

HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

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

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Lillington, N. C., Thursday, April 12, 1928

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

TAX COLLECTOR IS GOING TO DO SOME STRENUOUS WORK

Expects to Cut by Half the Uncollected Taxes as Shown by Last Statement During This Month

The April 1st report made by John Green, tax collector for Harnett county, showed over \$120,000 yet due by delinquent taxpayers on the 1927 books, and inasmuch as the land sale for unpaid taxes is due to be published beginning the first week in May, Collector Green has set about to do some strenuous work during the remainder of this month. He has been levying on personal property for the past several weeks, but this campaign has not been as intensive as he expects to make between this time and the first of May, he declares.

Some of the most prominent people in the county, according to the face records of the tax books, have not paid their taxes, and the collector doesn't see any good reason why this should be so. If the "little fellow" is made to pay by the levying process, then it is altogether proper that the "big fellow" should be made to pay also. The activity of the collector during the next three weeks will be watched with interest, especially so on the part of those who have paid their taxes. If it does not prove interesting to those who have not paid, then it may be that the collector's activity is having the desired effect.

In round figures there was \$121,000 yet on the 1927 books to be collected when the collector made his April 1st report and transmitted it to the Board of County Commissioners. "That leaves a long way to go," remarked members of the Board. But words of the collector would lead one to believe that he doesn't think it such a long way. In fact, according to his own statement of determination, it is going to be a short way. He is going to make it short by demanding taxes of all who have not paid, and backing up his demand by a process that will bring in the cash. This method of tax collecting is meeting with such commendation nowadays that Mr. Green will find his course the more popular one.

The county is running badly behind in the matter of finances. The Commissioners are finding it absolutely necessary to borrow money with which to meet current expenses. There were some "invisible contingencies" when the budget was made out, it seems, and these contingencies, like all other expenses, must be met. According to Superintendent Gentry, the schools will operate this year within the budget, if he can get all that was provided in the levy for the schools.

OBSERVANCE OF EASTER HOLIDAY

Monday was observed generally in Lillington as a holiday. Most of the stores and offices were closed for the day, as was also the bank. Not much business of any sort was transacted, there seemingly being little to occupy the minds of folks except the spirit of recreation and rest. Picnics were the order of the day and a good portion of the population found it convenient to get out of town.

Not so much of the Easter spirit was in evidence on the Sabbath day. Services following Sunday school were held at the Baptist and Presbyterian churches, it being an off-day for preaching at the Methodist. But while no special Easter service was programmed at either of the churches, there were good congregations.

So far as the weather was able to contribute to the success of the occasion, no complaint could be heard. It was a perfect day with sunshine just as warm as might be desired for the season. In fact it was the warmest day of the year so far, and all those who found it convenient to do so made good use of the day for riding and visiting. Monday was a bit cooler, but not too cool to chill the ardor of recreation seekers.

EASTER EGG HUNT AT COUNTY HOME

A regular old fashioned Easter egg hunt was enjoyed by the inmates of the County Home Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Brown, who have charge of the Home, had arranged the entertainment for the inmates and the whole affair was carried through to the great delight of everyone participating in it and to visitors as well.

ONLY SEVEN VETERANS ON LEE PENSION LIST

Jonesboro, April 11.—According to information from Clerk of Court W. G. Watson, only seven Confederate veterans are remaining on Lee county's pension roll. Two have died recently, Thomas Groce, of Colon, and Archie Kelly, of Broadway. A few widows of the old soldiers are scattered throughout the county and the majority of these are becoming very feeble.

G. GORDON BATTLE SPEAKS IN RALEIGH IN BEHALF SMITH

Political Interest Centers in What the Noted Orator Will Say About N. Y. Governor

(By R. E. POWELL.)
Washington, April 11.—Presidential politics having forged steadily into leading place, in so far as Congressional interest goes, that of the North Carolina delegation is centering right now on the speech George Gordon Battle, distinguished son of the State and one of the Tammany delegates to the Houston convention, is going to make in Raleigh the night of April 12.

Decision to invite Mr. Battle, it was related by those members of Congress anxiously watching the progress of the battle in North Carolina, came soon after the forty chosen leaders of the Democrats—chosen, some emphasize, only by Editor Sanford Martin—had gone on record against the nomination of the New York governor for the Presidency.

Although six members of the delegation here are known to be hostile to Smith, and while three others have said they did not favor his nomination, all of them are weighing with great concern the statement recently emanating from former Governor Morrison.

The interpretation here put on the Morrison statement, even by those opposing Smith, is that the nomination of the New Yorker is inevitable. The loss of Louisiana and Arkansas to the anti-Smith forces, plus what Texas is expected to do as a host to the convention by dividing up its vote, practically destroys the hopes of a Southern dry group which had been expected to block Smith by preventing his getting the necessary two-thirds.

Reprisals are being talked sharply here by North Carolinians now in view of what is described as a steady drift to Smith in North Carolina as well as in the rest of the country.

For instance, John W. Hinsdale, well known Raleigh lawyer and generally recognized as an astute politician, says that there is much sentiment in favor not only of keeping Senators Simmons and Overman Governor McLean and Governor-to-be Gardner off the delegation to Houston, but that there is a strong feeling that some one other than Senator Simmons should be elected national committeeman this time.

It is generally recognized in the State, Hinsdale told some members of the delegation here, that the anti-Smith propaganda going out of Washington is sent by Frank Hampton, secretary to the Senator. Hampton admitted this recently to a news service correspondent when asked about it.

Selection of a keynote speaker for the convention, which meets June 12, has been delayed, it is explained by party leaders here, because of the Smith situation. A fear that Smith sentiment will control the convention has persuaded Attorney General Brummitt, who is the party chairman now, not to be hasty about picking a man to make the main speech. It is believed a home-grown product will be tried out.

Mr. Battle is said to be an excellent speaker and, of course, very close to Governor Smith. He himself is very hopeful that North Carolina will support Smith in the convention because it is his home State and he maintains a close interest in State affairs. At the last convention, North Carolina delegates cast a complimentary vote for him after they recognized that McAdoo was impossible.

MRS. MAGGIE MONROE DEAD
Mrs. Maggie Monroe, age 70, died at the home of her son, Mr. John Monroe, near Anderson Creek school last Saturday night at 11:30 o'clock. Funeral was conducted Monday morning at 11:00 o'clock by Revs. C. M. Gibbs of Erwin and J. F. Menius of Lillington, with interment at Flat Branch churchyard.

MORE TALK FOR SMITH THAN FOR ANYBODY ELSE

New York Governor's Chances of Securing Democratic Nomination is Main Topic in Political Discussion

With Governor "Al" Smith of New York secure the nomination from the Democratic convention for President?

If the New York Governor and his chances for political preferment command as much discussion and interest everywhere as is the case in Harnett county, then some of the so-called out-and-out anti-Smith people are going to be forced to swallow some of their declarations of ease both the Democratic ticket. For it is the consensus of opinion among close political observers that Smith stock is looking up. Apparently so, declare those who are not more than lukewarm as regards Democracy's choice; decidedly so, declare those who are just now warming up to the New York Governor; and absolutely so, declare those who may be classed as red-hot Smith advocates.

With the county and State primary only seven weeks away, and with practically no interest manifested hereabouts in the candidacy of anybody for either county or State jobs, Smith talk can be heard on almost any occasion. No one need go to considerable trouble to hear Smith and his chances, discussed. It can be heard almost anywhere. And the most interesting feature of it all is, perhaps, that many persons who have heretofore been out-spoken in opposition to Smith are not so much in evidence by their opposition now.

Prominent men who have not heretofore given expression to their views concerning the candidacy of Smith are now heard to give out predictions like this: "Smith will get the nomination; no doubt about it." When The News hears a prediction of that kind, the question is shot to the prophet: "And what effect will his nomination have?" Comes back the answer: "Smith will gain more Republican votes than he will lose in the Democratic party on account of his religion and so-called wetness." A prominent Republican was heard to admit as much when he heard the prediction by an equally prominent Democrat.

Effect upon people here of the appearance of the Anti-Saloon League leader in the State Republican convention, declaring that he would bolt the Democratic ticket if Smith is nominated, is practically nil. Except that the Anti-Saloon League has lost what prestige and influence he might have in Democratic circles, there is no weight given to such pronouncements. The fact that he took himself into the midst of the Republican hosts is taken to discount his sincerity of purpose in voting with any particular organization. It is generally conceded, therefore, that Mr. Upchurch by his peculiar move aided Governor Smith in his chance for the nomination and election—if indeed the move had any effect at all except to bring the Anti-Saloon League into disrepute.

This Smith sentiment is gathered by The News and is here stated a news, for what it may be worth to those who wish to read. It is no given as indicating any preference. The News may have. It must be understood that The News does not pretend to make news. This paper follows its chosen line in relating news as it finds the same.

Furthermore, for the benefit of those who are opposed to the nomination of Governor Smith, The News will state that had the Democratic convention been held sixty days—no even thirty days—ago the New York Governor would not have been nominated. But with the present Smith wave sweeping the country, as it undoubtedly is doing, if nothing happens to injure his chances before the time comes for nominating a candidate, Governor Smith will surely be named by the Democrats as their leader.

If repetition of a foregoing statement may be pardoned, this is new as The News sees it.

SHIP POULTRY TOMORROW

In the advertisement of poultry shipment in last week's News the price of colored broilers was quoted at 25¢ per pound. (This should have read 38¢ per pound. The shipment will be made tomorrow (Friday) from Dunn and Prof. Anthony expects a good offering of poultry from Harnett.

THEY STEAL BIBLES IN LEE

Jonesboro, April 11.—There was some delay in qualifying the grand jury at the present term of Lee Superior court by not having Bibles ready for the members of that body to take the oath. The court officials have been put to much inconvenience by people stealing the Bibles from the court house.

It has been said that it would be a good investment for the county to keep a good supply on hand and leave them where the rogues can get them, if after stealing them they become better citizens by using them and thereby reduce the cost of holding our courts by reducing crime in the county and improving the moral and religious tone of the community.

LOOK FOR BIG CONVENTION OF MUSIC LOVERS

Sanford Preparing to Entertain Celebrities in Musical World at Meeting Next Wednesday to Friday

Sanford, April 11.—The music lovers of North Carolina evidently are to have a time of rejoicing when they assemble in Sanford April 18, 19, and 20, according to a statement by Mrs. W. A. Harper of this place, president of the North Carolina State Federation of Music Clubs. In an interview concerning the approaching convention Mrs. Harper stated that the three major objectives which the Music Federation outlined for itself three years ago will have been achieved when the music hosts of the state assemble in the Sandhill city for their music convention.

These objectives, according to Mrs. Harper's statement, were the districting of the state into five districts and the holding of conventions in each of them annually; the instance of a bulletin each quarter carrying news of the Federation's work to the local clubs throughout the state; and the federation of at least 100 clubs in the state so as to place North Carolina in the front rank of music loving states in the National Federation of Music Clubs. The achievement of these three objectives, Mrs. Harper says, has been accomplished because of the general awakening of interest in music throughout the state. This awakening has been note-worthy particularly in the colleges, high schools and in the classes of the outstanding music teachers of the State.

This session of the State Federation, Mrs. Harper states, will be featured by the coming to Sanford of the largest group of the State's talented musicians that has yet assembled in any similar gathering. The State Federation is committed to the idea of discovering, encouraging and developing the State's musical artists.

In addition to this, the convention will be featured by Marie Montana Mertonpitan Opera Singer, New York City, who will give a concert on the evening of the 18th. Rutliff Rankin, also, a genuine North Carolina product who has made good in New York as an outstanding pianist is to appear on the evening of the 19th. Mrs. Vera Hull of the National Music League, the national organization that sponsors young artists so successfully throughout the nation, is to be present and will bring an address of inspiration to the convention.

Mrs. Cora Cox Lucas, South Atlantic District President, will attend. It is expected also that the presidents of sister states in the South Atlantic District will be present to bring greetings and messages of uplift, and that the National Federation will be represented by Mrs. Edgar Stillman Kelley, National President.

The convention at Sanford will be featured also by many social festivities. Mrs. H. F. Makepeace and Mrs. Frances Underwood will honor the delegates with receptions and treat in their homes in honor of the board. There will be luncheon served in honor of the convention by the Rotarians, by the Kimmians and by the Merchants Club of the City of Sanford.

Mrs. A. M. Hubbard will be the general local chairman of the Sanford committee. She will be assisted by Mrs. W. Gilliam Brown and Mrs. H. F. Makepeace.

Mortgage Deeds at The News office.

REV. J. H. BUNN of Lawrenceville, Va.



Will deliver the Commencement address at Angier High School on the night of April 19th, at 8:00 o'clock. Mr. Bunn is a brother of Superintendent B. D. Bunn of Lillington schools. He has visited here a number of times and is well and favorably known.

EVERY GOOD FARM WILL GROW WATERMELONS

Says C. R. Hudson, of State College, Giving Best Varieties—Poor Land, Good Melons

Raleigh, April 11.—Of all the crops grown in North Carolina for the delight of the farm owner and town dweller, none is more popular than the red-hearted, muscled watermelon.

"Nearly every good farmer has his own method of growing this crop," says C. R. Hudson of the farm demonstration department at State College, "but certainly, no one should neglect having a patch each year. One of the good things about the crop is that with proper fertilization, it may be grown on poor soil. An old field where the broom sedge has been turned early may be used. Some humus is needed in the land and some fertilizer and manure should be applied. Three of the popular varieties are Tom Watson, Kleckley Sweet, Irish Grey and others. Plant four or five seeds to the hill, thin to two plants before the vines start to run, hoe at least once and cultivate until the vines are from one to two feet long."

In North Carolina, planting may be done any time from the middle of April to the middle of June with these limits extended in some cases for ten days to two weeks. Late melons may be planted after harvesting the small grain. Land preparation should be deep and early, states Mr. Hudson, especially if there is much vegetable matter to be turned. (The rows are usually eight feet apart or more and if the check system is used the hills are placed eight feet apart.)

Mr. Hudson suggests that the rows be plowed, producing water-furrows eight feet apart. Into these furrows, where the checks occur, put two good shovelfuls of well rotted stable manure and a handful of fertilizer analyzing at least an 8-4-4. Mix this well in a space three or four feet around the hill, then throw two furrows to the water-furrow making the bed for the seed. Where no cross-cultivation will be given, the fertilizer and stable manure may be placed continuously in the furrow and the hills planted from four to five feet apart.

COATS CITIZEN PASSES

J. C. Johnson, age 54 years, died last Thursday night at 9:40 o'clock at his home in Coats. Mr. Johnson is survived by his wife and numerous other relatives. The funeral was conducted Friday afternoon and interment made in the family burying plot.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks for the kindness shown us during the sickness and death of our darling baby, Ilene.
Mr. and Mrs. W. M. McLeod.

Chattel Mortgages at The News.

FARMERS MAKING GOOD PROGRESS SELECTING SEED

Co-operative Organ Says Campaign is Resulting in Much Discrimination on Part of Cotton Farmers

(From N. C. Cotton Grower)
The Cotton Growers Association, through its house organ, the field service force and in every other way possible has made a more determined effort during recent months than ever before to induce members, and other cotton growers as well, to plant better varieties of cotton from the best sources of seed available. We will never be satisfied with the results of our efforts along this line until every cotton grower in North Carolina is producing, from the best seed obtainable, cotton of the types most in demand by North Carolina mills. However, we are very much pleased with the results of our efforts this season and with the splendid cooperation which we have received from the State College Extension Service and the agricultural teachers.

The demand for seed of the two most popular varieties of cotton producing staple of one inch and better has been so strong that we have been unable to find seed of one of these varieties during the past two weeks, although we continue to get inquiries from members through our field men and by letters addressed to the Raleigh office.

The premiums secured for these better staples for our members last year have convinced members of the Association that it is profitable for them to produce the better types. Reports from the field representatives of the Association indicate that more than fifteen thousand bushels of improved cotton seed, chiefly of the Mexican and Cleveland varieties, have been placed with cotton growers in this State, and the demand for seed of these varieties is increasing rapidly as the planting season approaches. These varieties may be expected to produce staple of 15-16 inch to 1 1/2-2 inch under unfavorable conditions, and from 1 inch to 1 1/8 inch under favorable conditions.

The popularity of these better staple varieties has caused some seed dealers to offer seed of questionable value, claiming that they are of premium staple. The March 24th issue of the Progressive Farmer carried a warning from Dr. Poe against the purchase of seed of unknown origin.

Dr. R. Y. Winters, Director Experiment Stations, State College, has been of great assistance in the campaign for better seed this spring. He has sacrificed the time from his regular work to go out to numerous farmers' meetings to discuss with them the value of better seed in the more profitable production of cotton. Our State Experiment Stations, under the direction of Dr. Winters, have conducted variety tests over a period of years which have shown very conclusively that varieties producing the better lengths of staple can be grown in North Carolina much more profitably to growers than the extra short staple varieties or the extra long staple varieties of 1 1/8 inch and above.

The 15-16 inch cotton sold last year by the Cotton Growers Association netted the members 88 points more than 7-8 inch cotton; one inch staple averaged 145 points, or more than \$7.00 per bale, more than 7-8 inch staple; 1 1/2-2 inch to 1 1/8 inch sold for 188 points more than 7-8 inch cotton, and all of these staples, this season, have been bringing handsome premiums over 7-8 inch or shorter staple.

IN MEMORY OF LITTLE ILENE McLEOD.

In the early morning of April 8th the Death Angel visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. McLeod, Macon, and took from them their darling baby, Ilene. She only spent 18 days with them. Her arrival brought joy and gladness, but her departure left grief and sadness.

We do not understand why God took her so early, but we know that He doeth all things well, and in plucking roses from His garden, is privileged to take the most beautiful.

Ilene was too pretty to remain on this gloomy earth, so the Angel took her to be with Jesus. The family has the heartfelt sympathy of the entire community in this hour of bereavement. A Friend.

DRAWING PAPER—All colors, the highest quality, at 10 cents for 16 sheets, at The News Office.