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THE ROBESONIAN

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LUMBERTON, N. C., MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1922.

COUNTRY, GOD AND TRUTH.

ESTABLISHED 1876. PRICE FIVE CENTS. \$2.00 A YEAR, DUE IN ADVANCE.

Sudden Tragic Death of Dr. N. A. Thompson Profound Shock to Entire Community

Fatally Injured Beneath Wheels of Automobile in Fayetteville and Death Resulted in a Few Minutes - Funeral Attended by Hundreds of Sorrowing Friends and Florad Tributes Were Among the Largest Ever Seen Here Life of Rare Usefulness Brought to Untimely Close.

Hundreds of sorrowing friends from all sections of Robeson county and many from outside the county attended at the First Baptist church here Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock the funeral of Dr. Neill Archie Thompson, whose sudden tragic death at Fayetteville last Thursday night gave this community such a profound shock as it has not experienced since the sudden death of Col. N. A. McLean in Raleigh in 1911. All available space in the large main auditorium and gallery of this church was packed for the services, which were conducted by Dr. C. H. Durham, who paid a beautiful tribute to the life and character of deceased, assisted by Drs. E. C. Beaman and G. E. Moorehouse, pastors of Chestnut Street Methodist and Presbyterian churches, respectively. Members of the choirs of all local churches made up the large choir that led in the inspiring and healing ministry of song. A profusion of floral offerings, one of the largest ever seen here, mute yet trumpet-tongued tributes from a host of friends, overflowed the chancel and a brief space later were banked high upon the grave in Meadowbrook cemetery, where interment was made.

A touching and unusual incident of the funeral was the marching into the church, to two seats which were reserved for them at the front, of a number of negroes, employees of deceased at his hospital.

The following acted as pall-bearers: active—Lacy McKenzie, M. F. Caldwell, J. D. McMillan, Eli Wishart, Ira Bullard, A. T. McLean, Frank McLeod, Marvin Barker; honorary—Dr. John Knox, Dr. Thos F. Costner, Dr. E. R. Hardin, Dr. W. W. Parker, Dr. M. A. Waddell, Dr. T. C. Johnson, Dr. R. S. Beam, Messrs. O. O. Dukes, L. H. Caldwell, John S. McNeill, T. W. Bullock, E. J. Britt, Ed. McMillan, C. B. Redmond, S. McIntyre, H. E. Stacy, K. M. Barnes, Ed Rancke, Q. T. Williams, A. Weinstein, A. E. White, R. H. Crichton, H. B. Jennings, Sid Spivey, F. P. Gray, E. W. Dunham, D. L. Whiting, J. A. Sharpe, D. R. Shaw, J. C. Fuller, Roger R. Pittman.

Run Down by Big Car.

Dr. Thompson was run down by a big Stevens touring car while attempting to cross from the market house, north-east to the sidewalk. He was within about 5 feet of the sidewalk when struck. A number of cars were passing and it was when he stepped out of the way of one moving car that the death car struck him. The car was moving at a speed of around 25 miles an hour, according to eye-witnesses. Dr. Thompson was carried some 30 feet on the bumper of the car before he fell underneath the wheels. The front wheels of the car passed over his body and the rear wheels were on his legs when the car was stopped. The car was driven by Mr. E. W. Hobbs, who is connected with highway construction between Fayetteville and Raeford. The car was pushed off Dr. Thompson and he was placed in the same car and carried to the Cumberland General hospital, where he died within 40 minutes after being run over. Dr. Thompson, accompanied by Messrs. E. W. Dunham, G. E. Rancke, Jr. and David Bockenek had gone to Fayetteville early in the evening to attend a show at the LaFayette theatre. They had just left the theatre when the fatal accident happened at 11:10.

Mr. Rancke was by the side of Dr. Thompson when he was struck by the car and Messrs. Dunham and Bockenek were near by. Death resulted from internal injuries about the left breast. There was also a slight bruise on the left side of Dr. Thompson's face and one leg was bruised. No bones were broken. He was conscious to the last and told those about him that he was dying.

Mrs. Thompson, Rev. Dr. Chas. H. Durham, pastor of the First Baptist church, and Dr. T. C. Johnson left Lumberton soon after the accident, but Dr. Thompson had died when they reached Fayetteville. Mr. J. L. Stephens, local undertaker, went to Fayetteville and brought the remains here, reaching Lumberton at 5:15 Friday morning. After being prepared for burial the remains were taken to the Thompson hospital, where Friday, Friday night and Saturday they were viewed by hundreds of friends of the deceased.

Pall of Sorrow and Gloom

News of Dr. Thompson's untimely death caused a pall of sorrow and gloom to settle over Lumberton and vicinity. Perhaps no citizen of the town would have been more sorely missed and only time can measure the loss that Lumberton and Robeson county sustained in the death of this noted surgeon. He will be missed in every move that tends to the betterment of the town and surrounding country. He was a wide-awake, progressive citizen, always ready to fight for better educational advantages for the children and the civic improvement of his home town. Dr. Thompson recently made numer-

ous additions to his large hospital here, the well-known institution being one of the best-equipped hospitals in eastern North Carolina. As a surgeon he was known as one of the very best in this part of the country.

Besides members of his own family the deceased is survived by three sisters—Mrs. P. B. Thompson of Fairmont, Mrs. W. T. Fisher of Parkton, Mrs. R. L. Taylor of Stedman, and 5 brothers—Messrs. C. B., A. S. and G. W. of Fairmont, J. E. of Fayetteville and T. R. of Kansas City Mo.

Sketch of His Life

Neil Archie Thompson was born in Robeson county August 27, 1872. After attending the public schools of Robeson county, he completed his college course at Davidson, and completed his medical education at Maryland medical college, taking a post-graduate course at the Polyclinic in New York.

After obtaining his license to practice medicine he located first at Chadburn, where he practiced for two years, then removed to Whiteville, where he practiced his profession for ten years. In 1905 he moved to Lumberton, and one year later he built the Thompson hospital, which today is one of the best-equipped hospitals in eastern North Carolina.

In October, 1920, he was made a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, at Toronto, Canada. He was a member of the Tri-State Medical society, the North Carolina Medical society, and the Robeson County Medical society. At the time of his death he was president of the Planters Bank and Trust company, and also an alderman of the town of Lumberton. He was a member of the Masonic order of which he was past-master, an Odd Fellow, a Pythian and worthy patron of the order of the Eastern Star.

On December 25th, 1895, Dr. Thompson was married to Miss Sallie Townsend, and to this union were born three children, who survive: Mrs. C. L. Watson of Winston-Salem, Mrs. J. Stafford of Nashville, Tenn., and Miss Julia Thompson, a student at Whitrop college, Rock Hill, S. C.

After the death of his first wife he was married on November 28th, 1906, to Miss Kate G. Monroe of Cumberland county, who, with one child, Neil Archie, survives.

To Present Portrait of Late Judge McNeill.

A portrait of the late Judge T. A. McNeill of Lumberton, painted by Mrs. Fahey of Washington D. C., will be presented to Robeson county by the bar of the county at the court house Thursday evening of this week at 8 o'clock. The presentation speech will be made by Mr. A. W. McLean and the portrait will be accepted by Judge W. M. Bond. This will be the second portrait of a distinguished son of the county to adorn the walls of the court room, a portrait of the late Col. N. A. McLean having been presented by the bar some years ago. The public is invited to attend these exercises.

Mr. Ellis Miller First to Pay Taxes for 27th Time.

The 1922 State and county tax books have been compiled by County Auditor A. V. G. Wishart and were today turned over to Sheriff R. E. Lewis for collection. Mr. Ellis Miller of R. 1, Fairmont, was again the first to pay his taxes, this making the 27th year that he has been the first Robesonian to pay. His son, Mr. C. E. Miller, was the second to pay, as has been his custom for several years.

Charged With Practicing Medicine Without License.

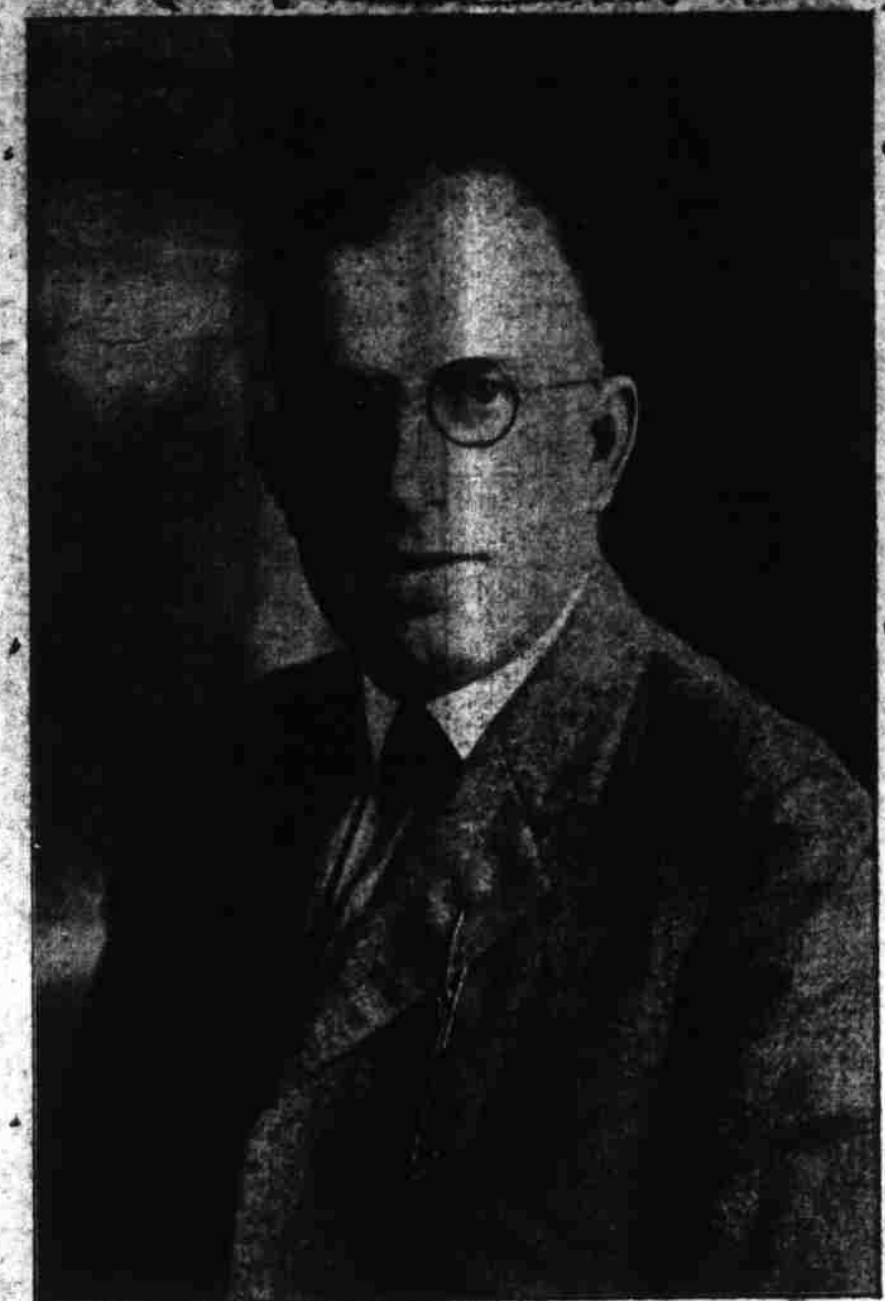
Frank Morris of the Marietta section was given a hearing Saturday before Recorder David H. Fuller on the charge of practicing medicine without license. Judgment was continued upon condition that Morris cease to practice or prescribe in any manner. He was indicted by Dr. E. R. Hardin, county health officer.

Road Bond Election Thursday.

The election to vote on a \$20,000 road bond issue in Britts township will be held on Thursday of this week—October 5—instead of Saturday of last week, as stated in Thursday's Robesonian. The Robesonian was mis-informed about the date of the election.

—Rev. and Mrs. J. M. Fleming passed through Lumberton this morning en route to Kingstree, S. C., a few miles out from which place Mr. Fleming has been engaged to do the preaching in a revival meeting this week for Rev. Mr. Funderburk, the pastor.

—Mr. J. E. McMillan of Andalusia, Ala., who has been visiting his father, Mr. Z. T. McMillan of McMillan's Siding, who has been seriously ill for several weeks, was a Lumberton visitor Saturday. This is Mr. McMillan's first visit to his home county, Robeson, in ten years and he notes many changes and improvements. The condition of Mr. Z. T. McMillan was much improved Saturday and Mr. J. E. McMillan expected to leave yesterday or today for his home in Alabama if his father's condition continued to improve.



DR. NEILL ARCHIE THOMPSON. Noted surgeon and useful citizen who met a tragic and untimely death under the wheels of an automobile in Fayetteville Thursday night.

Many More Entries Than Usual at The Robeson County Fair

Additional Room Has Been Provided - Exhibits Should be Larger and More Interesting.

There will be so many more entries at the Robeson county fair this year that additional room has had to be made to take care of them. Mr. W. O. Thompson, secretary of the association, has made arrangements to take care of at least 750 chickens and 50 turkeys besides other entries in the poultry line. Last year the poultry exhibits could not all be taken care of for the lack of room, and Mr. Thompson doesn't expect this to be the case this year. The poultry exhibit is one of the most interesting features of the fair and as stated above provision has been made to house all the poultry that is brought for exhibition.

The secretary is busy these days getting things in shape for the fair which opens October 10 and runs through the 13th. A contract has been signed with a large carnival company which has 20 shows and 6 rides and every effort is being made to make this fair the largest from every standpoint.

In addition to the above amusements the fair officials have secured a display of fireworks the like of which has never been seen in this part of the State. The display will be in charge of a man sent here from the factory and will last for about an hour.

The baby contest, which will be held on Thursday of the fair, will again this year be the feature. Many babies have already been entered and more to come. The contest is open to all babies under one year old.

What is expected to be one of the biggest days of the fair will be the children's day, Friday, October 13th. All children will be admitted free.

There is much interest in the county at this time in the raising of livestock and the exhibits in this department are expected to eclipse all previous fairs. Farmers are urged to place hogs, cows and other live-stock in the show, as this is a feature that should appeal to fair visitors this year.

Robeson and adjoining counties are learning how to diversify their crops and the exhibits this year should be larger and more interesting than were the exhibits of previous years. The average person has no idea of the amount and variety of other crops grown in the county besides cotton and tobacco and the fair is of immense value to the people in this point alone.

Each year the people take more interest in the fair and there is every reason to believe that with the passing of years it will continue to increase in size and popularity.

The Robeson county fair is open to all the adjoining counties and the association expects a good many exhibits outside the county this year as has been the case with all previous fairs.

Get your exhibit ready and be on hand early Monday, October 9th, or not later than 9:30 Tuesday, October 10th. A good many premiums will be awarded that are not listed in the premium list, and anything that you have that you think will be of interest to others will be appreciated. A premium list will be sent to anyone

Kemp Tells Story of The Killing of Daniel McNeill

Joe Kemp is now in County Jail Here After Evading Arrest for 44 Years—Talks Freely of the Killing—Claims Self Defense—Kept Secret All These Years.

After evading arrest for 44 years, Joe B. Kemp is now in the county jail here awaiting trial at the November term of criminal court for killing Daniel E. McNeill, near Red Springs on August 15, 1878. Kemp was arrested in St. Augustine, Fla., on Wednesday morning of last week and was brought here Saturday night by Sheriff R. E. Lewis. He is now 64 years old. He returned to this county without requisition papers.

Claims Self Defense. Kemp admits killing McNeill and talked freely about his life before and since the killing to a Robesonian reporter. He will plead self-defense. He says he shot McNeill following a row when McNeill was advancing upon him with a chop-axe. Kemp says he does not remember how many shots he fired. He left this county soon after the shooting and went to Florida. He lived in that State for 3 years and then spent 2 years in Texas and Louisiana. He then returned to Florida and had lived at different places in that State until his arrest last week. During the time he operated a bar and grocery in Jacksonville for 4 years, he says.

Kept Secret 44 Years

Kemp married in Florida a few years after the killing and though he has four married children, he says he had never told his wife, children or any other person a word about killing McNeill until after his arrest. He has been separated from his wife seven years and only last month secured a divorce, he says. He admits that he drank freely at times, but added that he never got drunk enough to unfold the story of the killing. Kemp has 3 brothers living in Columbus county and two living in Florida. He had not seen any of his brothers since the killing until after his arrest, he says. One brother, T. J. Kemp of Ocala, Fla., is very wealthy, it is said. After seeing in the papers an account of his brother's arrest he visited him in St. Augustine and told him that he would make his bond to the extent of \$30,000, if it would do any good.

Expected to Return

Kemp says he expected to return to Robeson county within the next year or two and talk over with Mr. Malcomb McNeill, brother of the man he killed, the matter and see what settlement could be made. Mr. Malcomb McNeill and a colored man named Andrew McNair were eye-witnesses to the killing, according to Kemp.

Kemp's identity was brought about through a man named Sinclair, who moved from this county to Florida several years ago, he says. He engaged in conversation with Sinclair last February and though he did not tell Sinclair that he killed McNeill, Sinclair became suspicious that he was the man and sent to this county and secured a tintype picture of Kemp. A scar on the right side of Kemp's head identified him, this showing on the picture.

Kemp says he was reared by his uncle by marriage, the late "Red" Hector McNeill, who lived near Red Springs. Mr. McNeill was also an uncle of the man he killed. He was advised to leave after the killing by his uncle, he says. Kemp does not appear to be more than 50 years old and has very few grey hairs. If worry causes grey hair, he evidently has not worried about the killing.

"If I get out of this, I expect to return to Florida," Kemp stated to the reporter.

Basketry Demonstrations This Week

Specialist in Basketry Will Give Series of Demonstrations in Robeson for Home Demonstration Club Members.

By Martha Flax Andrews. Home Demonstration Agent. I have arranged for a series of special demonstrations in basketry during this week. The demonstrations will be given by Miss Myrtle Swindell, home demonstration agent of Hertford county. Miss Swindell is a specialist in basketry, she has given demonstrations all over the state and is wonderfully skilled in this art.

These demonstrations will be open to home demonstration club members ONLY, as it is impossible to do good work with too great numbers. So all club members are urged to be present but we are sorry we can not welcome visitors to these meetings.

The meetings will be as given below: Tuesday, Oct. 3rd, at 2 p. m., Lumberton, town hall; Wednesday at 10 a. m., Mrs. D. C. Lasiter's home, Fairmont; Thursday at 10 a. m., Mrs. H. B. Ashley's home, Philadelphia; Friday at 10 a. m., St. Pauls club room.

Mr. G. T. Allen of R. 5, Lumberton, was in town Saturday. Messrs. H. C. Adcox and J. W. Hester, both of Bladenboro, were Lumberton visitors Friday.

COUNTY FAIR EDITION

The Robesonian will issue a special Fair edition Thursday of this week. All who wish to get ads in this edition should get their copy in tomorrow (Tuesday) morning.

Cotton Market

Reported by J. H. Barrington. Middling cotton is quoted on the local market today at 19 3/4 cents the pound.

Items of Local News

—Miss Lula Norment expects to leave tomorrow for Southern Pines, where she will enter the Southern Pines School of Song.

—The county commissioners, the county board of education and the county road board are holding regular monthly meetings here today.

—The condition of Needham Davis, who was shot by Wade Bell, also colored, on Saturday night, September 23, is favorable. Bell has not yet been apprehended.

—Frank Owens who lives on R. 5 from Lumberton brought to The Robesonian office Saturday several apple blooms which he said he plucked from an apple tree at his home.

—Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Purvis left Saturday evening for Drake's Branch, Va., where Mr. Purvis will be associated with a co-operative tobacco warehouse during the old-belt season.

—Thursday of this week, October 5, has been set apart as a day for cleaning off the Ward cemetery at Mt. Elim. All who have relatives buried there are asked to be present to assist with the work.

—Mr. J. C. Lewis, who had charge of the warehouse operated here by the Co-operative Tobacco Marketing association during the season which closed Thursday, left Friday for Drake's Branch, Va. Mr. Lewis will operate a warehouse at that place for the co-ops.

—Mr. J. P. Cook of Concord is in Lumberton today in the interest of a Robeson county cottage at the Jackson training school, the State institution for boys of which Mr. Cook is the well-known head. He is presenting the matter to the county commissioners this afternoon.

—Dr. R. C. Beaman, pastor of Chestnut Street Methodist church, left this morning for Leesburg, Caswell county, where he will assist in a protracted meeting. Prayermeeting at this church will be conducted Wednesday evening by Mr. W. H. Humphrey and next Sunday a former pastor, Rev. F. B. McCall, will preach.

—A 4-year-old son of Mrs. Cora White of the Jennings cotton mill village was painfully hurt Thursday afternoon when run down by a truck on the Carthage road in front of Mrs. Sue Rowland's residence. The child suffered a broken right thigh and other bruises. The truck was driven by Mr. D. W. Gunter of North Lumberton.

—Ladies of the Marietta Home Demonstration club made a decided and fine impression on their first visit to the Lumberton curb market Saturday. If it gets out that the kind of cakes they sold on the market here Saturday is the kind of cakes they make all the time, that blessed community is going to become more famed than it is even now.

—The singing class of the Oxford orphanage will give a concert at the school auditorium Tuesday evening, October 3, at 8 o'clock. Concerts given by children from this institution are always splendid and greatly enjoyed, and the children are always given a large audience here. Encourage the children and this fine institution by your presence tomorrow evening.

THE RECORD OF DEATHS.

Mr. Gregory Britt of Howellsville. Mr. Gregory Britt, aged about 45 years, of Howellsville township, died Saturday afternoon at the Baker sanatorium of pus appendicitis. Deceased is survived by his widow and 6 children. The funeral was conducted at the grave yesterday at 3 p. m. by Rev. I. P. Hedgpeth and interment was made in the family cemetery at Orrum. Mr. Britt was a member of the Baptist church.

Mrs. Penelope Britt. Mrs. Penelope Britt, widow of the late Isham Britt, died Thursday night at her home in East Lumberton. Deceased was about 78 years old and her death resulted from the infirmities of old age. Several children survive. The funeral was conducted from the grave Saturday at 11 a. m. by Rev. E. A. Paul, pastor of the East Lumberton Baptist church, and interment was made in the Ward cemetery at Mt. Elim. Mrs. Britt was a member of the Baptist church and a good woman.

Mr. Conary Arnette. Mr. Conary Arnette died yesterday at 5 a. m. at his home in Wishart township of paralysis. Deceased had been in ill health for a number of years. His widow and several children survive. The funeral was conducted at 11 o'clock this morning by Rev. E. N. Cashwell and interment was made near the home. Deceased was a member of the Baptist church.