



By Arthur Brisbane
A MILLION BILLION YEARS—
DEAD BANK BANDITS—
AT THE AGE OF FORTY—
AN \$110,000,000 IDEA—

The Reverend Dr. Cadman remarks that "This planet may exist for nearly a million billion years longer."

The Reverend Dr. Cadman tells the inquiring soul that when you are unconscious a million billion years seems no longer than a minute and a half.

Texas wants bank bandits, and wants them dead. Texas banks carry this sign: "\$5,000 for each dead bank robber—not one cent for 100 live ones."

Mr. Babe Ruth amazes "sportsdom" by saying, "neering advanced age of thirty-four," that he believes in all year round training and expects to be "just as good at forty" as he is now.

Long ago, near Batavia, N. Y., a boy was born and soon had an idea. He once told this writer how he gave up smoking "extravagant five cent cigars," saving money to carry out his plan and build his first car.

Two men slept in the upper, two in the lower berth, for fifty cents apiece. Abraham Lincoln was one of his first passengers, going from Chicago to Springfield, and was too long for the berth.

Get a good idea, stick to it, make sacrifices, and the idea will take care of you, later.

Mrs. Hickman, mother of the Los Angeles kidnapper, will testify that she was once insane and attempted suicide, thus seeking to save her son by a plea of hereditary insanity.

It is not conceivable that anything could save that murderer from the extreme penalty. A crime almost as great as his own was lightly locking this young criminal up and lightly letting him out again on former occasions.

There is excitement at Red Lodge, Mont. Mrs. A. Pollard, opening the gizzard of her Christmas turkey, raised in that neighborhood, found small gold nuggets. Prospectors are seeking desperately the spot where the turkey picked up the nuggets.

ATTENDS DIRECTORS' MEETING IN RALEIGH
J. W. Stephenson, director of the North Carolina Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association from this district, went to Raleigh Friday to attend the annual meeting.

Girls at William and Mary College cannot have dates unless they are over 80. In their studies, of course. Girls over 80 get few dates.

The Smithfield Herald

Johnston County's Oldest and Best Newspaper - - Established 1882

VOLUME 46—NO. 3

SMITHFIELD, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 10, 1927

\$2.00 PER YEAR

CONSIDER THIS!

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

Accomplice of Hickman



Welby Hunt, Kansas City youth who has confessed his part, with Edward Hickman, in the hold-up and murder, on December 24, 1926, of Ivy Thoms, Los Angeles druggist. Hickman is the confessed kidnaper and slayer of Marian Parker, 12-year-old Los Angeles girl.

Hold Recorders' Court Three Days

Violation of the Prohibition Law Figures in the Majority of the Cases

Recorder's court was in session here Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of last week, the following cases being disposed of:

State vs. Wiley Radford, charged with violating the prohibition laws. The defendant was found guilty and was sentenced to jail for a term of 30 days to be worked on the roads of Johnston county and pay cost. The road sentence to be suspended upon payment of \$25 fine and cost.

State vs. Edgar Powell and Robert Powell charged with violating the prohibition law. Defendants were found guilty of possession. They were fined \$25 and one-half the cost. Both took an appeal.

State vs. John Hughes, charged with violation of the prohibition law. Guilty of possession and sentenced to jail for 60 days to be worked on roads of Johnston county and pay cost. Appeal to Superior court.

State vs. N. L. Hughes, charged with violation of prohibition law in operating motor vehicle while intoxicated. Guilty on both counts. Sentenced to jail for term of 60 days to be worked on the roads of Johnston county and pay cost. Road sentence to be suspended upon payment of \$50 fine and cost, on further condition that defendant does not operate a motor vehicle again in North Carolina during next 90 days.

State vs. John Woodall charged with obtaining marriage license by fraud. Guilty. Defendant is discharged upon payment of cost.

State vs. Walter Stencil charged with larceny. Capias for defendant and subpoena issued returnable January 11.

State vs. Nathan Layton, charged with larceny. The defendant is ordered to serve the jail term as found in a previous judgment. Committed to roads for 12 months.

State vs. Roland Smith, charged with possession of intoxicants. Sentenced to jail for term of 60 days to be worked on the roads of Johnston county and pay cost. This sentence was changed and the defendant ordered to the care of keeper of the county home and worked there as the keeper sees fit.

State vs. Fred Watson and Tom Watson, both colored, charged with manufacture and possession of liquor. Each sentenced to jail for term of four months to be worked on the roads of Johnston county and pay one-half cost each. Road sentences to be suspended upon payment of \$100 fine each and one-half cost, and on further condition that defendants do not violate prohibition law again in two years.

(Continued on Page 4)

SELL STOCK OF GOODS OF ROMANUS & COMPANY

The stock of merchandise of Romanus & Company in Clayton was sold Saturday under execution. After homesteads had been laid off, the stock brought \$200.

Farm Relief Likely To Come In 1928

Eggs In Iowa 18c; 12 Bring 60c In N. Y.

While helping her father pack eggs for the eastern market some time ago, Mirian Fairbanks, aged 14, of Monticello, Iowa, wrote her name and address on one of eggs, along with a request that the buyer write her a letter telling what he paid for them.

Recently Mirian received a letter from Beatrice Ganis, 14, of 144 South 4th Street, Brooklyn, saying that Beatrice's father had bought the eggs and paid 60 cents a dozen for them.

Mirian's father sold them for 18 cents a dozen.

Property Sells At Good Price

Auction Sale Will No Doubt Be Confirmed; Hillcrest Goes on Market Saturday

Whether it is an indication that better times in the real estate realm are dawning or whether the town property in question was particularly attractive, is not for anyone to decide, but the fact remains that the auction sale of town property held here last Friday by Honeycutt, Abell and Gray, selling agents, was entirely satisfactory to the parties disposing of the property. There is hardly any doubt but that the sales will be confirmed.

The property was sold by M. F. Sturm, of Greensboro, trustee for three fertilizer firms. Included in the property were three houses and lots. One of these in Brooklyn, known as the Grover Phillips lot, was purchased by W. J. Huntley. Another near the home of D. H. Creech was bought by Mr. Zaidy who runs a fruit store here. The third house and lot was bid in by a Mr. Burroughs. Those purchasing the vacant lots which are located near the old veneer plant were Henry Crumpler, Thomas Jordan, Ransom Sanders and a Negro by the name of Dublin.

Tomorrow the development known as "Hillcrest" will be sold at auction. Honeycutt, Abell and Gray are the selling agents for this property which formerly belonged to J. A. Myatt. The property has been divided into lots and streets laid off. It is outside the town limits but has all city advantages.

SMITHFIELD MAN IS INJURED IN ACCIDENT

GOLDSBORO, Jan. 8.—J. D. Richardson, of Smithfield, suffered painful cuts and bruises while on the highway one mile from Goldsboro before dawn on Saturday morning when he was caught under his sedan which turned over near the cement bridge over Little river. Night workers at the city water plant heard a sound of breaking glass, momentary silence and then the loud groans of a man in pain. Jumping into an automobile at the plant they hurried to the spot from which the groans came. They found the car on its side, the man pinned under, while a railing at the side of the road approaching the bridge was torn away. Mr. Richardson said somebody hit his car, but no other car was seen.

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.

"Chickie" Day recognized his name last issue. Today's Tantalizer: jlarermeo

U. S. Economist Finds Farmers Had Good Year In 1927; Still Agricultural Problem

Written specially for The Herald. By ROBERT FULLER

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—What relief will 1928 bring for America's farmers? This is perhaps the most vital question the country faces as the new year gets under way.

Summing up for 1927, A. B. Genung, economist, United States Department of Agricultural, terms it the best year since 1920. But he points out that this does not mean all farmers have done well or that agriculture is back at the pre-war level of prosperity. But taking the country as a whole, Mr. Genung says, it is fair to record 1927 as a year of moderate general improvement.

"All told, 1927 stands out as one of remarkably well balanced production," Mr. Genung concludes. "There were neither acute shortages of any important crops, nor were there any undue surpluses such as bore down the market for cotton a year ago. The feed grains were abundant and hay a record crop, the great crops like wheat and cotton yielded fairly well, yet not so overwhelmingly as to ruin their prices, while the livestock industries have come through in profitable fashion and with their position a strong one for the immediate future."

But good crops and fair prices during 1927 have in no sense disposed of the farm problem. "So long as we take one-third of farm receipts, less other expenses, for taxes, and so long as out of every dollar the consumer pays for farm product the farmer must pay sixty-six cents to get them to him, there will be a farm problem," Senator William E. Borah, of Idaho, points out.

"And so long as proposed remedies deal with neither one of these problems, there will be little relief," adds Senator Borah. "No industry in the world can stand up under such economic creeping paralysis. Good crops and fair prices may assist in paying back taxes and reducing the mortgage, but they will not under such circumstances give permanent relief."

Congress will grapple with the farm problem again this year, and the farmers once more are being assured that "Congress is going to do something for the farmer." Legislative leaders are agreed that something must be done to bring about agricultural relief, but they differ on the method of solution.

Supporters of the McNary-Haugen bill, passed last year only to be vetoed by President Coolidge, are working hard to get the measure through again and believe they will be able to pass it over the presidential veto, if necessary, this time. But opponents of the McNary-Haugen bill are just as bitter against it as ever. Establishment of a Farm Board, made up of able men who understand the problems of agriculture, has been proposed. This Farm Board would function primarily to aid in minimizing price fluctuations due to unpreventable surpluses, and to adjust production to market demand. In addition, the board would help the business organization of agriculture in every way possible.

From the interest being taken in the problem of agricultural relief, it seems likely that 1928 will see Congress "doing something for the farmer."

SPENDS HOLIDAYS NORTH: TO WRITE ARTICLE LATER

J. N. Royall, of Pine Level, route one, was in the city Saturday. Mr. Royall and his little son, Vernon, have recently returned from Audon, N. J., where they spent Christmas with Mr. Royall's son, Paul Royall. While away, they visited several places of interest including Philadelphia, Atlantic City, and Valley Forge. Mr. Royall has consented to write an article for the Herald relative to his trip.

B. & L. Makes Good Showing

Annual Meeting of Stockholders Held Yesterday; Assets Increase Nearly \$90,000.00

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Smithfield Building and Loan Association held in the commissioners' room of the courthouse yesterday morning, was featured by the excellent report read by the secretary, J. H. Abell. "The year 1927," said Mr. Abell, "has been marked by continued growth along all lines. Assets have increased nearly \$90,000, and although it was a year of considerable financial depression, the association has grown steadily and is continually getting in better position to be of real service to the town and community. The association has loaned through the year about \$100,000, of which amount about \$35,000 has been used for construction purposes, the balance for refinancing, etc. During the year, the period required to mature serial stock has been reduced from six and a half years to six years and four months."

The secretary expressed in the meeting his appreciation of the support that had been given by the directors, and especially by the president and vice president who have often laid aside their personal duties to give attention to the affairs of the building and loan association.

Some comparative figures for the years 1926 and 1927 were of interest to those present, and it was brought out that every precaution possible is taken to protect the interests of the members of the association. Particular care is taken with loans. Only first mortgages are considered and the matter is passed on by about three persons or committees before a loan is completed. After the mortgage loans are made they are fully protected by fire, wind and storm insurance, thus minimizing any loss by destruction of property.

The conditions as of December 31, 1927, follows:

Table with columns ASSETS and LIABILITIES. ASSETS: Cash in banks \$2,479.27, Mortgage loans 207,234.46, Stock loans 15,795.00, Real Estate 7,581.95, Furniture and Fixtures 301.40. LIABILITIES: Installment stock \$131,271.00, Paid up stock 73,700.00, Due shareholders 204,971.00, Notes payable 14,000.00, Surplus 14,421.00. TOTAL \$233,392.14

After the report was heard and adopted, a nominating committee composed of George Ragsdale, W. M. Grantham and L. G. Stevens, was appointed who retired and in a short while returned to the meeting with the recommendation that no change be made in the list of the board of directors. The recommendation was adopted and the directors are as follows: H. B. Marrow, J. H. Abell, A. J. Fitzgerald, J. P. Rogers, N. B. Grantham, W. D. Hood, R. R. Holt, W. W. Jordan, and J. E. Gregory. The directors will hold a meeting at an early date and elect the officers for the coming year.

Before the meeting adjourned, the fact that next week will be National Thrift Week was called to the attention of those present, and it was decided to observe the week in Smithfield by each member making a special effort to interest someone else to begin saving through the building and loan association.

ALCOHOL CAUSED 770 DEATHS IN '27 IN N. Y.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—Chronic alcoholism caused the death of 770 persons in New York City last year and the rate was the highest in eighteen years, Health Commissioner Harris said today.

Ahighbrow is a person who can stand boredom without complaining.

Delegates to Pan-American Conference



Photo shows President Coolidge with members of the American delegation to the Sixth International Conference of American States which opens at Havana, Cuba, January 16. They called at the White House to discuss plans for participation in the conference. Left to right are: Judge Morgan O'Brien; Charles E. Hughes, former Secretary of State; Secretary of State Frank B. Kellogg; President Coolidge; Henry P. Fletcher, United States Ambassador to Italy; former Senator Oscar Underwood; J. G. Scott; and Dr. L. F. Rowe, director of the Pan-American Union.

Honorable Mention Negro Farm Agent

McKay McNeill of Johnston County Shows Superior Knowledge of Corn Growing at Negro Short Course

RALEIGH, Jan. 9.—Few white people realize that there is a small group of trained agricultural workers serving a part of the colored population of North Carolina in an efficient and successful way. At the present time, the North Carolina State College employs 18 local negro agents who are located in those counties with a large percentage of colored farmers.

These men are well trained and go quietly about their job teaching the more progressive members of their race new facts about farming through the demonstration method. Last year, these 18 agents conducted nearly 7,000 different demonstrations and got reports from nearly all of them. This work is done under the supervision of Prof. C. R. Hudson of the farm demonstration staff, assisted by L. E. Hall, colored district agent. J. C. Hubbard, local agent of Bertie county was awarded the gold medal offered by district agent Hall for the best all-around work during the year 1927; J. D. Carlton of Rowan won the silver medal and S. T. Brooks of Robeson won the bronze medal. J. W. Jeffries of Alamance county won the silver loving cup for being the best judge of dairy cattle this year. Jeffries has a calf club among the boys and girls of his county and each of the 23 members owns a pure bred Jersey animal.

In a story writing contest held while the negro agents were attending their annual short course at Raleigh recently, awards were made for the best written story and for the most accurate knowledge of corn growing exhibited in the article. W. D. Brown of Hertford county wrote the best story, with McKay McNeill of Johnston second and A. D. Herring of Harnett, third. E. F. Colson, of Duplin displayed the most accurate knowledge of corn growing, McKay McNeill of Johnston was second and E. C. Lackey of Iredell third.

According to Prof. Hudson, these colored agents have been very successful in their work during the past year and good results are beginning to appear in the territory where they are employed.

Little Ben Wellons, Jr. Dead.

News reached here Thursday afternoon of the death of little Ben Wellons, Jr., three-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben F. Wellons of Charlotte. The baby had never and in the meeting yesterday when he was taken ill with a fever. Tuesday and Wednesday child continued ill pneumonia having developed and on Thursday morning he was carried to a Charlotte hospital where he died Thursday afternoon. Interment was made in Charlotte Friday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Wellons and the little baby spent Christmas here with Mrs. J. W. Wellons, and had returned home only a few days before the baby was taken sick. Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Wellons attended the funeral leaving here for Charlotte Thursday evening.

Tom Tarheel says his radio has saved him money this past year by giving him late market information.

File Complaints With Board Commissioners

Citizens Ask Election On \$750,000 Bond Issue But Find Funding of Debt Is Mandatory

The County Board of Commissioners had rather a hectic day yesterday listening to complaints of high taxes and explaining the contemplated \$750,000 bond issue. By the time the commissioners were ready to do business the commissioners room was filled with citizens from various parts of the county. Representatives from Wilson's Mills, Wilders and Pine Level townships had petitions with them asking the commissioners not to issue the \$750,000 worth of school bonds, notice of which had been published in the county paper in compliance with the new County Finance Act. The representatives wanted a chance to vote on the matter at the polls.

After hearing the protests, the board of commissioners called upon County Superintendent H. B. Marrow to explain the bond issue. Mr. Marrow made it plain that the issuance of these bonds is inevitable. The County Finance Act which went into effect at the beginning of this fiscal year, requires all counties of the state to fund all outstanding indebtedness. Johnston county's debt for school buildings amounted to \$750,000. This debt came about in this manner: In 1925, the board of county commissioners adopted a policy which has been followed since, of not allowing school districts to issue bonds for the reason that county bonds can be sold to much better advantage than district bonds. Since this policy was adopted, the board of commissioners has authorized construction of buildings upon borrowed money. The buildings constructed have cost approximately \$720,000. Interest on this money since the first of the fiscal year has amounted to about \$31,000, which has to be included in the amount funded.

When the County Finance Act made it mandatory upon the County Commissioners to fund this debt, the thing then that confronted the local board was to do this in the most business-like manner. It was a question as to whether to issue funding bonds covering a period of fifteen years requiring about \$100,000 per year to retire, or to issue school bonds covering a period of thirty years and requiring only about fifty thousand dollars per year to retire. The commission chose the latter course, Charlotte. The baby had never and in the meeting yesterday when he was taken ill with a fever. Tuesday and Wednesday child continued ill pneumonia having developed and on Thursday morning he was carried to a Charlotte hospital where he died Thursday afternoon. Interment was made in Charlotte Friday afternoon.

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Little Chance For Bentonville Park

Congressman Pou Writes That Matter Is Up To The Secretary of War

Doubt if anything can be done toward having the Battlefield of Bentonville in Johnston county set aside as a National Military Park is expressed by Congressman Edward W. Pou in a letter received Sunday by Governor A. W. McLean, replying to the suggestion of Governor McLean that Mr. Pou and Senator Simmons see what can be done toward that end.

"Before Congress convened," Congressman Pou writes, "I had a bill drawn providing for an appropriation to take over the Battlefield of Bentonville, and to convert the same into a Military Park. Upon investigation I found out that the entire matter is in the hands of the Secretary of War. The committee having charge of these bills will not even consider a bill similar to the one I had drawn."

"Major Bulwinkle has been putting forth an effort to have Kings Mountain Battlefield made a Military Park, but he found out he was up against a rock wall. He interviewed the Secretary of War, who told him the Battle of Kings Mountain was not of sufficient importance to justify anything more than a tablet.

"It would give me the greatest of pleasure if I could put through a bill creating a National Military Park out of the Battlefield of Bentonville, but it looks like we are up against an impossible proposition. However, I will talk with Senator Simmons and, if there is a chance at all, I will take such action as may be deemed necessary."

Governor McLean is also in receipt of a letter from W. A. Powell, of Benson, who gave the Battle of Bentonville now stands, expressing very great interest in the suggestion and movement that the area be made a National Military Park. "I desire to give every assistance possible in any way to the Daughters of the Confederacy and to you in getting this mentioned park on one of the most important battlefields in North Carolina," Mr. Powell writes.—News and Observer.

LOCAL BASKETEERS STAGE WIN AND LOSE AFFAIRS

Playing their first contest of the new year and their fourth of the present season, the Smithfield high school cagers bowed to the strong Fremont high school quint, winners of the Peanut Exposition tourney, in Fremont Thursday night by a score of 23 to 11. The Fremont team got off to a good start and the strong efforts of the locals to check their advanced in the final half only kept down the scoring.

Friday night the Smithfield team was at home to the town five of Fuquay Springs, the locals emerging victorious after an uphill fight 13 to 9. The two teams battled on even terms in the first period but the half found the visitors leading by an 8-5 count. In the last half Fuquay was held to one lone field shot while the locals found the basket for eight points.

Tonight at the Banner warehouse there will be a double-header. The boys team will play Apex high and the girls will battle with the Erwin team. The bargain ball is slated for eight o'clock.

Aunt Roxie Opines

By Mc—



"I kain't tell which one man enjoys least—coughin' up fluus or taxes."

(Turn to page four please)