

1,000 HOMES DESTROYED AND TWO MILLION DOLLAR LOSS

Check New Bern Fire Shows

Area Of 40 Blocks, Comprising One Fourth Of City, In Ruins and 3,000 People Homeless; All Of Fire Victims Cared For, Majority Of Them Sleeping In School Buildings and Tents.

PRESIDENT HARDING SENDS NEW BERN MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY

New Bern, N. C., Dec. 4.—President Harding today sent the following message of sympathy for New Bern's fire sufferers to Mayor Edward Clark:

"I wish to express through you my great sympathy for the citizens of New Bern in the distressing calamity that has befallen them.

"Sincerest hopes that their misfortune may be alleviated in every possible way and that early and complete recovery may follow."

New Bern, N. C., Dec. 4.—First accurate estimates of New Bern's loss from Friday's fire today were available when city officials checked the number of houses destroyed and persons rendered homeless. Their report showed:

One thousand homes and other buildings burned.

More than 3,000 persons are homeless.

An area of forty blocks, comprising one-fourth of the city, has been laid in waste.

The total financial loss will be approximately \$2,000,000.

Insurance of about one-third this amount was carried by property owners.

One case of drunkenness and the assault of a negro woman by her husband were the only cases of disorders here last night. Adjutant General J. Van B. Metts arrived here this morning and made a general survey of the situation. The resources of his department are available to New Bern, he said, in informing Mayor Clark not to hesitate in calling for further assistance.

One thousand blankets, the same number of mattresses and hundreds of sweaters, were received today from the naval base at Norfolk. Donations also are arriving from other towns and a place is being found for everything contributed.

Financial aid also is promised from various towns and organizations in the State, and this, it was stated will help materially. At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce it was estimated \$100,000 or more will be required to place the victims of the fire on a basis from which they will be able to help themselves. Additional plans for the employment of hundreds of negroes thrown out of jobs also were discussed. An effort will be made to have the State Highway Commission to accelerate its road building in this county, it was stated.

All Victims Cared For

All of the fire victims last night were cared for, most of them sleeping in the school buildings. Thirty or more tents have been erected. Health officials under the leadership of medical officers and two assistants from Camp Bragg are in charge of sanitary conditions. Carter Taylor, chief of field of the Seventh Division of the American Red Cross, is in charge of the relief work.

Prominent women of the city who have labored daily for twelve or more hours at a stretch preparing food and serving it to the fire victims are being reinforced today with a number of new recruits. The slogan announced by Carter Taylor, chief of field of the seventh division of the American Red Cross is "No Idleness, Every body Work."

Clearing Debris

Squads of men from among the homeless had started out today to clear up some of the debris. Each of these squads is in command of a soldier from Camp Bragg. Negro women are being employed to help in administering relief at the graded school.

Information came to Mr. Taylor yesterday that some of the negro servants of the city had given up their jobs and were now boarding at the "Free Hotel" at the school house. A black list of these is being prepared so as to prevent them from again obtaining employment in New Bern.

New Bern's business men in session this morning discussed additional plans for providing employment to the hundreds of negroes who have been thrown out of work. An effort will be at once made in co-operation with state highway commission to accelerate road building activities with the county. At the meeting this morning it was realized that the temporary housing and feeding of the victims was only a step in the actual relief work which had to be done. A reconstruction program including the laying off of new streets was also discussed in preliminary form at the meeting. It was reported that lumber for two or three houses would be hauled today, these houses to be erected on one of the blocks which has

TO HOLD BANQUET

Chapel Hill, Dec. 1.—The 75 University alumni living in Franklin County will hold a big banquet in Louisburg during the Christmas holidays according to plans now being worked out. Definite announcement of the date and program is expected within the next few days. The large number of students from the county now at Chapel Hill will also attend the gathering.

There has never been a local Association of University men formed in Franklin County, and it is expected this will be considered at this initial county-wide gathering. The Committee that is interesting itself in arranging for the meeting is composed of T. W. Ruffin and E. L. Best of Louisburg, S. C. Ford and R. R. Speed of Franklinton, and James S. Massenburg of Bunn.

Senator W. M. Person, of Louisburg is an alumnus, and a Trustee of the University at the present time.

Gatherings of University alumni will also be held in the other counties throughout North Carolina during the Christmas holidays. Arrangements for 31 meetings have already been made in the eastern part of the state. The interest is equally as keen in the Western section and it is expected that equally as large a number of meetings will be held there, making a total of near seventy—with a total attendance of more than 3,000.

This activity among the University alumni comes in response to the establishment a few months ago of a Central Secretary's office for the General Association. This position is being filled by Daniel L. Grant, of Chapel Hill. The other officers of the Association are Walter Murphy, Salisbury, Charles L. Weill, of Greensboro and Robert M. Wright, Greenville.

The University has a total of more than 11,000 living alumna which have not formerly been kept closely together into an association. It is to foster this work, and to support the institution in its great work for the state that the great amount of interest is at present being manifested.

CHRISTMAS CHECKS

Raleigh, Dec. 4.—The headquarters staff of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Cooperative Association faces the big task of sending out Christmas checks to 25,000 members.

Advances of \$25.00 a bale are to be made December 15 on all cotton delivered to the Association up to December 1. It was necessary to limit the date for the second advance in order to make bookkeeping arrangements, which is no inconsiderable item to say nothing of getting three million dollars with which to make the advances.

The Association announces that it cannot honor drafts for more than fifty dollars a bale at time of delivery and that members making deliveries this month will have to wait until after the advances are made on October and November cotton before receiving their \$25.00 advance.

The impression in some quarters that members can now draw for \$75.00 a bale is without foundation. General Manager Blalock states, and members can draw only for \$50.00 at time of delivery.

The Tar Heel cooperatives have established a record in maintaining a steady flow of cotton into warehouses since October 1. The November deliveries were equal to those in October, it is stated, and it is expected that there will be a large delivery this month.

While the Association has sold some cotton, it is understood, it has adhered to its policy of orderly marketing.

Cotton and tobacco cooperatives are holding a series of joint mass meetings in eastern counties this week, which are being addressed by Dr. Clarence Poe, Dr. B. W. Kilgore and other leaders in the cooperative movement.

MRS. EGERTON ENTERTAINS

Mrs. W. D. Egerton was hostess to the Younger Set Bridge Club on Wednesday evening, Nov. 29th. The game was especially interesting as it is next to the last club meeting before the final scores are taken for the Xmas Banquet.

The Thanksgiving idea was carried out in score cards and favors and added greatly to the already jovial holiday spirit.

A delicious turkey course was served followed by charlotte rousse, nuts and mints.

Miss Ila Mae Ogburn made the highest score of the evening.

TOBACCO BUYERS ARE VICTIMS OF BANDITS

Dedensatch, Dec. 4.—American tobacco buyers are being held up and robbed in western Thrace. The latest victims are R. J. Wortham, of Henderson, N. C., who was deprived of money and jewelry while traveling by automobile from Drama to Kavala, and J. J. Harrington, of Rocky Mount, N. C., who was robbed on a road from Sofia to Salonki. American traders are rarely molested in this district.

been devastated.

There is no let up in the work of the committees in various departments of relief work and the work is continuing in all its phases with unabated energy.

TO MAKE MODERN INDEX

Improve County Property By Filling Up Ditch

Receives Many Reports—Makes Settlement With J. M. and W. H. Allen—Borrows Money for School Fund.

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, with all members except Fuller, present. After reading and approving minutes of previous meeting business as follows was transacted:

Report of Miss Addie Bordeaux, Home Demonstration Agent, was received and filed.

On motion it was ordered that the Clerk of the Court see that each case be charged with the Stenographers fees and turned back to the General Purpose Fund.

On motion of Hudson, seconded by Timberlake, J. E. Thomas be and he is hereby appointed officer to assist Sheriff H. A. Kearney in Recorder's Court without compensation.

The report of Dr. J. E. Malone, County Health officer was received and filed.

Chief of Police D. C. High was before the Board and stated that if the county would furnish pipe from Ford's building to River that he would put it in and have it leveled up. Upon motion the County agreed to furnish the pipe.

On motion of Hudson and seconded by Timberlake it was ordered that the County borrow \$10,000 for three months for the general school fund.

Three notes from W. H. and J. M. Allen in the sum of \$1,932.99 each were ordered recorded on the minutes. These notes represent balance of settlement of judgment.

The Commissioners let a contract to H. W. Perry, former Auditor to make up a modern index for real estate papers recorded in the Register of Deeds office.

The report of J. J. Holden, Superintendent of County Home was received and filed.

On motion R. H. Young was awarded a contract to make and put up one hundred signs at crossings of important roads pointing the way to different places.

After allowing a number of accounts the old Board adjourned sine die at 12 o'clock.

G. A. SOCIAL

The Girls Auxiliary of the Louisburg Baptist church entertained the Royal Ambassadors and their leader, Rev. J. A. McIver at the home of Mrs. J. S. Howell, Friday evening, December 1st. The hall of Mrs. Howell's spacious home was decorated to illustrate harvest time.

The guests were met at the door by Misses Doza Upchurch and Margaret Insoce, both of whom were dressed in costumes illustrating the Pilgrims. They were ushered into the living room and parlor. Several games were played after the guests had gathered. After we were tired of playing games Miss Margaret Insoce told the "Origin of Thanksgiving". Then Mr. McIver suggested that the Royal Ambassadors and G. A.'s go out on some Monday and gather holy to be shipped to Louisville, Ky. for sale. The proceeds are to help to pay the boys and girls pledges for the Seventy-Five Million Campaign.

About 9:30 o'clock Mrs. Howell, assisted by several girls served delicious refreshments.

Those enjoying the hospitality of Mrs. Howell were the following: Rev. J. A. McIver, Messrs. John Mills, Wingate Underhill, Edward Perry, Hep Stovall, James Cooper and his cousin visiting him, Edward Bartholomey, George Griffin, Garland Moseley, Vaylon Liles, Kenneth White and Wilson Morton. Misses Doza Upchurch, Margaret Insoce, Beulah Lancaster, Elsie Hudson, Iola Bailey, Willie Mae Place, Annie Pierce, Louise Cooper, Beulah Cooper, Elizabeth Webb, Elsie Herman, Josephine House and Eugenia Perry.

Each one went home wishing that Mr. McIver and Mrs. Howell would entertain again soon.

WILLIS W. ALSTON DEAD

Willis W. Alston, traveling salesman for a firm in Boston, Mass., for twenty-five years was stricken with paralysis at Princeton Hotel, Gainesville, Ga., on Nov. 21st and died in that city at Downey hospital.

Funeral services were held at his ancestral home in Warren county Nov. 27th, by Rev. M. Y. Self, of M. E. Church, Norfolk.

The deceased was regarded with high esteem by all who knew him. He leaves a host of friends and relatives besides his immediate family of three sisters and three brothers. His sister Mrs. W. H. Pleasants, Jr., was called by telegram and was with him during his last days. We extend our sympathy to the bereaved family.

TO CLOSE DECEMBER 20TH

Manager G. C. Harris announces that the Cooperative Warehouses for receiving tobacco will close on Wednesday, December 20th, 1922 to observe the Christmas holidays and will open again on Wednesday, January 3, 1923.

ARTHUR STRICKLAND ELECTED CHAIRMAN

S. Atwood Newell, County Attorney

Receives Bonds of the Several Officers and Administers Oaths—Continued Home Demonstration Work—Routine.

The new Board of County Commissioners composed of Messrs. Arthur Strickland, J. R. Jones, H. P. Speed, T. S. Dean, R. S. Pace, after having been sworn in by Deputy Clerk of the Court, J. L. Palmer, met at 2 o'clock and perfected an organization as follows:

Chairman—Arthur Strickland. Attorney—S. A. Newell.

The Board then proceeded to receive and pass on the Bonds of the several officers and to administer oaths as follows:

H. A. Kearney, Sheriff. S. C. Holden, Register of Deeds. J. J. Young, Clerk of the Court. George W. Brown, Auditor. N. B. House, Coroner.

Constables—Louisburg township, J. E. Thomas; Sandy Creek township, F. F. Hicks; Cedar Rock township, Spencer Boone.

A motion prevailed continuing the Home Demonstration work.

After allowing a few accounts the Board adjourned to its next regular meeting.

HOFF-THOMAS

The following announcement has been received by friends in Louisburg: "Mr. and Mrs. William Graham Thomas announce the marriage of their daughter, Helen Lynwood to Dr. Friedrich Theodore Hoff on Saturday, the eighteenth of November, nineteen hundred and twenty-two, Durham, North Carolina. At home after the first of December, five hundred and thirteen, Polk Street, Raleigh, North Carolina."

The bride is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Thomas, of Raleigh. The family lived in Louisburg for a number of years and Mr. Thomas carried on a successful drug business here but later moved to Raleigh where he continued the same line of work.

Dr. Hoff is a physician of the chiropractic school. Although quite a young man he has a large practice and is rapidly making good.

TOBACCO GROWERS TO MEET

Information given us by members of the Tobacco Growers Association say that an announcement has been made from Raleigh of a meeting of all the members to be held in Louisburg on Tuesday, December 12th, at which several big speakers will tell you things of interest about your association. Be sure and hear them.

NEAL-DUKE

It will be of interest to many of the readers of the FRANKLIN TIMES to see the following announcement: "Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Forbes announce the marriage of their sister, Maggie Sawyer Duke to Mr. John Wylie Neal, Thursday, November the thirtieth, nineteen hundred and twenty-two, Richmond, Virginia. At home Alert, N. C."

Miss Duke is well known and greatly beloved in the Centerville neighborhood where she taught school for several terms, later going into the millinery business with Mrs. A. A. Shearin.

Mr. Neal is a successful farmer. He served in France during the war. They both have many friends to wish them a happy future.

A PAINFUL ACCIDENT

Mrs. Geo. H. Cooper suffered a rather serious accident at the plainer Monday afternoon when a belt on the machinery broke and one end struck him in the face. His left eye was badly injured and his face much bruised, but no bones were broken. It is impossible to tell yet the extent of the injury to the eye but it is hoped that when the inflammation subsides it will be found that the injury to his sight is not permanent. The other eye was unharmed.

SPECIAL MUSIC

It has been announced that the Choir of the Methodist Church will render a special musical program at the morning hour next Sunday and a generous invitation is extended all to attend.

Regular services will be conducted at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. by the pastor.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NEW BERN

We have been requested to announce that all those of our citizens who wish to make a contribution to the sufferers of fire stricken New Bern will please see or send same to Mrs. W. E. White. This is a most worthy cause and should meet with a prompt and generous response.

Mrs. Maurice S. Clifton left Wednesday to see her sister, who is ill at a hospital in Norfolk.

MUSICAL COMEDY

AMONG THE VISITORS

SOME YOU KNOW AND SOME YOU DO NOT KNOW.

Personal Items About Folks And Their Friends Who Travel Here And There.

Mr. W. M. Person left Tuesday for Gastonia.

Supt. and Mrs. E. L. Best visited Raleigh Tuesday.

Mr. Tom Wilder, of Aberdeen, was in Louisburg last week-end.

Mr. W. H. Leonard, of Salisbury, was in Louisburg the past week.

Miss Katherine Bobbitt, of Meredith College, was at home for the holidays.

Mrs. Leo Hearty, of Raleigh, is spending a few days with relatives in Louisburg.

Mrs. E. T. Whitehead, of Scotland Neck, visited Mrs. Fred A. Riff the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Hudson and daughter, Lucille, left Tuesday for Baltimore.

Mr. Arch Green, of Philadelphia, made a short visit at Mrs. A. M. Hall's last week.

Miss Ruth Early, who is teaching in Durham, spent her Thanksgiving holidays with her mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hicks and children spent the holidays with Mrs. Hicks' parents in Nash county.

Mrs. Fred A. Riff, accompanied by her father, Mr. W. H. Leonard, left Saturday for Richmond for treatment.

Mrs. L. L. Brinkley, of Cognac, has been spending this week with her mother, Mrs. E. C. Aiken, who is still quite ill, though she seems to be holding her own.

Miss Mary Spencer and Master James Johnson returned Wednesday from a trip to Greensboro, where they attended the marriage of Miss Julia Silver to Mr. Garland Cleary.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Ranson, of Frevard, were week-end visitors of Miss Sallie Taylor. Mrs. Ranson was Miss Una May Hayes of this city. She and her husband have just returned from a trip to California.

Mrs. G. N. Leonard, of Rocky Mount, was in Louisburg Monday to be with her sister, Miss Nan Hines, who had to undergo a tonsil operation. Miss Hines is getting on very well. Mrs. Leonard was accompanied by her little daughter, Mary Hines Leonard.

MR. BARROW RETIRES

In the retirement of Mr. Joseph J. Barrow, as Clerk of the Court, Franklin County loses one of the most efficient Clerks to be found in any county. Besides being a man of ability, especially suited to the office, he was a man of courtesy, and his efforts will be appreciated by his countrymen.

Mr. Barrow, who retired last Monday after twenty years of continuous service as Clerk of the Superior Court of this County, was the recipient of high honors at the hands of the members of the bar of the county. Just before the hour for his retirement arrived, the bar gathered in a body in the Clerk's office, and Mr. W. H. Yarborough, as spokesman, presented Mr. Barrow with a handsome gold watch and chain as a testimonial of appreciation of his faithful and honorable service as Clerk and affection of the personal esteem and affection of the lawyers themselves.

Mr. Yarborough paid high compliment to the ability and character of the retiring clerk, and said "In the records of this Court there is written a story of as patient, as efficient, as faithful and as unselfish service as any officer of any county in this nation has ever rendered to the people who trusted him." Mr. Barrow responded in words of warm appreciation and deep feeling.

This was a deserved compliment as Mr. Barrow has long ranked as one of the best and ablest Clerks in the State.

"DOT THE MINERS DAUGHTER"

The play "Dot, the Miners Daughter" will be given at Hickory Rock school on Friday night, Dec. 15th, at 7:00 o'clock. The admission will be 15 and 25 cents. The public is cordially invited.

MRS. MEADOWS IMPROVING

The many friends of Mrs. B. H. Meadows, who is in a hospital in Rocky Mount receiving treatment, will be glad to learn that she is improving and hope for her a speedy recovery.

BAPTIST CHURCH

The pastor of Louisburg Baptist Church will be happy to see everyone Sunday morning who has a part in the beautiful Ford Coupe left at his home Wednesday night as a present. He wants to thank you every one from his heart and prove his appreciation by giving you a little white with you.

FROM HICKORY ROCK

Mr. Coy Muckle and Mr. Blackwell of Wake Forest, spent Thanksgiving with Miss Zena Bobbitt near Louisburg.

Mrs. Perry Gupton and children, of Henderson, returned home after spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Bobbitt.

WATCH LABEL ON YOUR PAPER—Send in Renewal Before Time Expires.