

PRESIDENT C. L. MCGHEE'S ADDRESS

Before State Association of County Commissioners

Held in Asheville Recently—His Discussions and Suggestions Were Enthusiastically Received—Address a Splendid Document

The following is a copy of the address of Col. C. L. McGhee, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Franklin County, who as President of the State Association of County Commissioners, presided at the meeting held in Asheville recently. It will be seen that it was full of splendid suggestions, and it was well and favorably received by the meeting, which was largely attended:

It must be humbly recognized that the county in North Carolina is the creature of the Legislature; it has the powers described by the statute and no others. In the exercise of governmental functions, it is the agency of the state for the convenience of local administration and subject to legislative control. Just a few short years ago when North Carolina occupied the cellar position in every percentage column known, the functions delegated to the county by the state were quite simple. The assessment and collection of small amounts of taxes, the building of a few bridges, a term or two of the superior Court, composed the sum total of county activities. There was very little to do and very little organization. But, with the advent of an educational program, there came, in the past two decades, a swift increase in public expenditures. North Carolina began to take on the appearance of the modern state; to direct the administrative units, to collect greatly increased revenue, and to do many and varied things about the schools, the roads, to provide for dependents and defective, play with primaries, conserve the public health, expedite justice, establish county agricultural agents, home demonstration agents, and at last, to safeguard the secrecy of the ballot, *à la* Australia.

It would appear that in the carrying out of these functions the General Assembly would have considered the constitution and invested its agent, the Board of County Commissioners, with entire control and supervision. But, upon the contrary, efficient and economic administration has been hampered with boards—Boards of Education, Board of Election, Board of Highways, Board of Health, Board of Welfare, Board of Agriculture, and Home Demonstration Clubs, until the Board of County Commissioners is little more than a cash register with the "paid out key" working overtime.

With no centralized system of accounting, is there any wonder that chaos and deficits came about in the finances of nearly every county in the state. To the everlasting credit of this Association, in the annual meeting of 1925, they passed a resolution requesting the General Assembly to create the County Government Advisory Commission and to enact the County Fiscal Control Act. This finance act is probably the most constructive piece of legislation ever enacted in North Carolina. Under the wise and tactful administration of Mr. Chas. M. Johnson, the Executive Secretary of the Commission, it has brought relief to every county in the state which has wholeheartedly followed its provisions. It has the efficacy of the typhoid anti-toxin. If you will get a few vaccinations from Dr. Johnson, you are immune from further financial troubles.

These laws have attracted considerable attention all over the United States and are known as being the best in the country. Numerous other states are making a study of the law with the idea of adopting the plan.

I trust that this meeting will go on record in appreciation of the fine work accomplished by Mr. Johnson and in requesting an increased appropriation in order that the activity of the Commission may be increased.

The address of the President of any organization might well be a report of the work for the past year. Recently, it has been my pleasure to read the address of your past President, Hon. E. M. Lyda, delivered at Wrightsville last August. The wisdom of his suggestions has been impressed upon me, even more strongly, by the tribulations and trials of another year of county government. It was with great pleasure that I saw a portion of his suggestions and the resolutions of the last annual meeting, incorporated in the legislation of the last General Assembly. Particularly, do I have reference to the legislation relative to discounts for prompt payment of taxes, a larger equalization fund for the schools, the county aid road fund, and a larger appropriation, altho still inadequate, for the County Government Advisory Commission. Undoubtedly more would have been accomplished had this Association been more efficiently organized and financed. A part time secretary could have secured cooperation from our members. A larger legislative committee, with a well thought out, definite program could have, in my opinion, gone far



COL. C. L. MCGHEE
President State Association County Commissioners.

W. C. GUPTON KILLED AT RED BUD

W. C. Gupton, age 61, was instantly killed, and five other persons badly injured, several of whom were taken to the hospital at Rocky Mount, as the result of an automobile accident which occurred at Red Bud Church, on Thursday evening, August 22, about five o'clock when Miss Nellie Lancaster lost control of her car.

Miss Lancaster, her mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Lancaster, Mr. James J. Lancaster, of Louisburg, and Mr. Thomas Shearin had just gotten into a Chevrolet Coupe with rumble seat, and Miss Lancaster had just started the car preparatory to leaving the church grounds after the service, when the car evidently getting out from under her control, darted through the crowd with fatal results.

Those injured were Mrs. G. B. Smith, Mrs. W. T. Williams, Mrs. W. C. Gupton, wife of the fatally injured man, all of whom were badly bruised, and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Pearce, who were badly, but not seriously hurt. It is understood that it is the opinion of the people in the community that the accident was unavoidable.

Mr. Gupton, who leaves his wife and five children, was a very popular and successful farmer, and a most valuable citizen in the Red Bud community always lending his efforts to the upbuilding and promotion of same. He was a member of Red Bud Baptist Church.

The funeral services were held at the old Gupton Burying Ground, near Red Bud on Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock, and were conducted by Rev. C. B. Howard and Rev. J. S. Hopkins.

Clinic Doing Good Work

The Tonsil-Adenoid Clinic, sponsored by the Louisburg Kiwanis Club, assisted by the Parent Teacher Association and Supt. E. C. Perry, Welfare officer, opened in Mills High School Tuesday morning, August 27, at 8:30 o'clock, twenty-eight children being operated on the first day. The clinic will continue through Friday.

The nurses assisting in the clinic are Miss Sarah Rhymer, Mrs. N. B. Tucker, Miss Holmes, Mrs. Cecil Sykes, Mrs. H. H. Johnson, Mrs. Teacherage, and Mrs. H. G. Perry, who is the anesthesiologist.

Besides the local doctors, H. G. Perry, H. H. Johnson, S. P. Burt, R. F. Yarborough, A. B. Bowyer and J. O. Newell, who are helping with the clinic, the following specialists are each giving one day, Dr. Charles Wilkins, of Raleigh, Dr. Z. V. Fitzgerald, of Smithfield, Dr. M. R. Gibson, of Raleigh, and Dr. W. B. Fassett of Durham.

This clinic is the follow-up of the clinics held during the middle of July, in which children who expected to enter school this fall were examined. It is expected that over a hundred children will be operated on in this clinic.

MR. TAYLOR ELECTED DIRECTOR

Mr. H. C. Taylor who returned the past week from Richmond where he attended a meeting of the Southern Retail Merchants Conference, was elected a Director of this Conference for the coming year. This recognition of Mr. Taylor is quite an honor that is highly appreciated by Mr. Taylor and his many friends here.

Mr. Taylor was accompanied on this trip by his wife.

I look forward to the day when the definite conclusions of this association relative to County Government will be accepted as authority at Raleigh, irrespective of the political party which may be in power.

May I, therefore, make a few suggestions which I think tend to better county government, with the hope that they will receive your consideration. I trust that, if they meet with your approval, you will pass resolutions endorsing these suggestions in order that the legislative committee

Mrs. A. H. Fleming Dead

The funeral services of Mrs. Helen Leigh Fleming, wife of Dr. Arthur H. Fleming, were held Tuesday afternoon at half after six o'clock at Oak Lawn Cemetery. The passing away of this beloved and honored woman had saddened the whole community, and there was a great gathering present to pay the last tribute of affection and respect to her memory. Friends and relatives from many places in and out of the state came to join the people of Louisburg in their expressions of love and sorrow, and the procession which followed her body to its final resting place was one of the longest ever known in Louisburg.

On its way from her home on Main Street to the cemetery, the procession was halted for a brief space in front of the Baptist Church, of which Mrs. Fleming had been a devoted and faithful member from childhood, and for many years the organist. Inside the church Mrs. O. Y. Yarboro rendered upon the organ three original compositions of Mrs. Fleming's: an anthem, "The Lord is My Shepherd," "Honey Child," dedicated to her son Arthur Fleming Jr., and "Irish Love," dedicated to her daughter, Helen Leigh.

At the grave the services were most impressively conducted by the Reverend S. L. Blanton, pastor of the Baptist Church, assisted by the Reverend Daniel Lane, of the Methodist Church. Mr. Blanton closed a beautiful tribute with the words of Tennyson's "Crossing the Bar."

There were no songs during the burial, but it seemed to those standing in the deepening dusk of a "perfect day" as if, above the soft fall of the earth upon the coffin, they could faintly hear the sweet remembered tones of her own once glorious voice in tender farewell to those she loved. Gently her body was laid to rest in "earth's arms," and the sod upturned to make her grave was hidden again beneath beautiful wreaths and stars and crosses so abundant that the grave itself seemed but a lovely mound in a garden of radiant flowers.

Mrs. Fleming was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Wesley Williams, of Warrenton, who had moved to Louisburg when she was but a child. Ever beautiful in both person and character, she won ever as a girl in her teens the admiration and affection which followed her through life. She was a highly gifted musician, and possessed a voice of marvelous sweetness. For many years no celebration in church or social life in Louisburg was complete unless featured by her singing. As wife and mother she exemplified the highest ideals of noble womanhood. In her death all Louisburg is sensible of the passing of a sweet influence which breathed into the life of the community a fragrant and inspiring breath of love and joy and tenderness.

The pallbearers were Messrs. L. L. Joyner, M. S. Clifton, F. J. Beasley, and William Morris, of Louisburg, and Albert Fleming and Edwin Fleming, of Middleburg.

Among those from out of town attending the funeral were Dr. and Mrs. G. V. Tilley, Newton; Mrs. Minnie Williams, and Misses Nell and Sue Williams, Baltimore, Md.; Mr. P. B. Fleming, Monroe; Mr. W. J. Williams, Wilson; Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Copeland and Miss Madeline Copeland, Mrs. Anna Markham, and Mrs. A. P. Tilley, Durham; Mrs. J. A. Fleming and Mrs. Vance Fleming, Middleburg; Mrs. C. H. Williams and Miss Eloise Williams, Kittrell; Mr. Robert Williams, Raleigh; Mr. John Harris, Raleigh; Miss Maude Fleming, Norfolk, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Harris, Mapleville; Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Candler, Henderson, Dr. and Mrs. Smithson, Rocky Mount; Dr. J. N. Johnson, Goldsboro; Dr. and Mrs. Mustian, Norfolk; Dr. Eugene H. Howie, Raleigh; Dr. R. M. Squires, Wake Forest; Mr. T. M. Arrington, Wake Forest; Mr. Robert M. Kirkland, Littleton; Mr. and Mrs. Simon Williams, Franklinton; Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Saunders, of Nash County; Mr. Reid, Wake Forest; Dr. S. P. Norris, Raleigh; A. G. Sizer, Raleigh; Mrs. J. J. Pitts, Springhope, Miss Annie Bell Vester, Spring Hope.

U. D. C.

The J. J. Davis Chapter, U. D. C. will meet with Mrs. R. H. Davis next Tuesday September 3rd, at the Episcopal Rectory at 4 o'clock. Lets have a full meeting with which to begin the fall work. Please notify the hostesses all those who can attend.

EPSON HIGH SCHOOL OPENS

Epsom High School, about eight miles north of Louisburg, will open Monday morning, September 2. The management is hoping to have the best opening that they have had, since most of the tobacco is out of the fields. It is very fortunate for the children that after the first day hot lunch will be served in the building. This has been a great help in the past and it is hoped to continue this service throughout the year. Every one is very enthusiastic over the opening for it is hoped to do more and bigger things this year than ever.



MR. JOSEPH JOHN ALLEN

Who died in Park View Hospital, Rocky Mount, on Tuesday afternoon, sent him with their photos and word from top of column. He was Champion Speller, having won all ton and Lee University in 1870 at Spelling Contests he ever entered, and having never been presented with a word he could not spell. Mr. Allen could recite from memory many chapters in Latin and Greek. He could repeat the Lord's prayer in Greek forward or backward, and could give the derivation in Latin or Greek of any word he could spell. Mr. Allen had one brother, Wm. S. Allen, who taught during his entire life in Pacific, Missouri. He had three half brothers, Lewis H. Smith, of Greenwood Fla.; O. G. R. Smith, who retired and died at the old Smith Home, Manson, N. C.; and Orren Randolph Smith, who served in three wars, the Mexican, Indian, and Civil Wars, and who, as designer raised the first confederate flag, the Stars and Bars, in Louisburg, in commemoration of which fact a monument to its memory now stands on the Court House Square.

Mr. Allen could call the entire roll of the school taught by the late M. S. Davis in the Louisburg Academy in 1856. His son, Mr. T. K. Allen of Louisburg, has his father's first report in which he made the highest marks in all of his studies. Mr. Allen could repeat from memory the roll of the Company in the Civil War, and rule for Cube Root. He could spell and define any word in Webster's Blue Back Speller, giving the

Franklin County Schools Will Open September 2nd

Supt. E. L. Best says thao the schools of Franklin County will open Monday morning, Sept. 2. The principals will call a meeting of the parents to be held in the various schools Friday, August 30. At these meetings policies for the school year will be discussed and the children will be given a list of books that they will need on the opening day. Parents are therefore urged to have their children attend these meetings in order that they might have sufficient time to secure books and material by Monday, Sept. 2.

A splendid corps of teachers have been selected for the schools and a successful school year is assured if the parents will cooperate with the teachers this year as they have done in the past. The following supervising principals have been employed: Bunn District—S. L. Bowen; Gold Sand District—Owen W. Reed; C. R. C. District—T. H. Sledge; Youngsville District—E. T. Parham; Epsom District—J. A. Woodward. The number of teachers a school may have is determined by the average daily attendance. It is therefore highly important in order to retain the same number of teachers we have to make the very best attendance possible. Your supervising principal can tell you what attendance you must make in your district in order to retain your same number of teachers or to be able to increase the number. The big objective, however, for real school attendance is not merely to retain and increase the number of teachers, but that all the children as nearly as possible may secure the advantages of the schools. This is the real motive and purpose of running the schools. We may have the finest equipment and the best trained teachers, but if the children are not kept in school, the work is a failure. In the beginning, therefore, I am emphasizing the fact and am asking the parents to put forth every effort and if necessary make real sacrifices that their children may receive these advantages and that the schools may function as they should. Every day will count, so if possible, enter your children the first day.

Mrs. William Jackson, Mrs. A. B. Inacoe, Janet and Nancy Hayes are spending this week in Ocean View with Mrs. Hodge Newell, of Henderson. While there they will visit Yorktown, Jamestown and Williamsburg.

PREPARING FOR INCREASED SALES

Louisburg's Tobacco Men Expect Better Prices

All Three Warehouses Expected To Be Operated This Year—Planters by Meadows & Harris, Union by Cash, Cash & Perry, Southside, Proprietors to be Announced.

Preparations for one of the largest tobacco seasons in recent years are being made by those interested in Louisburg tobacco market, which will open on September 24th with all three warehouses in operation. The warehousemen and buyers are enthusiastic in the opinion that prices on all grades will improve to the point that much satisfaction will prevail and that the outcome of the present crop will be satisfactory. Reports coming to Louisburg indicate that there is right much good tobacco throughout this section that will mean a much better price than last year.

Each of the warehouses will be operated this year by experienced and well trained tobaccoists, who are now making all necessary preparations for a record season.

The Planters Warehouse, on Nash Street, will be operated this season by Messrs. Sam S. Meadows and Grover C. Harris, who have been identified with the Louisburg market for approximately thirty years and are well known as experts in their line. They will be assisted by Mr. Claude Cheatham, of Youngsville.

The Union warehouse will be operated by Messrs. R. Elbert Cash, J. Henry Cash and G. Marvin Perry, each of whom knows tobacco from the planter to the buyer, and have demonstrated this ability as warehousemen. They will be assisted by Mr. H. E. Hight, bookkeeper, also well known to the planters of this section. Read their announcement in another column.

Both of these warehouses will be served by Mr. J. A. Waltz, of Ballock's, one of the best auctioneers in this section of the State.

The Southside warehouse will probably be operated by experienced warehousemen from Goldsboro, Wilson and Elizabeth City. The final arrangements had not been completed at this writing.

Louisburg's warehouses are excelled by none in the State on markets of its size with the construction of the New Southside last season with 20,000 feet of floor space the enlargement of the Union and Planters last season, bringing each up to the most modern and convenient requirements, assuring those who sell in them every opportunity.

With these preparations and indications pointing to Louisburg, it is expected that the local market will sell above six millions this season.

MRS. PERRY ELECTED VICE-PRESIDENT

Mrs. Hugh W. Perry was elected second Vice-President of the North Carolina Department of the American Legion Auxiliary at its annual State meeting in Raleigh Tuesday. Her many friends in Franklin County rejoice with her in this honor.

CONFEDERATE VETERANS SERVED DINNER

The J. J. Davis Chapter of the U. D. C. gave the old Confederate veterans a dinner last Thursday, August 22, at the County Home. More of the veterans were able to attend than were expected. The number of veterans are thinning rapidly; one of the loyal ones was buried Wednesday, August 21. Out of the seventeen white and three colored veterans in the County fourteen white and one colored were present. It was a great pleasure to the Chapter to entertain and honor these men with a delightful dinner. One of the veterans Mr. J. W. Mustian, called from memory the roll as it was called sixty-five years ago. A group picture was taken.

Those present were as follows: D. C. Tharrington, of Louisburg; Norfleet Winston, Franklinton; J. K. Gilliam, Alert; R. F. Collier, Spring Hope; B. E. Tomlinson, Franklinton; J. W. Muglian, Manson; G. H. Wall, Wake Forest; R. Y. Dickerson, Youngsville; J. H. Sledge, Louisburg; J. L. Bowden, Spring Hope; Perry F. Dickens, Franklinton; J. H. Bobbitt, Louisburg; S. H. Horton, Louisburg; and Col. John Thomas (colored).

SEVENTH ANNUAL FARMERS FIELD DAY

The Seventh Annual Farmers Field Day will be held at the Upper Coastal Plain Test Farm near Rocky Mount on Thursday, September 5th, 1929. A splendid program has been arranged including an address by Hon. Josephus Daniels. In the afternoon a program has been arranged for the ladies, while the men will tour the experimental fields. All are invited and especially farmers and their wives.