

The Fayetteville Observer

"North Carolina's Oldest Newspaper—Established 1817"

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FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1921.

PRICE: FIVE CENTS.

FLAMES SWEEP ROSEBORO

BUSINESS DISTRICT BADLY DAMAGED BY BLAZE LAST NIGHT

Loss Estimated at Over \$152,000; Short Circuit Believed to Have Been Cause; Fire Sweeps Down One Side of Main Street Destroying Seven Buildings; No One Injured

(SPECIAL TO THE OBSERVER)
ROSEBORO, Dec. 16.—Fire believed to have been started by a short circuit originating in the way leading up to the recently newly equipped, electric lodge rooms, caused damages estimated to over \$152,000 here last night.

The heart of the business district of the town was practically gutted, telephone communication was stopped temporarily and the town was without lights all night.

Owing to the fact that the town has no water system, citizens were badly handicapped in fighting the blaze, which had gotten a good start before it was discovered. A bucket brigade was quickly formed and the entire town turned out to fight the blaze.

As far as could be learned no one was injured during the fire. Seven of the main business buildings and several offices were entirely destroyed.

The flames swept down one side of the main street in town. The buildings on the other side of the street were damaged to some extent by the intense heat, but the flames were kept from spreading to that side by the heroic efforts of the volunteer fire fighters.

Burns All Night

The fire was discovered about 11:15 o'clock last night and it burned practically the entire night. The business district today is a mass of wreckage.

Two stores that were occupied by A. R. Harris & Son were completely destroyed.

One store occupied by F. A. Caison and Company was completely destroyed.

The stores occupied by T. W. Rowell, George Thomas, Ed. Bullard and the Butler Furniture Company were all destroyed.

Practically none of the goods or stocks from the stores mentioned above were saved.

The damages to the above mentioned stores was estimated this morning at \$150,000.

Fronts Damaged

The fronts on the stores on the other side of the street were practically all wrecked and destroyed. The stores damaged in this manner were: Clarke Drug Store, W. A. Watson & Son and Dr. O. E. Underwood's office. It is estimated that the damages to these places were \$2,000.

The law office of E. C. Robertson suffered slight damages, estimated at \$100.

The dental office of Dr. D. P. Bullard was also slightly damaged. Damages estimated at \$400.

Damages to the Masonic Temple which was over one of the stores destroyed, are estimated to be \$300. The temple had just recently been newly equipped.

Mrs. E. E. Wyatt, who lived over one of the stores, was completely burned out.

Harris Heavy Loser

A. R. Harris is believed to be the heaviest loser. He owned two or three of the buildings which were destroyed and it is believed that the goods destroyed in his stores were worth \$30,000.

All of the stores had some insurance, but none were full amount.

The loss by buildings was estimated this morning as follows: A. R. Harris, two stores, \$25,000; F. A. Caison, two stores, \$15,000; George Thomas, \$10,000; A. J. Simmons, \$10,000; Butler Furniture Company, \$12,000.

This does not include the loss from destruction of stock and goods in the stores.

SUNDAY SCHOOL IS NEARING COMPLETION

The Sunday school building of the First Presbyterian Church, on Bow street, is rapidly nearing completion. The walls are up and the roof is being put on. The building is large and presents a fine appearance from the street.

MANY OUT OF TOWN SHOPPERS ARE HERE

Numbers of out-of-town people—well dressed, nice-appearing men and women—are seen in this city everyday going in and out of the stores, presumably shopping. Doubtless they have been reading the advertisements in the Observer of our merchants, and surely they are finding that Fayetteville is the place to do this shopping every day in the year.

SIXTH DISTRICT BANKERS ELECT OFFICERS HERE

Interesting Meeting Held Here Yesterday; Organization Is Formed

A meeting of the bankers of the sixth district was held in the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce Rooms on Thursday afternoon Dec. 15th, 1921 at 1 p. m.

Banks from Cumberland, Robeson and Harnett counties were represented and Mr. C. S. Hicks was elected Temporary Chairman and Mr. Lacey Williams Temporary Secretary.

Upon motion Mr. C. S. Hicks of the Bank of Harnett, Duke Bank of Lillington was elected Secretary of the organization.

A constitution and by-laws were drawn up and accepted by the organization and an Advisory Committee, consisting of Mr. A. B. McMillan of the National Bank of Fayetteville, Mr. T. O. Evans of the Bank of Maxton and Mr. M. T. Moirs of the Bank of Whiteville were duly elected.

A Resolution approving the cooperative marketing in the State of North Carolina was presented and adopted. Several of the bankers gave interesting talks of the every day problems of the banking world, and Mr. F. R. MacKeith, an Mayor of Fayetteville gave a short talk on a vital question affecting the banking interests of North Carolina.

Col. Jas. R. Young, of Raleigh was to have addressed the meeting but was unavoidably detained and could not be present.

The meeting adjourned to meet some time in the spring.

CLOSING COTTON

E. J. Wells, cotton merchant, reported local cotton middling today at 16 1/2 to 17 cents with 100 bales for sale.

New York closing cotton is as follows:

December	18.00
January	17.81
February	17.62
March	17.43
April	17.24
May	17.05
June	16.86
July	16.67

As a citizen remarked the other day: It seems that the weather couldn't be bad for any length of time in this Sandhill section if it wanted to. This morning it was really cold, but the afternoon sun rendered the atmosphere delightful and Spring-like.

DEFINITE MOVE IS ON TO WIDEN THE CAPE FEAR

Bill Introduced in Congress Recently Calls for Survey of River

CITIZENS SHOULD GET BEHIND PLAN

Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce Is Working Hard to Pass the Bill

Definite plans for the establishment of eight feet of water in the Cape Fear river, so that Fayetteville may enjoy water transportation, was started by the introduction of the following bill on December 12, by Congressman H. L. Lyon of this district.

The secretary of the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce received a letter with a copy of the bill enclosed from Congressman Lyon and from indications derived therefrom thinks that this bill will be favorably received and that action will soon be started to the completion of this worthy project.

A copy of the bill is reproduced below so that everyone may see what steps are being taken to have this project rushed through to completion:

67th Congress—2nd Session.

H. R. 9509.

In the House of Representatives December 12, 1921.

Mr. Lyon introduced the following bill, which was referred to the committee on rivers and harbors and ordered to be printed:

A BILL Authorizing the secretary of war to make a survey of the Cape Fear river above Wilmington, North Carolina.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the secretary of war be, and is hereby, authorized to make a survey of the Cape Fear river above Wilmington, North Carolina, for the purpose of ascertaining the feasibility of providing an eight-foot channel from Wilmington, North Carolina, to Fayetteville, North Carolina, and to make a report upon same at the earliest possible date, showing the amount of necessary appropriation to provide said depth of channel.

This matter must not be allowed to rest here, but every one in Fayetteville and along the Cape Fear river should do everything in their power to make this eight-foot channel a certainty.

The secretary of the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce will be very glad to receive any suggestions about this bill and will be glad to answer any questions regarding same.

The Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce intends to stay behind this matter and push it to a completion so that Fayetteville may be able, in the near future, to enjoy water transportation and take its rightful place as a distributing center of this portion of the state.

Let us all get behind this matter and if you are not already a member of the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce, join today so that this matter may be satisfactorily brought to a close. This is only one of the matters that the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce is engaged in and every man in Fayetteville should belong and give his influence to the Chamber of Commerce, so that Fayetteville may soon take its rightful place in the business world of North Carolina.

Friends Mystified at Suicide Today

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 16.—Friends of Congressman Elston here and at his home in Berkeley, across San Francisco bay, expressed themselves as mystified today by reports from Washington indicating that he had taken his life.

Mr. Elston occupied a respected place in the community and his career, both as an attorney and as a member of Congress, was regarded as successful. He was serving his fourth term in Congress.

Associates here agreed that Mr. Elston was disappointed keenly over failure of legislative plans which would have placed the proposed Pacific naval base at Alameda in his home district.

Commission to Take Definite Action Now

PARIS, Dec. 16.—(By Associated Press.)—The allied reparations commission meeting today to consider the German notice of inability to pay the next two installments in full, and requesting extension of time, virtually agreed that the commission itself should take definite action on the request instead of referring the question to the allied governments.

It was announced that the commission would meet again this afternoon to discuss the matter.

DEPUTY SHERIFF IS TRIED FOR ASSAULT

In Recorder's Court this morning B. L. Dixon, deputy sheriff and a member of the Law and Order League of Gray's township, was tried on charges of an assault on W. J. Brockington when the latter went to Dixon's home to try to collect a bill. Testimony of the State was that Dixon seized Brockington by the coat collar, threw him to the ground and ordered him to leave his premises. Defendant denied having cursed Brockington, and said he became angry because Brockington contradicted him.

Dixon was scored by the State for assaulting Brockington when he (Dixon) was an officer of the law and sworn to keep the peace. The court found defendant guilty and fined him \$25 and costs. An appeal to Sup. Ct. was taken.

Jim Natt, colored, was tried on a charge of stealing a quantity of clothing. He was found not guilty.

STATE FORESTRY MEN WILL MEET AT WILMINGTON

(Special to The Observer)
CHAPEL HILL, Dec. 16.—The Eleventh Annual Convention of the North Carolina Forestry Association will be held in Wilmington, N. C., on Friday, January 28, 1922. The program is being arranged so that several of the most important forestry problems now before the people of the State, such as highway planting, county cooperation in forest fire prevention, State or Federal forest control, etc., will be brought up for discussion by some of the leading authorities on these subjects.

A plan is also on foot to organize an excursion the following day to the long leaf pine forests of New Hanover county. Within ten miles of Wilmington are to be found some of the best second growth longleaf pine forests in the State, and the opportunity will be given for out of town delegates to visit them.

Wilmington is a popular winter resort and as all the hotels are liable to be well filled throughout January, all those who plan to attend this meeting should make their reservations well in advance. The Wilmington Chamber of Commerce is heartily cooperating with the Association and suggests that reservations be made during the first week in January. Rooms may be secured at the Orion, Wilmington and the Coast Line hotels, all of which are run in the European plan. Cafes are run in connection with these hotels and there is an excellent Y. W. C. A. cafeteria near by. Accommodations at good boarding houses can also be secured.

The North Carolina Forestry Association was organized in 1911 and since that time it has been one of the chief instruments in bringing the people of the State to realize the need for forest conservation. It is planned to celebrate the full ten years of useful endeavor by holding such a meeting that the second ten years will be started with greatly renewed enthusiasm. It is hoped that all men and women of North Carolina interested in the progress of forestry will plan to attend this meeting and do their part to bring about better forest conditions in our state.

SEVENTH GRADE PUPIL IS WINNER HERE THIS WEEK

George Weisels Writes On His Favorite Character in History and Wins

MUCH INTEREST IS BEING DISPLAYED

Many are Given Honorable Mention; Writes Essay On Robert Morris

The "Observer Composition" contest was won this week by George Weisels, a seventh grade pupil in Miss Mildred Fry's room of the Central School, the subject being "My Favorite Character in History."

The school authorities have thoroughly enjoyed the response of the pupils to the request that they write on their favorite characters in history literature. It is interesting to observe that practically each child wrote on some character in history. While it is true that some of the greatest characters who have ever lived have lived in fiction, it is gratifying to know that the school children are really turning their serious attention to the men in history who have been brave, honorable, and unselfish. Here is a list of a few of the theme subjects: Robert Morris, a merchant in the Revolutionary times; Robert E. Lee, the great southern general; George Washington, the Father of his Country; Benjamin Franklin, one of our most noted self-made men; Thomas A. Edison, a great contemporary American scientist and inventor; LaFayette, the brave and unselfish Frenchman, who endeared himself to the hearts of all Americans during the Revolutionary war; John Paul, a Revolutionary hero; Sergeant Jasper, another Revolutionary hero; Abraham Lincoln, the great preserver of the Union; and so on.

Parents may rest assured that children cannot go very far wrong when they are looking with worshipful eyes upon the deeds and lives of the greatest men of the world has produced. There is perhaps no greater influence that comes into the life of the child, than the influence of our leading characters in history and literature. The winning theme follows:

"MY FAVORITE CHARACTER IN HISTORY
"By George Weisels
"Seventh grade pupil in the Central School

"My favorite character in history is Robert Morris, a wealthy Pennsylvania merchant, who during the Winter of 1776 and 1777 really saved our army and our cause.

"At that time, the merchant would not take the worthless paper money in exchange for supplies, and the soldiers would not accept it as pay. Washington would have been compelled to disband his army, and even with his bravery and skill, we would have lost, had it not been for Robert Morris, who raised \$50,000 in gold on his own credit to pay the soldiers and supply the army with food, clothing and ammunition.

"This act on his part set an example for other men of means, and most of them gave all they had. It also put new vigor into the hearts of the soldiers, and we all know the end. We are now a free country! Perhaps but for Robert Morris, the United States would still be an English Colony."

The contestants who deserve honorable mention are as follows:

Donaldson School
Joel Snyder, fourth grade, Miss Vera Bennett, teacher; Frances Pope, fifth grade, Miss Ruth Jones, teacher; Lillian Walker, sixth grade, Mrs. A. L. Thompson, teacher.

Central School
Edith Fortson, fourth grade, A. Miss Nan B. Williams, teacher; Charlotte Holland, fourth grade, B. Mrs. W. Q. Davis, teacher; Francis Tyler, fifth grade, A2, Mrs. Curtis Benton, teacher; Doris Hardy, fifth grade, B. Miss Lucy Gaston, teacher; Margaret Hobbs, sixth grade, A. Miss Margaret Whitehead, teacher; William Marsh, seventh grade, A. Miss Mamie Gray, teacher; Helen Kelly, seventh grade, B. Mrs. W. Q. Davis, teacher.

The following teachers of the Central school acted as judges: Mrs. Curtis Benton, fifth grade, A. teacher; Miss Lucy Gaston, fifth grade, B. teacher; Mrs. W. Q. Davis, fourth grade teacher.

The subject for this week was "My Favorite Character in History or Literature," the subject announced for next week is "The Best Christmas I Ever Had."

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CROOK REPEATS SLICK TRICK ON MERCHANTS HERE

This Time Member of Observer Force Receives Goods Ordered by Crook

The other day the Observer carried a local story of a man who was practicing a swindling game by going to various stores, ordering goods and directing that they be sent to a certain family or a certain house in the city, pretending purchases, taking part of the goods with him and promising to be at the house and pay the bill when the balance of the goods got there.

Yesterday the swindler again worked the game, the goods going to the home on Adams street of C. G. Bland, of the Observer force. A delivery wagon carried a lot of goods to Mr. Bland's house for a Mr. Williams, who the delivery man said, had bought them and was to pay for them when delivered. The supposed Mr. Williams had carried a lot when he gave the order.

KIWANIS PRESENT CHECK TO BURNS AT MEET TODAY

Fayetteville's Wonder Eleven Guests of Kiwanis This Afternoon

Comparing that memorable stand of the famous English general at Waterloo many years ago to the more than famous stand taken by Fayetteville's Wonder Eleven at Chapel Hill when New Bern and Winston-Salem both were within the very shadows of the Fayetteville goal. Dr. T. M. West paid high tribute to the team which won the state high school football championship this year at the meeting of the Fayetteville Kiwanis Club held at 8 o'clock this afternoon at the K. of P. hall.

The Wonder Eleven, the lads that are the heroes of Fayetteville today, were the honored guests of the Kiwanis Club at the meeting this afternoon.

In appreciation of the wonderful work done by Coach Robert Burns here this year, the Kiwanians presented him with a check for \$186, a donation from the members of the club.

The Kiwanis Club will join the Rotary Club and the Elks in the move to provide Christmas baskets for the poor of the community. It was decided at the meeting.

Maultby Funeral Is Held Here Thursday

The funeral of D. S. Maultby, who died in Portsmouth, Va., Tuesday, was held at the residence of his brother, T. H. Maultby, in this city, Thursday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, conducted by Rev. H. A. Humble, pastor Hay Street Methodist Church, assisted by Rev. T. H. Sutton and Rev. C. E. Maness.

The pall-bearers were: E. A. Poe, Q. K. Nimocks, Dr. J. H. Judd, Dr. J. W. McNeill, R. N. Prior and H. S. Sedberry.

Rotarians Will Help Poor Out

At the meeting of the Fayetteville Rotary Club held last evening it was decided that the club would join with the Elks Club and the Kiwanis Club in providing Christmas cheer for the poor of Fayetteville and Cumberland county.

Other important business matters were transacted by the club and the meeting was an entirely successful one.

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AT FEDERAL COURT
Sheriff N. H. McGeachy and Officers Kelly, Benton and Bindeman have returned from Raleigh, where they went to attend Federal Court.

HELP-TO BRIGHTEN WARD 15 AT OTEEN

Miss Clements of the Red Cross at Oteen asks Fayetteville to send its Christmas cheer to the men in Ward 15 instead of Ward 14 as in 1919-1920. Ward 15 is for surgical cases, and very few visitors are allowed, so attentions from outside are greatly appreciated.

These soldiers do not need to have a special appeal made for them. What they are and where and why is sufficient. Because there is so little time in which to act, will all who can give please mark carefully Oteen and send it to the Red Room by Monday night. Money marked Oteen, or checks made to Treasurer of Oteen Fund may be left there or mailed to me by Monday night.

Last year the boys in Ward 14 (Fayetteville's ward) won the prize for the best decorated, they enjoyed doing it and were proud of their work. Others must do the decorating for the boys in Ward 15. Let's make it all the jollier and more beautiful for that reason.

LIZZIE LAMB, Treasurer Oteen Fund.

SENATORS AGREE TO STAY UNTIL NEXT TUESDAY

Thirty Members of State Senate Agree to This in Order Pass Act

by MA XABERNATHY
RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 16.—Thirty members of the senate on roll call agreed to remain over until Tuesday morning in order to pass the Municipal Finance Act after the senate had complied with the request of the house for the return of the act and the bill validating the school tax levies for the past year. The Municipal Finance Act had passed second reading and this was reconsidered and the bill sent back.

Senator Varsler explained that the bill will go on second reading in the House Friday, third reading Saturday and then return to the senate for first reading on Saturday, second reading Monday, and third reading early Tuesday morning. Stubbs did not think this legal as it would put the bill on third reading in the house Saturday and first reading in the senate the same day, but Varsler said numerous supreme court opinions held that this was all right.

By a strictly partisan vote the house passed the Townsend bill restoring the town limits of Roseboro to the original line before the limits were changed during the closing days of last session when a large amount of property belonging to Representative Owen was taken out of the town limit.

When the bill came up, Byrd moved that it be tabled but the democrats were watching for it and insisted that the motion to table it be withdrawn until explanation of the bill could be made. This was done and all democrats voted for the bill and all republicans against it.

The senate passed on final reading the Everett bill clarifying the revenue bill regarding the right of railroads to appeal to the state courts.

The house passed the senate bill increasing the pay of Adjutant General Metts from \$3,000 to \$4,500 placing that office on a parity with other state offices.

Southern Asks for Gold Bond Issue

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The Southern Railroad asked the Interstate Commerce Commission today for permission to issue and sell \$30,000,000 in gold bonds to bear interest at six and a half per cent, to mature April 1925. The road proposes with the funds thus obtained to pay \$22,588,000 for redemption of outstanding short term notes and \$2,355,000 to extinguish a government loan. The balance, the application said, will be held in the treasury of the corporation as reimbursement for capital betterment expenditures already made.

LITTLE BRUIN SAYS

Weather for North Carolina: Increased cloudiness followed by rain Saturday and in west portion tonight; warm, fresh, northeast, shifting to southeast, winds.

FRENCH SEEK BIG NAVAL INCREASE; ENGLAND KICKS

Declare Such a Plan Would Upset Whole Plan for a 5-5-3 Reduction

ENGLAND WANTS TO ABOLISH THE SUBS

Texas Man Says South Believes the Arms Conference Is Big Success

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—(By Associated Press.)—The French delegation has presented a proposal for so great an increase in the strength of the French navy that the British declare such a program, if carried out, would upset the whole plan for a 5-5-3 naval reduction.

Although not yet entirely revealed, the British understand the French plan provides for the construction of ten 35,000-ton super-dreadnoughts in the ten years subsequent to 1925. These vessels of a type similar to the American battleship Maryland, would give France a capital ship tonnage of 350,000, as against 315,000 for Japan and a preponderance of the "New Port Jutland" type craft over all nations.

Italy, although indicating disapproval of such a building program, is said to have told the arms conference that if France constructs ten such ships, she must carry out a similar building program.

The combined French and Italian fleets thus would be some 200,000 tons stronger than the British or the American allotments under the revised figures agreed on yesterday by the Big Three.

Conference Success
WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Former Representative Slayden, Democrat, Texas, called today to congratulate President Harding "on the wonderful success" of the Washington conference as "viewed by the people of the South," Mr. Slayden said as he left the White House that he had in his travels throughout the South, particularly in Virginia, found the people pleased and contented with the accomplishments of the conference.

Abolish Subs
WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—(By Associated Press.)—Arthur J. Balfour, head of the British delegation, gave notice today that Great Britain would propose to the arms conference the total abolition of submarines.

Caldwell Will Speak in This City Tonight
E. C. Caldwell, grand councillor of the United Commercial Travelers for the Carolinas, will speak tonight in the offices of Chamber of Commerce at 8 o'clock. All manufacturers, jobbers and salesmen are urgently requested to be present as Mr. Caldwell's subject will be one that will be beneficial to all.

Mr. Caldwell is a forcible speaker and it will be interesting to hear him.

ULSTER OFFICIALS IN LONDON TODAY
LONDON, Dec. 16.—Sir James Craig, the Ulster Premier and Colonel Spender, Secretary of the Ulster Cabinet, arrived in London today for consultations regarding the Ulster position in the pending Irish settlement. Sir James told newspaper men he had come in connection with the important question of Ulster boundaries which the treaty stipulated are to be fixed by a commission.

BAND CONCERT AT CAMP BRAGG SUNDAY
Trapolino to Direct Consolidated Band at Camp Next Sunday
There will be a concert by the Camp Bragg consolidated band Sunday, December 13, 1921, from 3:30 to 4:30 p. m.,