, little Miss Doris May Brown of Pine Level. There were no other attendants, and only the immediate family witnessed the interesting event.

Immediately after the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson left by automobile for Richmond and other points. They will be at home to their friends in Smithfield the last of this week.

The bride is well known in Smithfield where she has lived for several years, her family only recently having moved to Pine Level. She is popular here, and her many friends welcome her return as a permanent resident. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. D. T. Stephenson. He is a farmer and was also connected with a Wilson tobacco warehouse last season.

## WASHINGTON TRICKSTERS DUPE VISITOR FROM N. C.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Another North Carolina visitor fell for the bewhiskered penny game at Union Station yesterday and lost \$50. Sherman Arnold Weaver, of Ford, was the man.

After he had been duped, Weaver reported to police that he had met one man at Union station who invited him to see the sights. Weaver consented and at Second and F streets, Northwest, the other trickster joined the party. The penny matching game was suggested and Weaver lost \$50.

## DR. NOBLES' HOME IS CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS

SELMA, Jan. 4.—For the first time in 53 years the handsome and commodious home of Dr. R. J. Noble was closed for Christmas. Since 1874 the doors were always open to the family and friends. A place where the shouts of children were heard, cheer and happiness abounded and old time Southern hospitality was dispensed with a lavish hand. The genial doctor believes that "under the roof where the children shout, there is perfect rest, for the greatest of man's duties is to keep his loved ones glad." Dr. Noble and Miss Anne spent Christmas in Raleigh with Dr. R. P. Nogle.

## Store Near Hospital Destroyed Wednesday Night—Other Two Fires Cause Little Damage

Three fires is the record for Smithfield since Father Time pointed the hand toward 1928. Soon after the new year was heralded in, early Sunday morning, the fire department was called out when it was discovered that an empty negro house on Market street toward the station was on fire. The blaze was quickly extinguished and the damage was probably only ten or fifteen dollars. The house belonged to Miss Ora V. Poole.

Next at power house. Tuesday morning another call was made on the fire department when some oil which had leaked from a 55-gallon oil tank at the power house ignited. Workmen at the power house were engaged in trying to start the big pump which had failed on account of the cold, and they were using a blow-torch. The oil tank which was about six feet away was resting on four-by-four timbers. These timbers caught fire. One of the workmen poured a bucket of water on the blaze which scattered the flames. The fire department was then called out, and in a few minutes with the use of its chemicals had put out the fire.

STORE TOTAL LOSS. About eleven o'clock Wednesday night a storehouse on the Selma road just beyond the hospital was burned. A man from Charlotte whose name was not learned was passing along the highway and discovered that the store was on fire. He stopped at two or three places before he was able to get to a telephone to turn in the alarm. The house was practically destroyed and also the stock of goods, the loss of the building alone being \$1,000. The house belonged to J. J. Broadhurst of this city. L. George of Selma operated this store. No insurance was carried on the storehouse.

## LAWYER SENDS FEE TO SLAIN GIRL'S FATHER

GOLDSBORO, Jan. 3.—J. J. Hatch, Goldsboro attorney who is in the order of the court with Madril Loftin defended Larry Newsome, negro murderer of Beulah Todd, received on Tuesday a check for \$25.00 from the Wayne county commissioners for defending Newsome.

Mr. Hatch immediately endorsed the check over to Eric Tedder, the father of the slain girl, and mailed it to him. Mr. Hatch stated that he would not take one cent for his defense of Newsome, having defended him by order of the court. Mr. Hatch left for Richmond on Tuesday night to arrange with attorneys there for the date of the Paison-Snipes re-trial.

## CAP PISTOL BURNS CAUSE DEATH OF FOUR YOUTHS

Tampa, Fla., Jan. 4.—Four boys, the oldest 13, have died here from tetanus, resulting from burns received on their hands from toy pistols used in celebrating the holidays.

## Aunt Roxie Opines



"Since someone told my ole man fish was a good brain food, he'dun made my kitchen smell lak a fish market."