

# HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST OF HARNETT COUNTY PRIMARILY, AND OF THE STATE GENERALLY.

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR—56 COPY

Lillington, N. C., Thursday, October 9, 1924

"If it Concerns Harnett, It's in THE NEWS"

## DOINGS OF A DAY IN SESSION BY COMMISSIONERS

Mostly Related to the County's Financial Affairs and the Collection of the Revenues.

Session of the Board of County Commissioners Monday of this week had to do mostly with matters of money—not alone the spending of it, but also the getting of it. For the benefit and information of those who are minus the knowledge that it takes a while of a sum to run the County of Harnett for a whole year it might be mentioned that practically three-fourths of the time taken by the County Commissioners to go through with a day's business meeting is consumed upon affairs financial. There are always on hand a number of people who want money expended upon some project or other in their bailiwicks; there are rarely however, any persons present who are anxious to show the County Fathers where they can realize more revenue with which to meet the wanted expenditures. And thus it is that the path of a County Commissioner has come to be a hard one to travel.

Some faint idea of the worry attaching to the job of Commissioner may be gained when it is learned by the average citizen that scarcely a meeting day rolls around when the Commissioners are not confronted with items requiring expenditure and yet with the treasury as "broke" as a New Year pledge on January 2. Not that the depletion of the treasury causes any sleeplessness on the part of the average citizen; but the point is that whether he knows it or not makes no difference to him—the County Fathers are the chief workers and they are left with it to do as they best can. Following are the matters coming before the Board for consideration Monday:

Sixty-four dollars was allowed for policing the Dunn fair.

The home demonstration agent was given authority to take over the cottage on the courthouse square and use it as headquarters for her department, the transfer to take place as soon as the lease of the present occupant expires. Mr. J. A. McLeod is now paying the county \$15 per month rent for the house as a dwelling.

J. A. Spivey was granted a leave of 60 days absence from his job of superintending the convict camp. His assistant, Shep Caviness, will hold down the job during Mr. Spivey's absence. Mr. Spivey's right hand is put out of commission by a case of erysipelas, and he has a crop to harvest on his farm on Route 2.

H. A. Turlington filed bond of \$50,000 and took the oath of office as tax collector. The Commissioners ordered that he allow no discount on 1924 taxes, and that he collect no penalties.

It was ordered that the maximum scale allowed by Schedules B and C of the Revenue Act be imposed for this year. This is known as Privilege Tax.

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The Bank of Lillington was named as depository for the county's funds and Tax Collector Turlington was notified to take due notice of it, and be governed accordingly.

The Drake-Jones Company of Greensboro was awarded the bonds of Duke school district. The issue is \$70,000 and the Greensboro concern made a bid of \$70,702. The bonds were in demand, several other bond buyers entering bids. The stipulation called for only 5-1-4 interest however, and the others lost out in competition with the Drake-Jones Company.

REVIVAL SERVICES AT BUIE'S CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. A. T. Lassiter, former pastor of Buie's Creek Presbyterian church will assist the pastor in a series of services there, beginning next Monday night. Rev. Mr. Lassiter is well known throughout the whole of Harnett county, and his friends of Buie's Creek will be glad to have him with them again.

J. F. MENIUS, Pastor

UNION PRAYER SERVICE

Regular midweek prayer service will be held tonight at 7:30 in the Presbyterian church. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

Community pride is that which swells in the breast of the citizen who wishes the world to become a better place for his having lived in it.

## County Attorney Young Instructed To Call On McArtan's Bondsmen

First mention of the alleged fact that Sheriff J. W. McArtan is short in his accounts with Harnett county as tax collector is contained in an entry made upon the minutes of the session of Board of County Commissioners on Monday of this week. Although it has been talked of for more than a year now, official hint of it has not been recorded in such manner that it might be given the public as matter of fact. Information that the Commissioners have found the Sheriff short in his accounts is contained in the following paragraph taken from the minutes of Monday:

"Whereas, the committee appointed to make settlement with J. W. McArtan, Sheriff, has reported to the Board that they have been unable to get a settlement; now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners that E. F. Young, attorney, be and is hereby instructed to demand of Sheriff McArtan's bondsmen a settlement of said McArtan's shortage."

The committee appointed to make settlement with the Sheriff, some months ago, was composed of Commissioners W. J. Mac Stewart, James A. Buchanan and County Attorney, E. F. Young. It is understood that this committee has held several meetings and has with considerable pains gone over the tax books and obtained other data of a financial nature from which they have endeavored to determine the true status of the county's affairs in dollars and cents. Reason for their failure to obtain a settlement with the Sheriff, it had been declared, was due to the fact that seemingly there was a discrepancy of upwards \$50,000 between the figures upon the Auditor's books entered as receipts and the figures upon the Sheriff's tax books representing money due the county. Receipts from the tax books, it is said, fall totally with the Auditor's cash book by something over \$50,000—the exact amount to be determined after deduction of the commission allowed the Sheriff and the insolvents to be marked off.

The matter of the status of the sheriff's account with the county became an issue in the Democratic primary in June. Eleventh hour publication of a statement that the sheriff was upwards of \$50,000 short in his settlement with the county for taxes collected brought forth bitter denunciation by the sheriff's friends of the Board of County Commissioners, who did not make the statement themselves, but showed individual citizens to use a statement from the County Auditor's office which purported to show that taxes to the amount of over \$50,000 had been collected by the sheriff and not turned in to the treasury.

The issue was sharply drawn, the division aligning hundreds of voters on the one side or the other. "McArtan" or "Anti-McArtan" became a slogan in the primary campaign and in many quarters the vote was cast almost solidly throughout the whole ticket upon that basis. If a candi-

## COURTHOUSE TO BE MADE LARGER BY AN ADDITION

Northern End to Extend Twenty-one Feet to Include Both Up and Down Stair Office Rooms

Byrd Bros. & Shaw have been awarded contract for the erection of an addition to the courthouse measuring twenty-one feet all the way across the northern end of the building. Construction forces were placed on the job Monday morning and digging of the foundation has already been completed. The addition will be of brick construction to conform to the balance of the building, and will go up two stories, to allow additional office space both up and down stairs.

The addition to the courthouse will allow space for two more offices upstairs. Downstairs there will be added space sufficient for a meeting room for the Board of County Commissioners and two vaults, one for the Register of Deeds and one for the Clerk of Court. Vault space for the books and records of both of these officials has long since been overfilled and in some instances the sacred archives of the county are reporing in nooks and corners where spiders and stray butterflies are accustomed to dwell. For the office of County Auditor also there will be more elbow-room, which will compare more handsomely with the dignity of the office since the pay has been made more suitable also. The County Tax Collector will also have an office in the courthouse, it is presumed. This official has already begun the duties of office, having opened books this week at the Dunn Fair grounds, where he is collecting upon the Averaboro, Duke and Grove receipts.

The addition to the courthouse will cost approximately \$18,000, according to Mr. Shaw, manager of Byrd Bros. & Shaw.

## TAX COLLECTOR TURLINGTON PUTS UP OFFICE HERE

County's Newest Official Takes Office Formerly Occupied by Sheriff in Courthouse and Opens Tax Books

Citizens and taxpayers of Harnett county will face a brand new order of things when they come to pay their taxes this year, and they will pay them to a brand new official. In the same place where taxes have formerly been paid, but by a Tax Collector, the office where formerly the Sheriff held forth has been transformed into a place where nothing is transacted in the way of law enforcement—noting but the receiving of moneys due the county.

Henry A. Turlington of Coats, the newly appointed tax collector for the county under the law creating that office separate and apart from the office of sheriff, has set up office in the room formerly occupied by Sheriff McArtan, the sheriff moving his headquarters over into the room occupied by the grand jury when in session.

Tax Collector doesn't have all the township tax books at his disposal as yet, but he has a sufficient number of them to keep him and his deputies busy if the taxpayers will come forward and adjust their accounts. The balance of the books will be in the hands of the tax collector in a few days.

Mr. A. B. Currin Jr. of Angier will be deputy in charge of the tax collector's office in Lillington. Mr. V. E. Williams will be in charge of the office at Dunn.

Mr. Turlington requests The News to inform the people that he will go after the taxes this year with all of his energy, and he expects every taxpayer to be prompt in settling. The county stands very much in need of funds and the tax collector is making strenuous effort to relieve the situation. Not the least among the necessities is the funds with which to run the schools. Inasmuch as no one will want to see the schools suffer for lack of revenue, it is believed that citizens will be prompt in the paying of taxes. Furthermore, Mr. Turlington says he is not intending to allow the matter of changing to lag for any reason. He states that he will be on the job every minute.

## Two Giants Banished From Organized Baseball

Wide World Photos

Jimmy O'Connell, substitute outfielder of the New York National League Baseball Team, whom John McGraw purchased from San Francisco Club for \$75,000 at the beginning of last season, was barred from organized baseball for all time, together with Coach Cozy Dolan, of the Giants, on the charge that they had attempted to bribe Second Baseman Sand, of the Philly Nationals, to throw the game which clinched the pennant for the Giants. Sand reported the offer to Manager Fletcher, of the Phillies, and Judge Landis' action followed.

## LILLINGTON STRONG FOR RALEIGH-TO-SAVANNAH ROAD; DELEGATES NAMED

In furtherance of a program for cooperation with the Bennettsville Chamber of Commerce in establishing an interstate highway between Raleigh and Savannah, fifty representative citizens of Lillington met in convention last night to adopt methods of procedure and name delegates to the Bennettsville conference on October 15th. Present in the meeting last night were half a dozen ladies. Previous to last night's meeting there was a sort of get-together, round-table discussion held in Killigree Hotel several nights ago, which meeting named Dr. J. W. Halford as chairman of the steering committee for the carrying out of the aims and purposes of the highway program. At the former meeting Mrs. Millikin of the Killigree management, tendered a luncheon and invited ladies of the town to cooperate in launching the movement to bring the highway via Lillington.

At last night's conference, which was held in the courthouse auditorium, Dr. Halford acted as chairman, and presided. The editor of The News was appointed secretary, and concerted action was promised by all present when delegations were named to go to the Bennettsville meeting. As delegates the chairman appointed the following:

From Lillington: H. T. Spears, J. R. Baggett, W. P. Byrd, J. C. Thomson, J. G. Layton, B. A. Parker, J. B. Tagwell, N. McK. Salmon, Henderson Steele. Unanimous vote by those present placed Dr. Halford also on the local delegation.

From Kipling: W. L. Senter. From Chalybeate: D. H. Senter. From Bunnelevel: C. M. Allen. Reading of telegrams from citizens of Raleigh who had been invited to attend the meeting, in which the Raleigh men stated they could not attend, some of them having engagements which they considered of more importance, brought on discussion of the attitude seemingly adopted by the Wake contingent toward road improvement south of the State capital, and especially that leading into Lillington. Remarks along that line were made by Messrs. H. T. Spears, Dr. Halford, J. R. Baggett, W. P. Byrd, J. G. Layton and others.

Sentiment was next to unanimous that Raleigh was—and is—harboring prejudice against the Lafayette highway. Color of truth is given to this impression by the fact that delegations from Lillington have been told by Highway Commissioner John Sprunt Hill at his office in Durham that Raleigh delegations had requested him that no road improvement be made south of Raleigh in Wake county.

Walter P. Byrd gave a version of the Wake county road muddle that seemed to have its seat in political factionalism, the upper Wake contingent fighting every move toward giving the lower Wake people their just consideration the way of road building. The version of Mr. Byrd seemed plausible to those present at the meeting because of the fact that no improvement was made in the south Wake road leading into Harnett county until the lower townships secured through legislative action from the Wake road system and constructed a road of their own.

## HIGHSMITH AND COUNTY'S SCHOOL OFFICIALS CONFER

Standardization of High School Discussed—Duties of Principals Outlined—Discussions Become Lively.

(BY E. D. BUNN)

Dr. J. H. Highsmith, State supervisor of high schools, met the school officials of Harnett county at Lillington on Wednesday of last week, to discuss the standardization of high schools. He outlined the duties of the high school principals, recalling that their work had been good, but gave a program for more progress. Dr. Highsmith is working with these county groups, for he believes he can do more efficient work in this way than in a State-wide mass meeting.

In the first place, it is ours to see that all the high schools become standardized and that the non-standard ones become standard. The minimum for a standard high school is one hundred and sixty days (exclusive of holidays) with forty-five minutes recitation; and no high school teacher holding lower than a high school "C" certificate. There are only seven States out of the forty-eight that have a shorter school term than North Carolina. Each pupil must do 120 clock hours of work. There must be three full-time high school teachers holding a high school teacher's certificate. Fifteen units must be required for graduation, giving two double periods per week for laboratory sciences. There must be laboratory equipment for at least two sciences, and must be in a separate room. There must be a full line of maps for the history department. There must be a library of three hundred volumes, and this must be a special library room.

There was a very lively discussion of "setting up objectives" and a time table. Since the county has an adopted list of text books, all of the schools in the county should cover about the same amount of work. It should not take one school a year to finish eighth grade arithmetic when others finish in six months. Those present were asked to come together again the first of November to draw up some objectives for Harnett county schools.

The daily program and recitation sheets were discussed. The county is to work out a uniform high school transcript blank. If one child goes from one school to another he must carry this record sheet to show just the amount of work covered in the first school.

One of the most vital needs of our high schools today is a system of permanent records. The following were appointed a committee to work out a uniform system of keeping records for Harnett county high schools: B. P. Gentry, chairman; T. W. Sprinkle, B. D. Bunn.

Those present at the meeting were: B. P. Gentry, county superintendent; J. A. Campbell, Buie's Creek; B. D. Bunn, Lillington; T. W. Sprinkle, Duke; J. W. Nichols, Dunn; Prof. Snider, Lafayette; Prof. Taylor, Coats; Prof. Caskill, Olivia; Prof. I. J. Stephenson, Angier.

SANFORD TOBACCO BOARD OF TRADE ADVERTISING SANFORD AS A MARKET

Sanford Tobacco Board of Trade is putting on a campaign of advertising whereby it is designed to acquaint the people of the surrounding territory with the fact that the Lee capital city is making a strong bid as a superior tobacco market. Tobacco growers being the principal ones interested in the sale of the weed, their attention is being called to the great advantages that Sanford offers in the way of warehouse facilities, as well as the excellent management in charge of each of the firms.

In Harnett county there are tobacco farmers who grow some of the finest specimens of the weed that are offered on any floor. This is not simply a "stock" statement gotten out by anyone who would try to use it for any influence it might have on the farmer; but it is a statement coming time and again from those who have years of experience in handling tobacco and are well qualified to speak with authority. It is these farmers especially that the Sanford Tobacco Board of Trade appeals through its advertising in The News. It might be well for the Harnett tobacco farmers to put the Sanford people to the test. They have proven out in other places, and there is no reason in the world why they should not make good with the Lee of tobacco.

## Pirates Made Game Fight

Wide World Photos

Bill McKenna, manager of the Pittsburgh Pirates, who tonight lost to the Cubs for the 100th time, all "broke" himself. McKenna's failure put up a valiant battle to capture the pennant, but he was all out of the game.



Robert LaFollette, Jr., is taking an active part in the campaign for the Presidency carried on by his father, the senator from Wisconsin.

Typewriter paper, envelopes, hand papers, checked messages, second sheets—The News office.



LEFT TO RIGHT: SAND, DOLAN, O'CONNELL. Jimmy O'Connell, substitute outfielder of the New York National League Baseball Team, whom John McGraw purchased from San Francisco Club for \$75,000 at the beginning of last season, was barred from organized baseball for all time, together with Coach Cozy Dolan, of the Giants, on the charge that they had attempted to bribe Second Baseman Sand, of the Philly Nationals, to throw the game which clinched the pennant for the Giants. Sand reported the offer to Manager Fletcher, of the Phillies, and Judge Landis' action followed.



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