

ARGUES OWN CASE

Courts Hear With Interest
Tenth District Congressional
Fight on Appeal.

Raleigh.—James J. Britt, Republican, closed the argument in his own behalf before the Supreme Court on appeal from the decision of Judge Adams, denying him writ of mandamus against the Buncombe County Board of Canvassers, whose action in counting supplemental votes for Weaver gave the latter a slight plurality in the thirteen counties of the Tenth District and assured his election to Congress.

Mr. Britt was supported in his appeal by F. W. Thomas, while the defense for Zebulon Weaver was conducted by A. Hall Johnston and Judge J. Crawford Biggs. For two hours and a half the Supreme Court listened to the argument of the case frequently interrupting with questions. But the court would allow no interruptions save those it imposed. When Judge Biggs sought to interpose with a query during the argument of Mr. Britt, he was courteously, but firmly, waved back.

Mr. Britt reiterated his faith in North Carolina and aired the wrong he claims has been done him. He declared that as this was his state, and he had never considered going beyond its borders to Congress to get the justice he felt was due him until every means had been exhausted in North Carolina. Only once did Mr. Britt use the word Democrat or Republican. He referred to the parties, when such reference was necessary, as majority party, or minority party. When he slipped in his avowed intention to steer clear of political demarcation, he apologized and withdrew the word.

The fight hinged on the alleged supplemental ballots counted by the county board of canvassers, which, although bearing the name of Zebulon Weaver, were not marked with a cross. The defense claimed that the election was not declared in Buncombe on November 9 for the reason that all the precincts had not officially been heard from. Adjournment was taken on that day with the vote standing, Britt 4,037 and Weaver 4,325, which was enough to give Britt representation in Congress by 13 votes. On the 17th of November, with official returns at hand, according to the defense, the vote was tabulated and declared, giving Britt 4,043 votes and Weaver 4,353, which overcame Britt's lead in the district and gave the election to Weaver.

Caldwell Wants Good Roads.

Lenoir.—The enterprising people of the county are making a determined effort to secure a system of good roads in Caldwell and the sentiment seems to be growing apace. In the northern part of the county several good roads have been built since the July waters practically made the old roads impassable and in other sections much good road work has been and is now going on. There is a great desire on the part of many of the citizens for a permanent system of roads to the lines of adjoining counties if they cannot get permanent road beds all over the county.

In different sections the people come together with teams and other implements to work the roads that they might be better enabled to get to town when the weather is such they cannot be at work in their fields.

Planting 50,000 Peach Trees.

Aberdeen.—Territory around Aberdeen is fast being settled by tobacco and peach growers. Those who are growing peaches and tobacco are making good in every sense of the word. Thousands of peach trees are being set out this fall. The Gates Farm will put out thousands of trees in the Sand Hill section. A number of peach growers are setting out trees west of Pinehurst. It is estimated that over 50,000 trees will be put out this fall in this section.

Moonlight School at Kelly.

Raleigh.—A six weeks' moonlight school at Kelly taught by J. M. Cobb, of Nat Moore school, resulted in teaching twelve adults to read and write as well as third and fourth grade pupils, according to a letter from Prof. Cobb to Dr. J. Y. Joyner. Nine of these adults didn't even know the alphabet when they began their course of instruction.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS BRIEFS.

Secretary W. C. Crosby of the community service bureau has returned from Stantonburg in Wilson county, where the first steps for an organized community were taken.

It has been learned from unofficial statements that the new railroad surveyed from Monroe to McBee, S. C., will begin construction at an early date. This line has been run by surveyors several times and it is a known fact that the last line made will be the established route.

There were 35,837,820 pounds of oose leaf tobacco sold on 46 North Carolina markets during November, according to reports made by warehouses to the state department of agriculture.

Durham's increase in population within the past year is officially estimated at 1,093, and the city proper is now credited with 25,061 inhabitants. The people of Ellerbe and environs have put up \$25,000 for the establishment of the Ellerbe Knitting Mills, which will begin operation as soon as the buildings can be completed and the machinery installed.

ALL OLD RIFLES TO BE REPLACED

TAR HEEL'S RIFLES TO BE INSPECTED AND OLD ONES CONDEMNED.

BOYS VISIT FAMOUS JUAREZ

Party of North Carolinians Are Shown Over the Scenes of Much Fighting and See Scars of Many a Conflict—Cold in Camp.

Camp Stewart, El Paso, Texas.—General Young has finally arranged after long and persistent effort to have the rifles of the brigade inspected with the view of condemning and replacing with new ones all rifles not in first-class condition. He is following this policy with regard to all other equipment and when the brigade returns to North Carolina it will be equipped as well as any brigade of the regular army. It is his motto that "there is nothing too good for Tar Heels." And he will be satisfied only with the best.

Party Visits Juarez. Juarez is a famous old town. It bears the scars of many a conflict. Even the fine old church, "Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe," which is 367 years old, is not exempt from scars. The guide that showed a party of Tar Heels around showed marks of bullets on the images of the Virgin Mary and the angels and cherubim that adorn the altar where bullets cut away fingers, tips of wings and other parts. Hardly a window was left intact. After the fighting the priests gathered up the fragments and reconstructed the windows and images as best they could.

The old church was built before there were such things as iron nails and the whole structure inside is put together with wooden spikes. The big beams that support the roof are of mahogany and every inch of them that shows is carved. The guide said that all of this carving was done by Indians using stone and copper tools.

The cemetery outside the town is an interesting place, too. Almost every grave is marked by a cross and on nearly every cross hangs a wreath of faded flowers. There is a 'dobe building close by where all prisoners are executed. The guide showed marks in the wall from the last execution and told how many men had been shot there during the past five years—an almost unbelievable number.

The big arena where the bull fights are held looks deserted and neglected. There have been only a few fights since Carranza came into power. He is opposed to the sport and if he finally conquers Mexico bull fights will probably end.

Outside the great race track Juarez has little else of interest to offer the tourist. The "Black Cat" and other gambling joints are pointed out as places where fabulous sums have been won and lost. These joints are still running but they do not flourish as they did in the old days when Pancho Villa was in power.

The race track is a marvel. There is no better track anywhere in the world and the best horsemen from all parts of the United States are now congregated in El Paso and Juarez for the 100 days of racing now in full swing. There is an immense grandstand, made of concrete, that will seat about 10,000 people, and stables for hundreds of horses. The betting is done by machinery. The racing association has just installed what is known as the "Mutual Machines." You pay your dollar, or your five, to the cashier in his little cage, and bet on your horse "straight," that is, to win first place, or for "place," that is, to come in first or second, or to "show," which means to come in first second or third. You don't know how much you win until the cashiers get the totals counted up and apportioned. The machine takes 11 per cent of the total amount bet on a race as its part of the rake-off and the remaining is apportioned among the winners. Everybody was betting Sunday and nobody was winning any large amount.

The writer ran across a Wake county boy in Juarez, James B. Royal of Wake Forest, brother to John Royal of Raleigh, and son of Dr. William B. Royal of Wake Forest College. He was over to see the races.

Coming back we ran into a troop of Carranza cavalry. No such aggregation of soldiers had ever been seen by our party. There were about 75 of them, all mounted on scarecrows. There were women and children in the crowd. One old gray horse bore three Mexican pickaninies. One fat old woman with white hair bedroste a small black sayuse and carried in her

MOTHERS NEED NOT WORRY ABOUT SONS ON BORDER.

Raleigh.—Mothers who have sons with the North Carolina troops down on the Texas border need not worry about their comfort, according to Major Gordon Smith, adjutant of the North Carolina Brigade, who has arrived here to spend a thirty days leave of absence with his wife. Major Smith is tanned and has gained weight in the five months of camp life.

arms a small dog. Tied to their saddles with bits of string were pots, pans, ancient relics of all types, bedding, sabres, kindling wood and all sorts of rubbish. The men wore dirty tan spits of overall goods and a great many of them were barefooted. All wore wide brimmed hats. Most of the hats had bands stuck full of cartridges and each soldier, in addition to the belt around his emaciated body, had two crossing his chest in front and all full of cartridges.

A few Carranza soldiers were in evidence around the racetracks, most of them officers. They were exceedingly well dressed, wearing neat woolen uniforms of about the same color and textile as ours, and leather leggings.

If you do not wear a uniform you have no trouble in going to Juarez. The customs officials hold you up for a minute and ask if you carry anything dutiable but they do not search you.

Maj. W. R. Robertson of Charlotte, who is now commanding the Second Battalion of the First Regiment, North Carolina Infantry, at Camp Stewart, Texas, has recently purchased a very fine saddle horse. Lieut. Rufus M. Johnston, also Charlotte, who is Major Robertson's chief of staff, has been assisting Major Robertson in training this horse. On last Saturday afternoon while Lieutenant Johnston was exercising the horse on the plains just north of Tobin, Texas, he started a large jack rabbit, and decided to test the horse's speed by chasing the jack rabbit.

After running the rabbit for a mile and a half the lieutenant overtook the rabbit, and as it was jumping about as high as his stirrup at each leap, he reached down and caught the rabbit by the ears while running the horse at a terrific rate of speed. He tied the rabbit securely and brought it into camp alive. There are a great many cavalry troops around El Paso, who are noted for their fine riding, but this is the first record of a jack rabbit having been captured alive in this manner. There were no eye witnesses to the performance, but as Lieutenant Johnston has established a reputation for veracity in the army as well as in his home town, no one who knows him will doubt the truth of his statement. And he had the goods to prove it.

Sergeant Norman Barbour, of the Wilson company, was shot through the shoulder by Lieutenant William A. Faulkner of the Kinston company. He was taken to the base hospital at Fort Bliss, where he is resting well with every prospect of recovery. Despite the fact that it was seen that he was seriously wounded Barbour told Captain Giddens, his company commander, the night he was shot that he was going to pull through and would be back with his company in a few days. A bullet from a Colts .45 struck Barbour under the shoulder blade, coming out over the heart.

The shooting is being given a thorough investigation. Lieutenant Faulkner maintains stoutly that it was entirely accidental.

There had been trouble between the two men. Barbour had just stepped out of his tent and was standing in his company street. Faulkner, coming up from the rear, caught him in a small breach of the sanitary regulations and ordered him brusquely to cut it out. Thinking that one of the boys was speaking Barbour laughingly asked him what he had to do with it and just then, to quote Barbour's words, "he shot me in the back." Barbour says he did not see Faulkner until after the shooting when, he says, Faulkner ran up and said "I intend to shoot you."

Faulkner is under arrest and will be tried for his life in case Barbour's wounds prove fatal. He resigned his commission recently under pressure, its acceptance being recommended for the good of the service. His victim is a young druggist of Wilson.

The remains of Sergeant Everett Lawrence of Co. A, Third regiment, who died here after two days' illness with diabetes, were escorted to the train by the Third regiment band and Co. A under command of Capt. Leonard and placed aboard with full military honors. Sergeant Tregden of Co. B, a boyhood friend of the deceased, will accompany his remains to the Lawrence home at Seagrove, Randolph county.

Word came down that the issuing of lumber for winter quarters had been stopped by orders from higher up. Coming in the middle of a cold snap with the mercury hovering around ten above and everybody suffering, the order is said to have provoked from the seventh divisions headquarters a telegram containing pointed inquiry as to the war department's policy concerning the National Guard. This telegram is said to have been forwarded, demanding something definite on which business and professional men in the guard may lay plans for the coming year. Men and officers have found this uncertainty the hardest thing to bear and an answer is eagerly awaited.

Leaves of absence were granted as follows: Lieutenant Colonel Gilmer, First regiment, ten days; Captain R. J. Lamb, Company F, Second, twenty days; Lieutenant W. D. Holland, Co. L, Second, thirty days.

Following trial by court martial the following enlisted men were discharged for the good of the service: Private Walter Shekett and Private W. A. Mayberry Co. L, Private Jack Green, Co. E, all of the First regiment. Dock Bell, alleged deserter from Co. A, Third Regiment, has been captured at Sweetwater, Texas, and will be returned here.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of the Sunday School Course in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)
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LESSON FOR DECEMBER 24

UNTO US A SON IS GIVEN.

LESSON TEXT—Isaiah 9:1-7.
GOLDEN TEXT—For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulders; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.—Isa. 9:5.

The Christmas lesson naturally and logically follows the three lessons we have just had from the book of the Revelation where Jesus in his glory had been portrayed, and the ultimate success of his work is foreseen in the new heaven and the new earth. Isaiah saw the vision of his first coming, John saw the vision of his second coming, when what he began the first time shall ultimately be accomplished. The prophecy here spoken was uttered during the reign of Ahaz, B. C. 738 to 723. The king of Assyria was attacking Syria. The tribes of northern Israel were carried away as captives. Judah was in danger of invasion. (See II Kings 15:29.) Isaiah was preaching in his home city, Jerusalem. His vision of the Messiah Savior was not more than 800 years before John saw the vision of the glorified Jesus.

I. Darkness Versus Light (vv. 1-5). We need to go back into the eighth chapter to get the full historical situation of this part of the lesson. Ahaz, trembling in Jerusalem, had with him the Prophet Isaiah, the wisest and greatest man in his kingdom, yet Ahaz listened not to his words of warning and rebuke. He doggedly pursued his own course and sought help in every other quarter than the right one. This explains Isaiah's words, "The people that walked in darkness." Primarily he may have referred to those of the lands of Zebulun and Naphtali, the Galilee of the nations (John 1:46; 7:52) and the light which shone in them, which was the light of the world, Jesus of Nazareth (John 8:12). But there is a larger application in this verse to the whole world which lay in darkness until Jesus came, and the whole world has seen or shall see the great light (Luke 1:78-79). With the coming of light comes the increase of joy (v. 3 R. V.). In Israel there is to be, through Christ, a wonderful increase (Isa. 49:20-22; Zech. 10:8). In Christ there is to be great joy, the joy of harvest and of victory. The religion of Jesus Christ is pre-eminently the religion of joy (Acts 8:3; Phil. 4:4; I Peter 1:8) but the Child that was to be born was to be a Deliverer too, for the "yoke of burden" was a tax of \$1,800,000 that had recently been levied by the king of Assyria. It was a night of thick darkness for Israel. Then, even as now, we have the moral darkness. (Read Rom. 1:20-32.) But the prophet saw the joy of deliverance. Jerusalem had been left in peace, Hezekiah succeeded his father, Ahaz, and entered upon a religious revival in the kingdom. The people who had walked in darkness had seen a new light. The prophet saw the dawning rays through the midst of this darkness of ignorance being removed. He also saw the coming of the Light of Men 700 years later, and the multiplication of the nations, the increase of their joy.

II. Unto Us a Son is Born (vv. 6-7). The greatest joy for Israel in Isaiah's time was in this vision of the Messiah, the promised Savior. Isaiah is looking ahead seven centuries. We are looking back nineteen. He was to be king over his people, Name and title is here given. (1) "Wonderful" because of his nature, being both human and divine. The word made flesh and dwelt among us. (2) "Counselor," one who has the wisdom to guide himself and others. No one guided by him has ever failed of true success. (3) "The Mighty God." He was truly God so that we can trust him to the uttermost. He can also save to the uttermost. (4) "Everlasting Father," expressing his divine loving kindness and self-identification with the Father. (5) He is also "Prince of Peace," the one who rules so that peace and prosperity abide in his kingdom. He brings peace between man and God, and between man and man. He is the peace of the soul as well as bringing peace to the soul. The completeness of this picture which Isaiah saw is the one which St. John saw, of which we have been recently studying. These two verses are marvelous ones, not only because of the clear prediction of Jesus of Nazareth, made more than seven centuries before his first advent, but marvelous also for the fullness and richness of the revelation they contain concerning the person, character and work of Christ.

Our Lord's earth life began at Bethlehem, but he was from all eternity (John 8:56-58; John 1:1-2).

As a man is not at peace with God he cannot be at peace with himself or his fellows; but as Jesus restores peace between man and God, he also restores peace to the heart of the individual (Phil. 4:7).

Sunday school officers and teachers should realize the difference between the peace with God (Rom. 5:1) and the peace of God (Phil. 4:7).

Let us see to it that in the fullest sense our scholars may have the Prince of Peace in their lives.

Firing!

By FREDERICK T. CARDOLE

The sergeant in the trenches
Slid his rifle from its mound
And bared his aching forehead
Where a red-stained rag was wound.
"Tonight, somewhere beyond us,
There is holly on the door,
And children smile in sleep," he said,
"Unmindful of the war.
And somewhere there is laughter,
And hymns of praise are being sung,
Mistletoe and ropes of green
Are somewhere being hung;
Yet we who stand on guard tonight,
Expectant, sleeve to sleeve,
Our hearts by battle hardened,
Forget it's Christmas Eve!
Thru miles of hostile distance
Where the tender home thought climbs,
I hear the frost-claimed echo
Of silver Christmas chimes.
Pardon, comrades, for my fancy
Runs wild and free tonight;
'Twas but a bursting shell I heard
Off there upon our right."
Then he shouted from the ramparts
Where life and death held tryst,
At the lines of hidden legions
Thru the settling powder mist.
"Must our presents be but leaden
Like the rest that you have sent?
Then may Christmas faith among you
Spoil your aiming and prevent!
Unless you court a greater sin
Than you or I conceive,
Ground arms and fly the truce flag,
Make the password 'Christmas Eve!'
Let memory of days that were
The thirst of vengeance quench.
So the glory of the season
May invade each bristling trench;
Let every heart be softened,
Every war tense should receive
The silent, hallowed message
That is sent on Christmas Eve!"
Then, as tho his cry was answered,
Clear a bugle order rang
From far off in the distance:
"CEASE FIRING!" it sang.
And the War God loosed its fingers
At the mandate of the horn,
The Star of Bethlehem gleamed down
And Christ our Lord was born.



The Brute.

"What's the matter with young Mrs. Sadder?"
"She's borken-hearted and says Mr. Sadder no longer loves her."
"Why does she think that?"
"She wrote a letter to Santa Claus, asking for a set of furs and gave it to him to mail."
"Well?"
"And he mailed it."

My Christmas Wish

By GEORGE MATHEW ADAMS

This is my great, earnest Christmas wish—that the Christmas Spirit may enter me and that it may fill me, enthrall me, and then that I may dip into its wealth of Love and give it away—to Everybody—everywhere. So that even War can never be again. And Peace shall eternally endure in the Hearts of men.

A Popular Book.

Church—Have you given much attention to the books in evidence during this season?

Gotham—Oh, yes.
"And which do you consider the most popular this Christmas?"
"Oh, the pocketbook, by all means."

That's What They Will Be.

Mrs. Yeast—Going to do the stocking act this Christmas, dear?
Mr. Yeast—Oh, Christmas stockings be hanged!

