

## PITTSBORO BACK TO OLD TIMES

Town Isolated for two Days; In Darkness Wednesday Night; Snow 20 Inches Deep

## TRAIN MISSED 5 TRIPS

No Daily Paper Comes For 2 1-2 Days; Durham Mail Arrived Friday Noon; Attempts Saturday to Deliver R. F. D. Mail.

Pittsboro was back in the conditions of fifty years ago, plus the biggest snow known possibly in the history of the old town—certainly in the memory of the oldest inhabitant.

We can hardly claim the 30-inch snow, as reported from Siler City, but it was more than twice as deep as ever happened to see before. Among our hills, it is hard to determine the actual fall, but that it was 18 to 20 inches is pretty certain. For instance, it stood 14 1-2 inches deep on the piazza balustrade of our home. It is a guess as to how much failed to cling to the narrow hold of that 5-inch footing. In lower places it was as deep as three or four feet.

Going Wednesday was practically out of the question. The writer started down town, plugging holes 15 to 20 inches deep. Seeing that if he made it at all, he would be too fagged out to return, he turned back after 300 or 400 yards and then only succeeded in getting back by resting occasionally. When he reached the house he was sweating and utterly fagged out. Only a man accustomed to lifting his foot knee-high for a long period could have floundered through a mile of it without frequent rests.

The great old elm back of L. N. Womble's store had fallen and broken the electric light line and there was a threat of darkness for Wednesday night. A message to the C. P. and L. Co., headquarters in Sanford started Mr. H. G. Warren this way on a mule. That cherry-hearted fellow left Sanford on his muleship at 3 p. m. Wednesday. He spent the night with Mr. Johnson just this side of Rocky River and came plugging into Pittsboro Thursday after ten. He and his mule were as patient and as cheerful as if they had been on a holiday jaunt. He got the lines fixed and Pittsboro was alight again Thursday night.

The train stood still for 2 1-2 days, missing five trips to Moncure. The trains on the main lines were moving, if behind schedules; but here in Pittsboro, a typical piedmont town, while Moncure, ten miles away, is in the edge of the coastal plain. The little railroad, laid out forty years ago winds its way around the hills to its junction with the main line at Moncure. Moreover, it isn't maintained in the condition of the main line. Consequently, it was deemed unsafe to start the train down toward its lowland junction. But Friday afternoon the venture was made and the round trip was safely achieved.

Mr. W. T. Johnson, the intrepid, with his big mail truck came rolling in from Durham at noon Friday, bringing the first mail to Pittsboro since Tuesday. But it was too late and conditions too unpropitious for him to continue his journey to Siler City. Besides, Siler City was not isolated. Thus by two means, the outgoing mail accumulated in the Pittsboro office found its way out and Pittsboro got in touch again with what was going on in the snow-blanketed state and the bigger world. Congress was about to end and the legislature had been doing things just as if Pittsboro were thoroughly aware. Senator Horton and Representative Bell were johnnies on the spot, the former reported as still seeking election reform.

Pittsboro was back from a

## Mrs. E. H. Johnson Died Last Thursday

Mrs. E. H. Johnson died at her home in Bennett last Thursday. She had been ill several months. Her husband and five children survive her. She was a sister of Mr. Carl Pickard and Mrs. Carl Phillips of Siler City.

## SILER URGED FOR JUDGESHIP

Able Pittsboro Attorney Being Pushed By His Friends For Appointment to Judgeship By Governor McLean.

As soon as word reached Pittsboro Tuesday afternoon that the legislature had really passed the bill providing for four full-time judges to broadcast their services throughout the state, Walter D. Siler's friends here got busy in presenting his merits to the Governor and urging his appointment to one of the newly created positions.

Mr. Siler is an able lawyer, has served as solicitor with distinction, and has proved his fitness for the honor sought by the excellence of his service on several occasions as emergency judge the past two years.

Of course, there will be many applicants for the job, even if in arguing for higher salaries for judges, lawyers have said that no able lawyer could accept the position of judge except at a financial sacrifice. Judge Siler has not said any such thing. He will not be found resigning because of meagerness of salary. His qualities fit him for the position and he would cherish it even on the salary that such pygmies as Settle, Clark, Connor and others used to draw.

His many friends in Chatham county and the state generally will be glad to see Governor McLean appoint Mr. Siler to a judgeship, assured that he will prove himself worthy of the honor conferred.

## PEARL MITCHELL GRANTED APPEAL

Slayer of Fogleman Not to Die Friday; Supreme Court Must Grant Or Deny New Trial

Pearl Mitchell, who within a week and an hour of the time of the slaying of William Fogleman, was convicted and sentenced to the electric chair on March 11, will not be executed next Friday. His attorneys, Messrs. Horton and Dixon, who made so manful a fight for their humble client, are carrying the case to the supreme court.

It will be recalled that Mr. Horton made one continuous objection to the introduction of evidence of the occurrences after the shooting of Fogleman in a case the crux of which was whether the slayer was guilty of first or second degree murder. Horton's contention is that Mitchell's actions after the shooting of Fogleman did not indicate the state of mind of the killer before the killing but rather that into which the act which he deemed fatal to himself threw him after the killing.

There were other exceptions, but it is assumable that argument for a new trial will turn upon the point mentioned. It is not known how long it will be before the supreme court decides the question of granting a new trial; but the appeal doubtless gives Mitchell several months' lease on life. In case of a new trial, it is easily predictable that the case will be harder fought than on the first trial.

Determination in a friend may look like bullheadedness in an enemy, and self-respect in a friend may appear as conceit in one not so loved.

## LEGISLATURE NEWS OF WEEK

Editorial Comment Upon the Work and Measures of the General Assembly

Editorial Comment Upon the Work and Measures of the General Assembly (Written for last week.)

For weeks the work of the General Assembly was allowed to lag while the committees studied the revenue and appropriation bills. Now the body is within a few days of the end of the 60-day period and is almost smothered with work. At this writing (Tuesday) it is hard to say just what is the status of affairs or what will be the outcome of the contests on the appropriation, school, and other important bills. A week, however, will see the end and we can summarize the important work of the term.

A few things have been definitely done. The house wouldn't hear to seven additional judges and solicitors. They compromised with four new districts and two emergency judges, thus saving the salary of several unneeded solicitors.

The \$50,000,000 bond issue for roads has been passed. Several millions of this, however, has to go to the payment of loans made by the counties.

The bill to give discretionary powers to the highway commission in the matter of relocating highways approved by the session that voted the first \$50,000,000 was passed, but thanks to our Senator Horton with amendments that left the commission with few dictatorial powers. But Horton's amendments were necessary to its passage at all and the commission is appreciative of his good services in relieving them from the liability of being restrained at the instance of just any citizen who shouldn't like a change suggested by the commission. The authorities of the towns affected must take the legal step.

The house killed the Australian ballot bill and our representative, Mr. Bell helped do it. The state, accordingly, must wait two years longer for a decent election law. It is notable that men like Graham from Sampson who know what can happen when the people take the bits in their teeth can do, voted for the bill. Chatham will likely learn its lesson some day. There seems little likelihood that the shamefully abused absentee voters' law will be repealed. The senate bill was introduced by Senator W. P. Horton, but larger matters which he has championed have largely consumed his time and energies and he sees little hope, or none, of getting a state-wide bill through the senate.

Our senator and his brother W. B. of Caswell, became the real champions of the Confederate veterans and pushed a bill through the senate, giving totally disabled Confederate veterans \$400 a year; others \$355.00 a year; widows who were married to Confederate veterans before 1880, \$300 a year. Widows who married veterans later than 1880 get only \$100 a year. The total given for the veteran fund the coming year is \$1,400,000; for the next year \$1,100,000.

We believe we have failed heretofore to state that it is now law for drivers of horse-drawn vehicles to carry at least a rear light.

Both houses have passed the law unmasking the kluckers, and the churches will not again be disturbed by the hooded self-advertisers who have been wont to march up the aisle in night-shirts and hood and make an offering. It is a felony now to be caught in the open thus arrayed.

### The Schools

The question of an eight-months school term has never been seriously raised in the assembly, but the main question of the past sev-

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## OLDEST PENSIONER DIES

Washington, March 4—Death took No. 1 from the federal pension rolls when Mrs. Mahala Huff, 108, died recently near Louisa, Ky. She was one of 17 surviving widows of veterans of the War of 1812 and was the oldest pensioner of all.

## PITTSBORO AND RALEIGH ROAD

The Pittsboro and Raleigh Road Placed on State Highway Map

(Written for last week.)

At last the Pittsboro-Raleigh road has been taken over by the State highway commission. The road is on the map and its upkeep will be taken over at once by the commission. A surveying party has already been over the route and preliminary surveys are to begin soon.

This road built will shorten the distance from Lexington to Raleigh by many miles, and will turn a great volume of east and west travel through Pittsboro. It is easy to conceive of the route becoming an important bus line, so that a trip to Raleigh will be a matter of only an hour going and one returning.

This news will be especially pleasing to that great booster of this route Mr. Clark of Franklinville.

The new road will intersect highway 50 at or near Apex.

## Mr. C. T. Norwood Dies Suddenly

Falls in The Fire When Stricken and Body Badly Burned; Buried at Mt. Pleasant.

Mr. C. T. Norwood, one of the most highly respected citizens of the upper part of the county, died suddenly Wednesday night of the snow, while standing with back to the fire before retiring. When stricken he simply sat down in the fire and there remained till late the next morning before his plight was discovered. The body was very badly burned.

His son, C. T., Jr., lived with him. Mrs. Norwood has been dead a number of years. There survive seven children, five sons, D. M. Norwood of Laurens, S. C.; J. A. A. J., W. S., and C. T., Jr., of this county, and two daughters, Mesdames Ben Pritchard and Joe Gattis of Chapel Hill.

Much difficulty was encountered in securing a casket from Pittsboro and making other funeral arrangements, but the body was buried Saturday at Mt. Pleasant church, the funeral being conducted by Rev. Mr. Brown, pastor of the Haw River circuit. Despite the snow, a good crowd of neighbors and friends were present at the obsequies.

The deceased was an uncle of Mr. Harry Norwood of the sheriff's office force here.

### A Delightful Social Occasion

The meeting of the members of the Music Department of the Woman's Club with Misses Cordie Harmon and Bertha Jones at the home of Prof. Nolan Monday night proved a delightful occasion. An interesting program was a feature of the occasion, while the serving of delicious refreshments and a general good time made the event a memorable one. Visitors were Mrs. Lord of New York, and Miss Coltrane of the school faculty.

Mrs. Nolan entertained the civic department the following afternoon and that group enjoyed the delightful hospitality of the hostess as well as transacting the business of the meeting.

By the time most of us find ourselves with money to invest the bargains are gone, and when the bargains are back on the counter we have no money.

## TWO PEOPLE FROZEN TO DEATH

Traveling Salesman and Hotel Employee Lose Way And Freeze Near Aberdeen

Aberdeen, March 8.—Tragedy of the heavy snowfall of last week was disclosed today when the bodies of James Bushway, traveling salesman, and Miss Helen Higgins, a waitress at the Berkley hotel, Pinehurst, were found in a cotton field about 150 yards from highway 50, near here, shortly after noon today. They had frozen to death, evidently, Tuesday night when their car stuck in the snow and they became lost in an effort to make their way afoot back to Aberdeen, from which place they had started to drive to Pinehurst.

The bodies were discovered early this afternoon by a negro. The man was lying on his back and the young woman's head rested on his chest. It was said that persons passing along the highway previously had observed something unusual in the field but no one investigated until today, when the negro saw the bodies and went to them.

Bushway's car was round on the highway near the scene several days ago and after identity was established efforts were made to locate him, but no trace later than Tuesday night could be found. The young man who was about 35 years old, had been seen in Aberdeen with the young woman, about 22 years old, Tuesday night and they were known to have started for Pinehurst. The road to Pinehurst forks one-fourth mile north of Aberdeen and it was here that Bushway's car was stuck. The couple, after abandoning the car, evidently started back to Aberdeen and in the blinding snow took the prong of the highway, known as 50, which goes toward Rockingham.

The land is level and it is assumed that the heavy snow had covered the road so that the couple could not stay in it, wandering off into the cottonfield, about 1-2 mile southwest of Aberdeen. The position of the bodies indicated that the couple realized their fate. Effects found in the young woman's pocket showed that her home was in Boston, Mass. Bushway, who had traveled this territory for three or four years for the American Safety Razor company, is said to be from New York.

## Court Holds Only A Brief Session

The term of court for the trial of civil cases scheduled for this county this week held a short-met session Monday morning and adjourned. A few cases of little interest were tried.

Either Senator Horton or Representative Bell represented one side or the other in many of the cases docketed for trial at this term, and they were still engaged in their legislative duties. The weather, too, and made the country road very bad. Altogether the prospects of doing enough work to justify the term was so poor that after a few hours the court adjourned and Judge Harris returned to his home in Raleigh.

The jurors seemed to have turned out on time, but hardly regretted very much the opportunity to return home to rebuild the wood piles so badly depleted last week. Officer Edwards of Mt. Vernon Spring was right here for a week's duties. Miss Speight, stenographer, did not put in her appearance.

Another week's term is scheduled to begin Monday, March 21.

## Home Burned

Mr. Wm. Meacham of the upper part of Baldwin township, had the misfortune to have his home burned last Saturday. It was a good two-story building. Mr. Meacham's son lived upstairs. The household goods of both families were destroyed. The neighbors, we are told, are planning to help him rebuild.

## HORSE TRADERS GET IN FIGHT

Fred Hill Knocks Down W. P. Edwards With Hickory Stick

W. P. Edwards, a horse trader from lower Orange county, received a blow from a hickory stick in the hands of Fred Hill, another horse trader, Tuesday evening that knocked him down and sent him under the care of Dr. Chapin for a gash in the scalp. Also Kinnie Edwards, brother of W. P., got a jolt across his head and another on his arm. And it all seems to have come from very slight provocation.

It seems that W. P. Hill had touched with his whip a skittish horse on the trading lot and made him nearly jump on Hill. Some words were passed there. Later at the stables, according to Mr. Luther Mann, the Edwards told Hill that they didn't mean any harm and virtually apologized. But about that time an old man Mall, another trader, put in that "if there was any fighting to do he was a fighting man and would share in it," and with nothing else said Hill reached across a mule standing between him and Edwards and popped him over the head with the stick and then whacked Kinnie Edwards. This done Hill jumped into his car, but couldn't start it. He jumped out and left a running. It was later reported that he had struck the road toward Bynum. His capture is almost assured.

Edwards wound was painful, but supposedly not serious.

## MAN MURDERED IN HIS BED

John Headen, Colored, Shot Twice in Bed Saturday Night; Dies Almost Immediately.

## SHOT TUESDAY NIGHT

Was Recovering From Pistol-Shot Wounds Received at a Box Party a Few Night Earlier; Coroner's Inquest.

(Written for last week.)

There will be no question about the degree of murder if the killer of John Headen, colored, in ever brought to trial, for it is clear that his murderer was determined to kill him before the week ended.

On Tuesday night of last week at a box party at the old Hadley mill place in Hickory Mountain township, the killer, supposedly, took four shots at Headen, three of which took effect, wounding the victim seriously but not fatally. Dr. Chapin called in dressed the wounds and John was convalescing satisfactorily. No arrest was made, as no one seemed to have been able to identify the would-be assassin.

### Shot in Bed

On Saturday night the killer, presumably the same man, slipped up to the window by the bed in which Headen lay and shot two loads of No. 4 shot into the helpless man. One load took effect in the region of the heart and the other in the hip. John, despite his former wounds and the now fatal ones, got out of bed and started to his mother's room, but fell and died in a few minutes.

### The Inquest

As on the former occasion, the killer was not seen. Coroner Brooks went to the scene of the crime Sunday and held an inquest. The following composed the jury: E. E. Williams, Cecil Lindley, Joe Campbell, Cren Campbell, F. P. Noe, and J. A. Woody. Evidence implicating an unnamed person was secured, but the inquest was adjourned till Monday afternoon, when the inquisitors reconvened for further investigation.

### Suspect Held.

It is deemed best by the coroner not to reveal the name of the man most suspected of the crime, but Turner Johnson who was accused of the first shooting by the victim was held under a \$500 bond, though there is little thought that he is the guilty party. The sheriff's forces were immediately put in search for the real suspect. Those who saw the first shooting said the killer had his cap pulled down and his collar up so that they could not recognize him. Headen was a bad negro and it is supposed that the man who did the shooting feared he would get well and take vengeance aplenty.

### ANOTHER STORE ROBBED

The county store of Mr. W. T. Sauls, a few miles west of Merry Oaks, was robbed Monday night, Feb. 21, the same night Oldham's and Chamber's stores were depleted by thieves who carried off the goods in an automobile. But the robbery of the Sauls store was done by local negroes, whom the alert county officers scooped up Thursday. Oscar and Will Mims are in jail charged with the crime, and part of the stolen goods were found on their premises. Mr. Sauls could not estimate the amount of the loss.

earad . tion," he declared, "an open mind is the noblest, the rarest and the most difficult to achieve, but it is a necessary requisite to an intelligent choice of a vocation." Dr. Noble remained at Davidson through Thursday and had personal interviews with many Davidson students.

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