

# THE CHATHAM RECORD

ESTABLISHED SEPTEMBER 19, 1878.

PITTSBORO, N. C., CHATHAM COUNTY

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 1924.

NUMBER 49.

### TAX MONEY IS WASTED.

#### County Commissioners Repay a Seven Thousand Dollar Claim.

The tax payers of Chatham county have repaid to ex-sheriff-treasurer Leon T. Lane the sum of seven thousand, seven hundred and ninety nine dollars and fifty three cents, a claim that he had demanded as having overpaid the commissioners more than two years ago, when his books were audited and it was found that he was many thousands of dollars behind with Chatham county in his accounts.

This is a pure and simple case of wasting the money paid into the treasury by the tax payers of Chatham county. The commissioners allowed this rebate of \$7,799.53 at their meeting on Monday, May 5th, as it had been shown by an audit of the books by G. S. Harrill, auditor in charge and W. B. Pegram, representing Baxter Durham, state auditor.

This refund has been made for the years 1914 and 1919 exclusively.

Previous to this time Mr. Lane had employed T. L. Guilfoil, an auditor, to check the books and ascertain if there was not an error in a former audit. It appears that the state auditors have found a greater sum due Mr. Lane than his private auditor.

The books were originally audited by Scott, Charnley & Co., a reputable auditing firm of Charlotte, and they found that sheriff Lane was due Chatham county several thousands of dollars, and Mr. Lane paid it, but under protest. Now what we want to know is why these new auditors did not audit the books at the court house? Why did not the county commissioners notify Scott, Charnley & Co., that a new audit was to be made and give them opportunity to have a representative here to protect themselves?

Scott, Charnley & Co. were paid several thousand dollars to make a complete audit of the books for Chatham county and it was done thoroughly. He question arises now, that if it was worth the price to have this reliable firm audit the books, then why should not they be demanded to verify their audit or reimburse the county for the large fee they charged for their work.

The Chatham Record has no doubt but that Scott, Charnley & Co. would have gladly protected their interests had they been notified.

Summing up the whole matter, it is to be seen that after paying the Charlotte firm many hundreds of dollars to audit our books, then have them audited again by the state auditor and reimburse sheriff Lane in a sum bordering on eight thousand dollars, it looks as though Chatham county is about where she started before the first audit.

This child's play, is taking a lot of the tax payers money and it is about time that a business like method was employed.

The Chatham Record does not pretend to say that sheriff Lane is not entitled to the amount for which he was reimbursed; it does not pretend to say that he was ever behind with Chatham county; it does not pretend to say that there is anything irregular about these subsequent audits, but we do know that when a large sum of money was paid to Scott, Charnley & Co. to audit the books of the county that they should have been held responsible for their findings.

No individual or private corporation would pretend to do business in a lax method of this kind and it is certainly obligatory upon the tax payers of this county to put someone at the head of their affairs in Chatham county that will exact an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.

Wade Barber, the county attorney, had full information of this subsequent audit. Why should he permit a payment before the original auditors were given a chance to stand to their audit? Did he recommend this reimbursement to sheriff Lane? Would the

### RAY'S STORE ROBBED AGAIN.

News From Moncure About People You Know—Entertain at Corinth.

Moncure, May 12.—Misses Hilda Wilkie and Clara Bell spent last week end at Raleigh visiting Misses Pauline Ray and Nellie Dickens.

Dr. W. B. Chapin, of Pittsboro, was in town last Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Nash, of Corinth, entertained the following young people at their home last Friday night:

Misses Willie Bostian, Hilda Wilkie, Catherine Thomas, Bernice Womble, Flora and Julia Johnson and Audrey Thomas. Mr. Nash came over for them Friday afternoon and they returned Saturday morning. They report a grand time.

Mr. C. E. Brown, one of the Virginia Bridge and iron workers, had three of his fingers on his left hand badly mashed last Wednesday, while working at the camp.

Dr. J. E. Cathell returned from the hospital at Washington, D. C., last week. He is very weak, but thinks he is improved. He is now at Linwood, N. C., spending a while with relatives, where he will recuperate before taking up his medical practice here again.

Phoenix baseball team played Gulf team last Saturday afternoon, but was defeated. The score was 16 to 9.

Last Saturday afternoon at the store of Mr. J. R. Ray at Lockville, while everyone was in a rush to be waited on, someone slipped one hundred and fifty dollars from the cash register and then last Sunday night someone broke in the window at the rear of the store and took all the change they could find and also a check. This is the third time Mr. Ray's store has been broken into. An investigation should be made and the thief caught.

Rev. J. J. Boone preached a good sermon last Sunday morning at the Methodist church, suitable for Mother's Day. His text was taken from the Bible reading I Kings 3:16-28. As it was such a rainy day, services were not held Sunday night.

We are sorry to state that Mr. E. E. Walden, of Haywood, has been very sick. Hope that he will soon be able to attend to business.

Mr. T. B. Lambeth reached home Monday night, after being called to Hernando, Miss., to visit his brother, Will, who was very ill. He spent three weeks in Mississippi, and while there his brother died.

### MR. ZION LOCAL NEWS ITEMS.

Moncure, Rt. 2, May 12.—Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Griffin spent last Sunday and Monday with her parents in Durham.

Mr. and Mrs. Carey Griffin and Mrs. J. W. Griffin visited Mr. and Mrs. Sam B. Griffin in Pittsboro last Sunday.

Mrs. Turner Petty has been very sick for several days, but glad to report that she is now improving.

Miss Isabel Petty has been detained at home from school several days with a severe sore finger. It is better at the present and she hopes to be back in school this week.

Mr. W. B. Thomas, of Raleigh, spent the week end at home.

Mr. Jack Lindley, of Hickory Mt., is playing ball this season with the Winston-Salem team.

County commissioners repay Mr. Lane without his recommendation? If so, what are the emoluments of the office of county attorney, figure head or what?

This article is not written in a spirit of fairness, without any effort whatever to reflect on anyone. It is simply a business proposition in which every tax payer in Chatham county is interested in and we want them to take a more vital interest in public affairs, especially where they are so intently concerned.

### LIQUOR DEVILS AT BUCKHORN

Residents Having Trouble With Those Who Use Whiskey—Nuisance.

Corinth, May 12.—Christian Chapel held its annual memorial service Sunday, conducted by its pastor, Rev. Fuller Johnson. The hard, steady rain prevented a large attendance.

Mr. Dewey Dickens and wife, of Raleigh, spent the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. N. Dickens.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Mims entertained a number of their friends at their home in Corinth last Saturday night. Mr. R. A. Chappelle and daughter, Miss Clara, furnished music. Mr. Chappelle with violin and Miss Clara at the piano. After the splendid music, Mrs. S. W. Harrington, assisted Mrs. Mims to serve and everybody around Corinth is acquainted with the pound cake of Mrs. Mims. At 12 o'clock the guests departed for their homes, hoping to meet again soon under the same roof.

Ray Cross, of Raleigh, spent Sunday at home.

J. A. Ausley is off duty at Buckhorn for a two week's vacation. He may be going "on duty" elsewhere but he would not commit himself at this time. At any rate people have begun to inquire as to his whereabouts, but we can't tell them a thing.

A second successful slumber party was pulled off at Buckhorn Friday night. The party was preceded by a fish fry down on Parker's Creek. The party was given by Mrs. F. M. Nash in honor of the graduating girls of the Moncure high school and of the members of the prize winning Moncure singing class. They seemed to have had a jolly good time, but let them tell you about that. We thoroughly enjoyed their excellent singing and also enjoyed repairing screens, doors and furniture and so on all next day.

At last! Our much needed road work has begun. About 15 head of mules, a caterpillar tractor, road machine, six 2-horse wheelers, a "dozen dusky county road builders" under Mr. Alfred Johnson are occupied at Goff Creek and have started grading and widening Shattucks Creek bottom. We are indeed all glad to see this work started and truly hope that nothing will come up to hinder the work until the last load of gravel or good top soil has been placed on all the soft "mirey" places.

Never in years have we seen people become so completely lost in their infatuation for fishing as has been and is being manifested this season. Many come for the real sport of fishing and enjoying "Gods out of doors" but many more come for no other reason it seems to us than to find a place where they can bring their liquor, get drunk, then proceed to make all the trouble they can. They seem to become imbued with the idea that they are especially privileged characters, subject to no laws and can go anywhere and trespass as they please. Thus it often happens that the real sportsmen, the outdoor loving, law abiding citizen, finds himself subjected to restrictions that are due solely to the drunker or ill-willed jackass that seems to be ever present.

Plenty of rain down this way Sunday. Rained all day. Farmers and power plants needed it.

Another wedding in our community last week. Mr. W. W. Horton, our popular railway agent at Corinth and Miss Eva Penny, of Duncan, were married at the home of Rev. R. E. Adkins in Raleigh. We welcome them into our midst. They will make their home temporarily with Mrs. D. A. Clark.

Mrs. Alice Guinn and Mr. Joe Bland have returned from Lamar, S. C., where they went to be at the bedside of a very sick sister, Mrs. D. D. Guinn. Miss Mary Bland, also a sister, remained with Mrs. Guinn. She was taken to the hospital at Florence where it is said she is greatly improving.

### DELIGHTED WITH ROAD WORK.

Urges Baseball Team—Local and Personal Items From Brickhaven.

Brickhaven, May 12.—Everyone here is delighted over the fact that we are to have a good road at last. The road force has pitched camp and work on the roads has begun in earnest, and in time we hope to have a splendid outlet to the National highway. We are grateful and appreciate accordingly it is hoped.

What has become of our ball team this season? We have good material here, but thus far there has been no organization. A good baseball team is an asset to any community, it stands for community interest, and cooperation along many lines, and affords wholesome pleasure and recreation for the entire community—young and old and we hope we can have a wide awake team again this season.

At the beginning of the season last year, interest and enthusiasm in ball activities ran high, but both waned later. We proved good beginners, but poor finishers, so to speak. Let's organize a team this time and endeavor to hold the interest to the end of the season—let's be expert finishers. We can for we know the material for a splendid team is right here. Moncure Corinth and Brickhaven could combine and form a community team. How about it?

Messrs. Hannon and Seawell spent the week end with relatives near Carthage.

Mr. J. W. Purvis and Mr. Grady Truelove attended the memorial services at Ebenezer church, near Bonal, last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy, Mrs. T. J. Harrington, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Overby and children, Mr. Russell Overby and Mr. J. H. Lawrence were among the number who motored to Sanford Saturday.

Miss Grace Harrington is on an extended visit in Graham with her aunt, Mrs. W. B. Greene.

Mrs. H. T. Johnson, of Morrisville, is spending a while here with friends and relatives.

Miss Mary Mims and Mr. Herman Mims, of Durham, accompanied by several friends, spent a short while here last week. Mrs. Mims, who is still a patient at a hospital in Durham, is getting on very nicely, and expects to be home in a couple of weeks.

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### BAILEY WELL RECEIVED.

Largest Audience Ever Given a Candidate—Good Speech.

Last Tuesday was a red letter day in the history of Chatham county, when Hon. Josiah W. Bailey spoke to the largest audience ever accorded a candidate in Pittsboro.

Mr. Bailey was presented by Mr. Frances M. Farrell, a prominent democrat of Gulf township, in a few well chosen words and Mr. Bailey held the assemblage of people spell bound for about two hours. So well did he present facts to them, that anyone scarcely realized that they had been in the audience so long.

The court house was packed beyond its capacity and there were more than three hundred people that could not gain admission to the court house to hear the speaker. Hundreds of automobiles, wagons, buggies and other vehicles were here and people came from every direction.

During the day a Chatham county Bailey Club was organized and there were more than five hundred to join. If you were not one of them to join, and you would like to become a member of the club, send your name in at once, either by phone, letter or verbally. It is desired to complete the list as early as possible.

Mr. Bailey's speech was somewhat different in character to other speeches he has made in the state, and while he discussed the tax proposition and made reference to criticisms that has been made of him, he was at his best throughout the two-hour discourse and his stentorian voice was audible throughout the building.

Mr. Bailey declared that he felt perfectly at home in Chatham county, he was given such a cordial welcome and the folks were so friendly toward him. He is acquainted with many people in Chatham county and hundreds appreciate him for his genuine worth and ability. He has visited the Baptist Associations in and adjoining Chatham so frequently that there is scarcely a Baptist church member that does not know him.

The vigor placed in his talk and the enthusiasm he displayed was induced by the large and attentive audience that he had. Despite the fact that the hearers were in the building for two hours, the time passed rapidly away and no one could scarcely realize that he had spoken so long.

Mr. Bailey stated at the outset that it was not necessary for him to defend his record as a democrat against the whisperings and mutterings of a few who would attempt to injure him; he epitomized a few of the things that had occurred in his life as a representative of the party, proving there could be no disloyalty on his part, among them being the fact that Senator Simmons had sent out 75,000 copies of the first speech he ever made throughout the breadth of North Carolina.

Mr. Bailey emphasized the fact that officeholders were the servants of the people and not the democratic party, encouraging his hearers to realize that they were the party themselves. He said that the democratic primary on June 7th would determine the destiny of the commonwealth and that the general election simply determines another defeat for the republican party. In the primary we simply review the record of the office-holders and determine the policy of the party and whom should represent the democratic party as office holders for the years before the succeeding primary.

Mr. Bailey clearly proved that the tax burden of North Carolina was upon the farmers, small home owners and the laborer. He was loudly applauded at this juncture and also all through his speech. Taxes on land has increased during the past ten years 182 per cent and land pays 65 per cent of the taxes in North Carolina. He showed that the farmer pays 100 cents on the dollar in taxes because he is taxed 100 cents on the

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### THE MEMORIAL AT EBENEZER.

Other News of Interest to all Readers From Upper Cape Fear.

New Hill, Rt. 2, May 12.—Mrs. G. L. Mann had the misfortune of falling one day last week and painfully injuring her arm, but it is not believed any bones were broken.

Mrs. N. A. Gardner has purchased a new Ford touring car. Mrs. Gardner and R. C. Beckwith made a business trip to Raleigh Monday.

Mr. G. F. Carr, who has been ill for sometime, is now on the road to recovery.

The Ferrington baseball team defeated the New Hope team Saturday afternoon. This was New Hope's first game this season and they have had very little practice.

A number of Misses Blanche and Ruth Holt's friends gave