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THE ROBESONIAN

ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DISCONTINUED WHEN THEY EXPIRE. WATCH YOUR LABEL.

VOL. LIII. NO. 87.

LUMBERTON, N. C., MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1922.

COUNTRY, GOD AND TRUTH.

ESTABLISHED 1870. PRICE FIVE CENTS. \$2.00 A YEAR, DUE IN ADVANCE.

White Boy Kills Negro Near Raynham in Self Defense

John Sessoms Was Struck on Head With Scantling by Jennings Bullard When Former Made Threat and Advanced Upon Boy and His Father Mr. A. W. Bullard—Death Resulted Instantly—Jury Exonerates Young Bullard.

John Sessoms, colored, was killed by Jennings Bullard, son of Mr. A. W. Bullard, at the Bullard home near Raynham, Friday at 2 p. m. A blow dealt the negro on the head with a piece of 2 x 4 scantling caused his instant death, Bullard, who is said to be about 17-years-old, was exonerated by the coroner's jury. The inquest was conducted by County Coroner D. W. Biggs of Lumberton and the jury was composed of Messrs. E. W. Stone, H. S. McLean, Scott Stone, D. J. Williams, S. C. Stone and Clarence Parker.

"Self Defense" Verdict of Jury.

The following verdict was rendered by the jury. "We find, after hearing the evidence of the witnesses, that the deceased came to his death from a blow on the head, same being inflicted by Jennings Bullard. That the same was justifiable homicide, the blow being inflicted by Bullard wholly in self-defense."

According to the evidence brought out at the inquest, Sessoms, who was a tenant on the Bullard farm, went to where Mr. A. W. Bullard and two of his sons were piling lumber. He requested the elder Mr. Bullard to accompany him to Purvis for a settlement. He was advised by Mr. Bullard that they had no settlement to make as he had already received his half of the crop. Sessoms then got out of his buggy and advanced towards Jennings Bullard with his hand in his pocket, saying that he was going to settle with both him and his father "right now". Jennings Bullard was between Sessoms and his father and as the negro advanced upon him he struck him on the head with a piece of scantling, which he had in his hands. The negro died instantly. Sessoms was drinking according to the evidence.

COTTON GINNED IN ROBESON

44,295 Ginned to December 1—To Same Date Last Year 60,595 Bales Had Been Ginned.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. Lumber Bridge, Dec. 9.—The Census Bureau has authorized me to release the following:

Cotton ginned in Robeson county prior to December 1st was 44,295 bales, as compared with 60,595 bales ginned to December 1st 1921.

J. J. SHAW.

President Harding. Addresses Congress.

Washington, Dec. 8.—President Harding, addressing Congress in person today on the state of the union, placed the transportation situation, prohibition enforcement and farm credits in the forefront of the national problems pressing for solution.

Mrs. W. F. Fuller and small son, W. F. Jr., of Messemmer City, arrived Saturday night and will spend two weeks here visiting at the home of Mrs. Fuller's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Higley. They were accompanied to Lumberton by Mr. Fuller, who returned to Bessemer City this morning.

Mrs. N. G. Woodlief and small daughter, Martha, returned Friday to their home at Selma after spending a week here visiting at the home of Mrs. Woodlief's father, Mr. K. M. Barnes, Chestnut street. They were accompanied home by Mrs. Woodlief's sister, Miss Myrtle Barnes.

Mr. L. R. Varsar left last night for Southport to attend Brunswick court this week.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NEW BERN FIRE SUFFERERS

Contributions for relief of the fire-devastated city of New Bern have been forwarded or will be forwarded today:

A. W. McLean, \$200, wired last Thursday; Miss Josephine Broeze, \$10; Chestnut Street Methodist church, collection yesterday morning, \$58.58. Total \$268.58.

Other contributions no doubt have been made that have not been reported. The Robesonian will be glad to forward any contributions or they may be turned over to any of the other organizations mentioned by Mayor Johnson in his appeal published in this paper today.

Superior Court

Two-Weeks Term Shrunk to Five Days and Adjourned Friday—Judge W. M. Bond Highly Commended in Resolutions Adopted by Bar—Judge Derin Will Preside During Next Six Months.

Superior court for the trial of civil cases adjourned Friday afternoon after a 5-days' session. This term completed Judge W. M. Bond's six-months' term of service on the bench in this, the Ninth, judicial district, and the following resolutions were passed unanimously by the Robeson county bar: "WHEREAS Judge W. M. Bond is concluding his six months term of service on the bench in the Ninth judicial district, and after January 1st, 1923, will hold courts in another part of the State; and

"WHEREAS the members of the Robeson county bar desire to concur in the sentiments of esteem and appreciation recently set forth in resolutions passed by the Bar of Cumberland county:

"Now, Therefore, be it resolved:

"1. That it is with the deepest regret that we contemplate Judge Bond's departure from this Judicial district and the severing of the cordial relations that have existed between him and the members of this bar during the past six months.

"2. That on account of his great ability as a lawyer, his fine judicial temperament, his absolute fairness and impartiality in the trial of causes, and because of his uniformly kind and courteous treatment of lawyers, litigants and court officials, Judge Bond has greatly endeared himself to all our people.

"3. That we felicitate Judge Bond upon his re-election, without opposition in either primary or general election, to another term of 8 years service on the bench, and that we congratulate the people of the State that the high standard heretofore insisted upon for the judiciary is to be thus maintained."

Judge W. A. Devin of Oxford follows Judge Bond in this district and will preside at the next term of Robeson court, criminal, which will convene January 29.

Only two jury trials were heard after the report of the proceedings published in Thursday's Robesonian was written. These were:

Smith Miller vs. Dr. M. A. Waddell, jury failed to agree and resulted in mistrial. This suit grew out of an automobile collision.

Lizzie Taylor vs. Hedrick Taylor, divorce granted.

GRANDSON OF RED SPRINGS WOMAN IS RHODES SCHOLAR

T. C. McEachern, Florida's 1922 Rhodes Scholar, is Grandson of Mrs. Edward Purcell of Red Springs.

Thomas Covington McEachern, a grandson of Mrs. Edward Purcell of Red Springs, is Florida's Rhodes scholar for 1922. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. McEachern of Gainesville, Fla., and was born in Laurinburg November 27, 1899. The Florida Times-Union, published at Jacksonville, of Dec. 4, gives the following:

"Mr. McEachern received his rudimentary education at the Gainesville high school and at the Virginia military institute, where he laid the foundation for a splendid physique. He entered Princeton university in Sept. 1919 and was graduated in June, 1922. At Princeton he took an active part in undergraduate affairs and proved himself a leader of outstanding ability among his fellow students. He was a member of the board of the Princetonian, the campus daily paper, for three years and was elected chairman of the board in his senior year. The position of editor-in-chief of the Princetonian is one of the most coveted undergraduate honors at the university.

"In the fall of 1921 he was elected chairman of the Intercollegiate conference for the Limitation of Armaments at which about thirty-five Eastern colleges and universities were represented. McEachern also was a member of the senior council, which governs undergraduates life on the Princeton campus. He is a member of the Quadrangle club and was president of the club in his senior year. Since Sept. 1922, he has been a master at the Lawrenceville school in the department of English.

"Dr. John Grier Hibben, president of Princeton university, wrote a personal letter to Prof. F. W. Buchholz, secretary of the Florida committee, regarding McEachern's college record."

President Hibben's letter, which the Florida paper publishes in full, is full of high praise of Mr. McEachern's ability and his record at Princeton.

Mr. and Mrs. Sandy Patterson of R. 1, Lumberton, were among the visitors in town Saturday.

Sites Selected for 3 School Buildings

Location of Long Branch, Thompson Consolidated and Pembroke Indian School Buildings Determined by County Board of Education.

The county board of education Friday selected a site about 400 yards north of the Indian Normal school building, on the Pembroke-Red Springs road, for the new Indian grammar school building to be erected at an early date. Bonds have been voted for erecting the building, which will cost around \$15,000.

The board while in session Friday also decided upon the location of two other school buildings—Thompson consolidated district and Long Branch. The site selected for the new building in Thompson is on the Lumberton, Rowland highway, on the David Townsend property, the same site selected by the board several months ago.

The Long Branch location is to remain the same, allowing patrons living in the southern part of the district the privilege of erecting a two-room building in that vicinity. Transportation will be provided for high school pupils.

INDIAN DIES OF INJURIES RECEIVED IN AUTO ACCIDENT.

Floyd Andrew Chavis' Skull Was Crushed When Ford Turned Over in Saddletree Township—Charlie Chavis Slightly Injured.

Floyd Andrew Chavis, Indian, who lived in Saddletree township, died Friday at 6 a. m. at the Thompson hospital of injuries received Thursday afternoon when a Ford car which he was driving turned over in the public road, near Saddletree church. His brother, Charlie Chavis, who was in the car with him, was also slightly hurt.

According to information reaching Lumberton, the car was being driven at a rapid speed when the wheels struck a sandbed and the car was turned completely over. The unfortunate Indian's skull was crushed as a result of the accident. Deceased was 45 years old and is survived by his widow and two children. Interment was made in the family cemetery Saturday morning.

RESOLUTIONS ON RETIREMENT OF S. B. McLEAN FROM OFFICE AND FROM PRACTICE OF LAW

At a meeting of the Robeson county bar, held during the December term, 1922, Superior court of Robeson county, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"The bar of Robeson county realizes with much regret that the Honorable S. B. McLean retires from the office of Solicitor at the end of his present term, and also retires from the practice of law, having removed to Mecklenburg county, North Carolina.

"Now Therefore be it resolved that the bar of Robeson county expresses its regret for Mr. McLean's retirement, and in him its confidence, and commends him for the fair and impartial administration of the duties of the office of solicitor, and his ability and honest demeanor as a gentleman and a lawyer, and its best wishes for his continued success and happiness.

"That a copy of these resolutions be spread on the minutes of this court, furnished to the press and certified to Mr. McLean."

Mr. J. P. Humphrey of Charleston, S. C., arrived Saturday morning for a few days on business and a short visit to relatives at Orrum. Mr. Humphrey was a Lumberton visitor Saturday.

FOR RELIEF OF NEW BERN FIRE SUFFERERS

To Citizens of the Town of Lumberton:

Three thousand people in the city of New Bern have been left homeless as a result of the recent fire which swept away 500 homes and industries, which gave employment to more than 600 employees. Practically everything that were in these homes was destroyed by the fire, many people having nothing left except the clothing which they had on. I appeal to the people of the town to give as liberally as they can to aid in the relief of these people. Both money and clothing are needed, and will be received by Mr. J. P. Russell, at town hall, Mr. J. A. Sharpe, Robesonian office, Red Cross and Mrs. Alf. H. McLeod, president of Woman's club.

E. M. JOHNSON, Mayor.

Record of Deaths

RICHARD F. BETHUNE DIES AT COLLEGE IN ALABAMA

Son of Mr. A. A. Bethune of Tenmile Succumbed Friday to Brief Illness at Auburn—Was Senior in Alabama Tech.—Death Due to Influenza and Effects of Being Gassed During War—Made Excellent Record—Remains Interred at St. Pauls Yesterday Afternoon.

The funeral of Richard Frederick Bethune, son of Mr. A. A. Bethune of the Tenmile section, who died Friday at 3:45 p. m. at Auburn, Ala., where he was a senior at the Alabama Polytechnic institute, was conducted from the Presbyterian church at St. Pauls yesterday at 2:30 p. m. and interment was made in the church cemetery, where the remains of his mother were interred three years ago last April while he was with the 81st division in Germany. A crowd which filled the church attended the services, which were conducted by Dr. J. J. Murray, pastor of the St. Pauls church, assisted by Dr. G. E. Moorehouse, pastor of the Presbyterian church of Lumberton. At the conclusion of services at the grave a military salute was fired by a squad of local ex-soldiers over the flower-strewn mound, and bugle taps were sounded.

Deceased had been a student at Auburn since the fall of 1919 and was a senior in the class of electrical engineering. He was sick only two days. After attending classes last Wednesday he went to bed with what was thought to be a slight ailment. Thursday night his condition became much worse and an Auburn dispatch states that he was attended from then until his death by the college physician and two consulting doctors from Opelika. A telegram Friday morning apprised Mr. A. A. Bethune of his son's critical illness and during the day members of the family here kept in constant touch with those at his bedside by telegraph and telephone. It was while Mr. W. K. Bethune was waiting at the station for the first train after news of his illness came that a telegram was received bringing news of his death. When Mr. W. K. Bethune arrived at Auburn at 12:40 the next day he was met by Dr. Spright Dowell, president of the college, and a delegation of students. He found that all arrangements had been made and about two hours later he was speeding back toward home with the remains, accompanied by Messrs. K. H. Strough and R. V. McDonald, classmates of deceased, services having been held in the Presbyterian church of Auburn during his short stay there.

It was at first thought that death was due to ptomaine poison, but later it was determined that influenza and a heart weakened from the effects of having been gassed during the war were the causes.

Deceased was about 28 years old. He was born and raised at Tenmile and attended high school at St. Pauls, winning a scholarship there to the university of North Carolina, where he was a student one term about 1912. Later he attended King's business college in Richmond, Va., going from there to Dupont, where he was employed until he entered the army in 1917. He spent more than a year overseas with the 81st division, returning home in July, 1919.

The following is taken from a dispatch of the 8th from Auburn to the Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser:

"Mr. Bethune has been a student of the Alabama Polytechnic institute since 1919 and was a senior in the class of electrical engineering. His record in scholarship and conduct at the college is declared to have been excellent and he enjoyed the warm friendship and high regard of both members of the faculty and fellow students.

Dr. Spright Dowell, president, ordered the suspension of all class work and college exercises Saturday, as a tribute of respect to Mr. Bethune.

Mr. Bethune and Messrs. Strough and McDonald arrived here with the remains at 10:40 yesterday morning and the body was taken in charge by Messrs. Stephens & Barnes, local undertakers. Members of the family and a number of Lumberton people left here at 1:30 from the home of Mrs. Mollie E. Norment, an aunt of deceased, with the hearse for St. Pauls, where a large crowd from other sections of the county and St. Pauls awaited their arrival.

Messrs. Strough and McDonald left here last evening to return to Auburn. Deceased is survived by his father, Mr. A. A. Bethune of Tenmile; four sisters—Mrs. J. T. Bynum of Durham, Misses Gertrude, Flora Murphy and Edith, who live with their father—and 4 brothers—Mr. W. K. Bethune of Lumberton, Mr. J. F. Bethune, who lives with his father, Messrs. S. A.

and J. E. Bethune, of Charlestown, W. Va.

Miss Arabella Higley Died Friday Night—Remains Interred Saturday.

The funeral of Miss Arabella Higley, who died Friday night at her home, Pine and Sixth streets, was conducted from the home Saturday at 3:30 p. m. by Dr. Chas. H. Durham, pastor of the First Baptist church. The pallbearers were Messrs. K. M. Biggs, J. H. Wishart, Jno. D. McAllister, Jno. D. McMillan, D. R. Shaw and W. W. Davis. The remains were interred in the Norment cemetery, East Fifth street. Beautiful floral offerings covered the grave.

Deceased was about 50 years old and had been in ill health for several months, though her condition had not been considered serious until a short time before she died. Miss Higley was a member of one of the oldest and most prominent families in Lumberton, being a daughter of the late Gilbert P. and Ann Eliza Norment Higley. Three sisters—Miss Fannie Higley, with whom deceased lived, Mrs. J. H. Barnes of Brunswick, Ga., and Mrs. N. A. Brown of Red Springs—and one brother, Mr. G. P. Higley of Lumberton, survive, besides numerous other relatives.

Miss Higley was a loyal member of the First Baptist church, a member of the Woman's Missionary society of that church, and a member of the Lumberton chapter United Daughters of the Confederacy. She lived a beautiful Christian life and her friends were numbered by her acquaintances.

TWO DEATHS FROM PNEUMONIA FOLLOWING FLU

Mrs. Savage Britt and Mrs. Homer Edmund of Long Branch Died Friday.

Two deaths from pneumonia following influenza occurred in the Long Branch community Friday a. m. Mrs. Savage Britt, aged 28 years, died at 9 a. m. and Mrs. Homer Edmund at 10 a. m. The two families lived within a hundred yards of each other. Mrs. Britt is survived by her husband and 4 children, while Mrs. Edmund is survived by her husband and 5 children. Each left a 4-month-old baby.

The funeral of Mrs. Edmund was conducted from Long Branch Baptist church Saturday at 11 a. m. by Rev. I. P. Hedgpath, pastor, and interment was made in the church cemetery. Deceased was a member of this church. The remains of Mrs. Britt were interred in the family cemetery, near Broad Ridge church, Saturday at 4 p. m.

Mr. Edmund and three of his children are ill with influenza.

MRS. F. F. TOWNSEND DIED YESTERDAY OF PNEUMONIA

Known to Robesonian Readers as "Aunt Sophia"—Funeral Today at White Pond.

Mrs. F. F. Townsend, known to Robesonian readers as "Aunt Sophia", died early yesterday morning at her home, near Raft Swamp church, of pneumonia, following influenza. Deceased was 64 years old and is survived by her husband and 9 children. The funeral was conducted at White Pond today at noon by Rev. E. A. Paul, pastor of Raft Swamp Baptist church, of which deceased was a member. Interment was made in the Page cemetery at White Pond.

MRS. HATTIE EDWARDS DIED IN CHARLOTTE FRIDAY

The following is from yesterday's Charlotte Observer:

"Mrs. Hattie Edwards, of Rockingham, aged 50 years, died late Friday afternoon at the Presbyterian hospital. Mrs. Edwards had been ill for a short time, having been brought to the local hospital Wednesday. She died after an operation. She was a native of Rockingham and a devoted member of the Methodist church. Mrs. Edwards is survived by three daughters, Miss Patsy Edwards, Miss Lillie Edwards and Mrs. R. L. Hinson, and one son, James T. Edwards, all of Rockingham."

Deceased was a sister-in-law of Messrs. B. Sam and W. F. Edwards of Lumberton. They attended the funeral yesterday in Rockingham, services being conducted at the home by Rev. Mr. Bundy, pastor of the Methodist church of Rockingham.

Mr. Gus McCallum of Rowland Section.

Mr. "Gus" McCallum of the Rowland section died in a hospital in South Carolina Thursday night, according to reports reaching Lumberton. Deceased was well-known here, having represented several daily papers as subscription solicitor during the last few years. He recently spent some three weeks here in the interest of the Wilmington Star.

Messrs. C. A. and Glenn Ashley of Fairmont were Lumberton visitors this morning.

MASS MEETING TONIGHT AT COURT HOUSE

A mass meeting to consider a matter of interest to every citizen of Lumberton will be held this evening at 7:30 at the court house. The call for the meeting is result of a meeting attended by a number of business citizens of the town in the American Legion hall last Thursday evening and is made by a committee appointed at that meeting, the committee being composed of Mayor E. M. Johnson, former Mayor A. E. White, Messrs. I. L. McGill and A. P. Page. Every citizen of the town is urged to attend.

Cotton Market

Reported by J. H. Barrington

Middling cotton is quoted on the local market today at 24 1-4 cents the pound; strict middling 24 3-4 cents.

Items of Local News

—Mr. Rufus Kinlaw of R. 7 from Lumberton has accepted a position as salesman in the McAllister hardware store.

—The Lumberton Motor Car Co. has leased the Carlyle building, West Fifth street, for an automobile show room.

—Two hogs that totaled 900 pounds of pork were killed one day recently by Mr. J. F. Raybon, who lives in the northern part of town.

—The Lumberton graded and high schools will close Friday of this week for the Christmas holidays. The spring term will open on Monday, January 1.

—Mr. D. C. Bullock and family expect to move tomorrow from R. 2, Lumberton, to Orrum, in order that the children may attend the Orrum high school.

—A meeting of the Woman's club will be held Wednesday afternoon at the tea room at 3:30. The club will conduct a Christmas bazaar at the tea room Thursday and Friday of this week.

—A special community service picture program will be shown at Fairmont Thursday evening of this week at 7:30. The proceeds will go to the Parent-Teacher association of Fairmont.

—Mr. W. C. Campbell, local electrician, has installed a radio receiving station in McMillan's drug store. The outfit is equipped with magnovox and the daily programs sent out from the various distributing points can be heard throughout the building.

—The meeting of the Lumberton post of the American Legion adjourned soon after it opened Thursday evening on account of another meeting of citizens of the town at the same hour. Another meeting of the post has been called for Thursday evening of this week for the purpose of electing officers. Refreshments will be served and all ex-service men are urged to be present.

—The Baraca class of the First Baptist Sunday school yesterday appointed a committee to solicit funds for providing Christmas gifts for any children in and around Lumberton who are not likely to be visited by Santa Claus. Persons knowing of such children are asked to furnish Mr. E. R. McIntyre, president of the class, with the names at once. A Christmas box will also be sent to the children at New Bern who were rendered homeless by the big fire of recent date.

BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS

The Good They Do Depends On You.

All funds received from the Seal Sale are distributed as follows: Seventy-five per cent stays in the local county; ten per cent to National Tuberculosis association for the seal sale and educational material; 15 per cent to state association for expenses of seal sale and campaign throughout the year.

MRS. JOHN H. FELTS, JR. Chairman.

Of Interest to Holders of Victory Bonds.

Owners of Victory bonds which bear the distinguishing letters A, B, C, D, E or F prefixed to their serial numbers are called for redemption on December 15th.

Owners of these bonds should present them to their local bank to be sent in for payment.

TOWN TAXES

One per cent will be added to all unpaid Town taxes on Jan. 1st, 1923.

J. P. RUSSELL, Clerk and Treasurer.