

# Thanksgiving

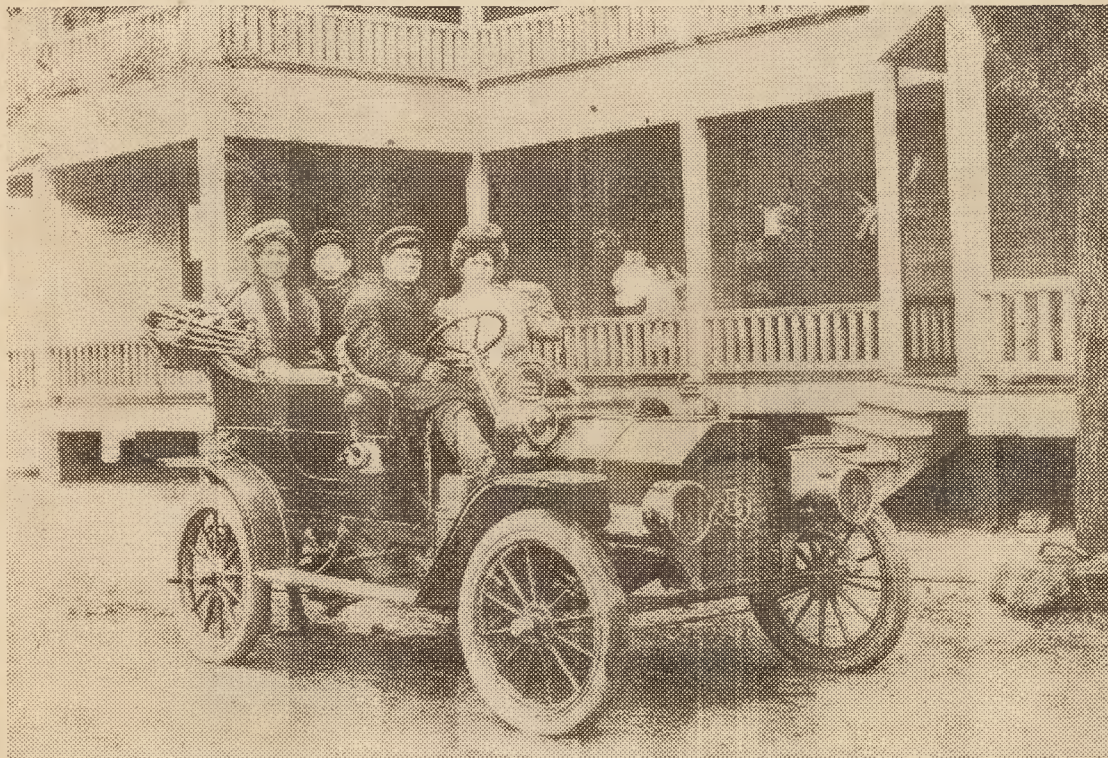
## The Johnstonian-Sun

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### SELMA'S FIRST AUTOMOBILE



The above is a picture of the first automobile ever brought to Selma. It was purchased jointly by the late Clarence P. Harper and Hugh L. Mitchener of Miami, Fla., in the year 1905 or early in 1906. The picture was made in front of the Wyoming Hotel, owned and operated by John A. Mitchener, father of Miss Blanche Mitchener, Mrs. E. V. Deans and A. W. Mitchener of Selma. On the front seat are Hugh Lacy Mitchener, of Miami, Fla., and Miss Annie Adams, now Mrs. Will X. Coley; rear seat, Miss Carrie Freeman, of Daytona

Beach, Fla., and John A. Mitchener, Jr., of Edenton. At the rear of the car can be seen the feet of Charles V. Mitchener, who was standing behind the car. On the porch of the hotel are Miss Rosalia Mitchener now Mrs. T. T. Covington, of Laurinburg. The baby is Margaret Terry daughter of Robert Terry, who was manager of the Western Union at Selma. The little girl standing nearby is Mary Guerrant Mitchener, now Mrs. W. C. P. Bethell, of Wilmington. It will be noted from the picture that

the steering wheel was on the right side of the car and the brakes were operated by a long hand lever on the right side of the body of the car. Soon after the car was brought to Selma the town commissioners passed an ordinance prohibiting the driving of the car in the business district of the town, claiming that it frightened horses and mules. In fact, many farmers, we are told, said they would quit bringing their produce to Selma if the car was allowed to be driven on the business streets of the town.

### Interesting Facts About Advent of Automobile

The above photograph calls to mind some interesting things which happened right here in Selma with the advent of the automobile.

As many of us can well remember, the coming of the automobile brought many problems that seemed hard to overcome, and among them was the hazard facing people driving horses and mules on the street and along the highway.

Soon after Mr. C. P. Harper and Mr. Hugh L. Mitchener made a joint purchase of the first automobile brought to Selma and began driving it around town and up and down the highways it frightened so many horses and mules that most farmers were afraid to start to town for fear they would meet that horseless buggy, and if they did their horse or mule was certain to take to the field, the woods or the ditch, endangering their lives and frequently wrecking their vehicles.

So acute became this hazard that the doctors and merchants of Selma became so greatly alarmed that they circulated a petition asking that an ordinance be passed by the Town of Selma prohibiting any automobile to be driven along the main business streets of Selma; and we understand that as a result of this petition an ordinance was passed to this effect, and that it is still on the books of the town records and has never been revoked.

Prior to this ordinance many farmers had stopped bringing country produce to town and country butter and eggs were almost a thing of the past as well as many other items of produce from the country. And, too, merchants visioned dark days ahead because many farmers became aware that a horseless buggy had come to Selma and they were afraid to drive into town for fear they would meet it and have a run-away with their stock.

After the passage of the ordinance forbidding the operation of the automobile on the streets of Selma, Messrs Harper and Mitchener employed one of the ablest lawyers in the state to see if there was any grounds on which such an ordinance could be made operative, and their lawyer told them to drive anywhere they pleased in Selma, or elsewhere, that there was no code of law on the State books that said anything about

automobiles, which was no doubt true, as no one up to that time knew anything about these road and street hazards.

During one of their joy rides with their new car, Mr. Harper in company with a group of young people made a trip out in the country with the top of their car thrown back. They were having the time of their lives when a sudden rain squall came up and the group were getting a good soaking when Mrs. Doc Oliver of Pine Level raised her parasol to shield them from the storm, but the wind turned the parasol wrong side out. They all got a good soaking, but they were having such a "grand" time that they took it all good-naturedly and laughed it off.

### Robert Parker's Funeral Is Largely Attended

Funeral services for Mr. Robert L. Parker, 61, who died at his home in the Corbett-Hatcher community Wednesday morning of last week at 5:45 were conducted from the home Friday afternoon at 2:30 by Elder W. E. Turner, of Wilson. The large crowd in attendance and the many beautiful floral offerings attested the high esteem in which the deceased was held. A quartette, composed of Mrs. W. B. Johnson, Mrs. G. Aaron Earp, Raleigh Griffin and E. V. Woodard, sang "The Old Rugged Cross" and "Have Thine Own Way, Lord," accompanied at the piano by H. H. Lowry.

Interment took place in the Hatcher cemetery, near the home. Pallbearers were Harvey Brown, Carl Brown, A. J. Price, Herman Sullivan, E. V. Woodard and John N. Wiggs. Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Jerusha Whitley Parker; two sons, Walton D. Parker, of Smithfield, and R. G. Parker, of the Army Air Forces, stationed at Burlington, Vermont; two daughters, Mrs. Percy Barber, of Clayton, Route 1, and Miss Eunice Parker, of Raleigh; three brothers, W. B. and M. H. Parker, of Richmond, Va., and R. E. Parker, of Knoxville, Tenn. One sister, Mrs. R. A. Avery, of Selma, Route 1, also survives.

BUY WAR BONDS & STAMPS

### Sanders-Mims, Ford Company Changes Name

(Smithfield Herald)  
Sanders - Mims Company, Inc., Smithfield's Ford agency, has changed its name to B. and R. Wilson, Inc., it is announced by M. Braxton Wilson, president and general manager of the firm.

Mr. Wilson emphasized that the change was only in the firm name and not in personnel or policy. The owners of B. and R. Wilson, Inc., have owned the entire stock of Sanders-Mims Company, Inc., since last year.

Officers of B. and R. Wilson, Inc., are M. B. Wilson, president; Mrs. M. B. Wilson, vice-president; and Miss Ruth Wilson, secretary-treasurer.

Miss Wilson, who is a sister of the company's president, will continue to reside in Raleigh where she is connected with the Sanders Motor Company. President and General Manager Wilson came to Smithfield in 1936 when Sanders-Mims Company was first organized. He served as parts manager of the firm, later becoming assistant manager.

After engaging in the gas business in Dunn for 13 months, he returned to Smithfield in 1940 and bought the stock of Allan Mims in the Ford agency. Miss Ruth Wilson already was a stockholder in Sanders-Mims Company and in 1942 she and her brother purchased the stock of the William Sanders estate to gain full control of the business.

Since Sanders-Mims Company was formed in 1936, the firm has sold 2,800 cars and trucks, an average of over one a day, and repair orders show that 27,000 vehicles have been serviced in the repair shop. The company's annual payroll averages \$30,000.

Personnel of B. and R. Wilson, Inc., other than the officers, includes Miss Naomi Ennis, office manager; James A. Brady, parts department manager; A. G. Welch, assistant department manager; F. A. Lee, service manager; and E. A. Johnson, Sr., sales.

### Selma Boy Hurt In Pacific Area

Lt. J. L. Pittman, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Pittman of Selma, Route 2, writes his father from somewhere in the Pacific area under date of November 9, 1943, as follows: "Since you will have to find it out sooner or later anyway, I had just as well tell you I have been hurt and am

### Thanksgiving Proclamation BY THE MAYOR

WHEREAS, The people of Selma and Johnston County have witnessed another fruitful harvest from Old Mother Earth, and are now enjoying the benefits of same through a stream of dollars from this year's sale of tobacco and other crops, and

WHEREAS, No devastating storms, earthquakes or other internal hazards have disturbed the restful hours of our dreams during the year, while a smiling sun has lent its life-giving rays to enhance our material fortunes, and no violent storms have laid waste to our fields or to our forests during this good year, 1943, and

WHEREAS, We have been permitted to live within a land of schools and churches, where the Bible is our spiritual guide, and where schools impart to our youth those great principles of true Americanism, and

WHEREAS, Although we are now embroiled in the world's greatest war, we are still a free people, and it is for this freedom that our favorite sons are scattered to the four corners of the Globe, either fighting for or standing guard over those sacred principles we inherited from our forefathers, who suffered, bled and died that we might enjoy freedom of speech, freedom of the press and freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience,

NOW, THEREFORE, Let us join Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of these United States, in declaring THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1943, as a day of Thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father for the manifold blessings that have come to us as a county, a state and a nation during this Good Year, 1943.

B. A. HENRY, Mayor of Selma.



### SELMA FATHERS AMONG NUMBER SENT TO CAMP

The following white selectees were sent to Fort Bragg Tuesday morning by Draft Board No. 2 for physical examination:

Robert Durwood Woodard, Rt. 1, Princeton; Chester Arthur Cook, Selma; Ray Brownney Gainey (transferred to Zebulon Board for delivery) Rt. 1, Zebulon; Arthur Clarence West, Rt. 1, Smithfield; Everett Arthur Creech, Pine Level; Jimmie Eason, Selma; Dillon Vroman Holt (transferred from Pampa, Texas for delivery), Princeton; Roy Leon Coats, Rt. 2, Clayton;

Emmett Franklin Padgett, Selma; Willie Hamer Thompson, Selma; Albert Wesley Brown, Selma; Johnnie Cornelius Betts, Selma; George Beverly Strickland, Pine Level; James Alton Fulghum (transferred to Norfolk Board for delivery), Selma; James Clifton Davis, Selma; Bradley Howell, Rt. 1, Kenly; James Pounds, Rt. 2, Clayton; Alison Bedford Bailey, Rt. 1, Selma; Stephen Harold Alford, Jr., Kenly; Lucy Lee Wall, Rt. 2, Clayton; Norvell Smith, Selma; Herbert Speight Ward, Selma; James Charles Woodard, Selma; Jesse Vernon Corbett, Rt. 1, Four Oaks; Leland Eugene Batten, Smithfield; Milton Elcove Pleasant, Clayton; Thamos Cortez Hargrove, Selma; Herbert Harold Hales, Pine Level;

Robert Edward Perry, Selma; Carl Edmond Gaddy, Jr., Selma; John Logan Auten, Rt. 2, Clayton; Mayo Elisha Collier (transferred to Board 1, Burlington, for delivery), Micro; Noel Carley Fowler, Rt. 1, Zebulon; Arnie Rowland Strickland, Rt. 1, Middlesex; Alkie Earl Evans, Rt. 1, Princeton; Arthur Roland Vann, Rt. 2, Selma; Raymond Eli Howell, Selma; James Etheridge Taylor, Selma; Robert Lee Garner (transferred from Board 2, Newport News, Va. for delivery), Rt. 1, Selma; Hardy Harris Radford, Jr. (transferred Princeton, from Local Bd. 2, Wilmington, for delivery);

William Kenneth Starling, Rt. 2, Kenly; Norville Coats Cole, Rt. 1, Clayton; Percy Rudolph Batten, Rt. 1, Selma; William Carl Avery (transferred from Local Bd. 8, Richmond, Va. for del.) Rt. 1, Selma; Vernon Dee Ellis, Rt. 1, Wendell; Henry Hill Bunch, Rt. 1, Wendell; Ernest Joseph Laney, Rt. 2, Smithfield; Marvin London Salmon, Clayton; Carl Hayes Richardson, Rt. 1, Wendell; Charlie Gaston Johnson, Rt. 1, Zebulon; James Boykin, Rt. 2, Kenly; Lawrence Oscar Smith, Clayton;

William Donald Mason, Princeton; James Thomas Hocutt, Rt. 1, Middlesex; Robert Lendon Raper, Rt. 2, Kenly; Charles Stephen Reeves, Selma; Jake Delmas Radford, Princeton; Roy Battle Hill, Rt. 2, Clayton; Wilbert Melton Avcock, Rt. 2, Selma; Thomas Eldridge Lane, Micro; Chester House, Rt. 1, Kenly; L. D. Lois Futch, Selma; William Arthur Stancil, Jr., Kenly; Jessie Massey Thompson, Rt. 2, Princeton; Thurman Royals, Rt. 2, Clayton; Chester Thomas Adams, Rt. 1, Princeton; Carl Cecil Fowler, Selma; Leon Elworth Stancil, Rt. 2, Kenly; Thomas Joseph Underwood, Selma; William Donald Creech, Rt. 1, Selma; Alton Pollard, Clayton;

Wilbert Thurman Snipes, Rt. 2, Princeton; James Ruffin Rose, Selma; James Hardy Watson, Jr., (transferred to Local Bd. 4, Norfolk, Va. for delivery), Kenly; Melvin Rudolph Creech, Rt. 1, Selma; Anga Lee Blinson, Clayton; Roy Woodrow Parrish, Selma; Raymond Albert Oliver, Jr., Princeton; James Charles Martin, Selma; Elmo Stallings, Selma; Linwood Cadwell Wilkinson, Jr., Kenly; Willie Clarence Raynor, Pine Level; Paul Harold Starling, Jr., Selma. London Salmon, Clayton;

### THANKSGIVING SERVICE

A Thanksgiving Service will be held at the Methodist Church Thursday morning at nine o'clock. The subject of the address will be, "Thank God for America". You are cordially invited.

Special Thanksgiving services will be held at the Baptist church Wednesday evening at 7:45. The pastor will bring a brief message and an offering will be taken for the Orphanage.

