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FOR THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS AND HER PEOPLE

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NUMBER FORTY-NINE

## Dying the Last Thing He Expected to Do

Correspondent Talks of Daniels As Candidate; Visited Neighboring County—Good Roads

By J. D. Frink  
Clarendon, March 4.—All the reported sick last week are Uncle Billie Soles was today (Tuesday) and when we expressed our pleasure at his improvement, he replied that "dying was the last thing he ever expected to do." Uncle Billie is eighty-five years young, and spry as a twenty-year-old.

Miss Mattie Justice, Louise Jessup, Naomi Peterson, Mrs. J. D. Frink, W. G. Frink, and your humble servant, motored over to Lumberton, in the "State of Robeson" last Saturday afternoon, on a shopping and pleasure expedition. The roads in upper Columbus and Robeson counties are simply fine, and it is a rare treat for a fellow that has to drive every day over stumps and roots and through mud-holes and mire, to have the opportunity of driving over a good highway occasionally. We hope that our remote posterity may have the advantage of good roads in this neck of the woods, but there seems no light on the horizon of a good-roads day here about at this time. About all the consolation we receive is that there is no more than a year's road construction planned in other sections of the county.

Hon. Josephus Daniels, North Carolina's candidate for president, says that if he had anything to do with writing the National Democratic platform, he would incorporate two planks in the same to read: "Thou shalt not steal," and "Thou shalt not kill." This reminds us of a suggestion we made a prospective candidate for the state legislature a few weeks ago. He said he had about made up his mind to enter the race for representative, but he said he would hardly know what to do if he were elected. Our suggestion was that he repeal all the present laws, and ratify the Ten Commandments. There are so many laws that are disregarded and not enforced that we see no reason why they should remain on statute books.

## ACME-DELCO NEWS

The Girls club held its usual meeting today, March 4th. But unfortunately the writer is a boy and cannot give any notes especially concerning the program that was given.

Workers of the Seventy Five-Million dollar campaign met at the Delco Baptist church Friday night, Feb. 29th, for the purpose of electing a co-operative committee. Mr. A. H. Lennon was elected from Levinston Chapel; Mr. Porter Hulham, of Delco Baptist church; Mr. Irie Butler, of Goshen; Mr. Adron Molpus, of Cheerful Hope.

The play, entitled "What God Would Have You Do," will be given by members of Delco B. Y. P. U. at Goshen Sunday, March 9th, at 11 o'clock. The purpose of the play is to reveal to those that shall see it, the need of paying your pledges on the Seventy Five Millions. The play was once given at Delco, and it proved very touching. Don't miss it. No charges will be made. Only give all you are inspired to give.

Friends of Prof. G. W. Lassiter will regret to learn that he isn't enjoying the best of health at the present. He is now confined at his home, but the school hopes that he will soon be able to take up his school work again.

Motion pictures were given at the school last Friday night, and were enjoyed very much.

Reports of the Ladies' Aid society will probably be given in this paper next week. Look for it.

## COSTUME BALL AT WACCAMAW

The first costume ball staged in Columbus in several years was a howling success at the Waggaman hotel last Friday night. The girls were dressed becomingly and beautifully, while the men were arrayed appropriately. The West Orchestra from Wilmington rendered music which put rhythm into those who had never shaken a foot before. At 12 o'clock chicken salad, sardines, sandwiches and hot coffee were served the guests by Mrs. Gilbert. Each of the twenty-eight guests was dressed so as to represent such as the devil, a clown, Miss Columbia, the Shik, a butterfly, oriental dancer, etc.

Those in attendance were: Miss Holtzlaw with Mr. Lumsden; Mrs. Taylor with Mr. Richard Lewis; Miss Formy Duval with Dr. Pittman; Miss Cleveland with Mr. A. F. Powell, Jr.; Miss Kreinbaum with Mr. Wm. Powell; Miss Widenhouse with Mr. Grady; Miss Sears with Mr. Taylor; Miss Brooks with Mr. Shepherd; Miss Wilmington; Miss Ray, of Raeford, with Mr. Hicks, of Wilmington; Miss Baldwin with Mr. J. D. Lewis; Miss Krahnke with Mr. Kreinbaum; Miss Benton with Mr. Schulken; Mrs. Maultsby with Mr. Maultsby; Miss Dow with Mr. Baldwin; Miss McAn with Mr. Thompson.

## Three Small Stills Captured Yesterday

Rural Policemen Get Two Crotnans and Three Finely Made Stills In Ransom Township

Rural Policemen Brice Thompson and A. S. Sasser made a raid in Ransom township yesterday afternoon and brought in three small copper stills, about five gallons of excellent corn whiskey, two tubs full of bran mash and a number of jugs and fruit jars.

The least evidence of the success of the raid was found in the fact that the officers were accompanied to town by Aaron Spaulding and John Jacobs, Crotnan Indians who will face Recorder Maultsby next Tuesday to answer to the charge of manufacturing and having intoxicating liquor in their possession.

Only one of the stills were in operation. One of the others bore evidence of having incurred the ire of some one. It was suffering from a gunshot wound in its side. Another was evidently a reserve machine. All were of about ten gallon capacity and were not of the home made affairs. They were evidently turned out in a regular still factory.

## DANIELS WANTS LEASE VOIDED

Philadelphia, Feb. 26.—"I am much keener for having the illegal lease of naval oil reserves cancelled than I am of sending Mr. Falls to the penitentiary," Josephus Daniels, former secretary of the navy, declared today in an address at a luncheon of Democratic women.

"But I am also strong for both," he continued, added, with emphasis, "Every man in America," Mr. Daniels continued, "has upon his conscience to stand and demand that this wrong be righted; and righted it will be, or America has lost its soul."

Mr. Daniels stated that although the government is supposed to have secret service agents in the government departments, "not one of them turned his hand to save the naval oil reserves."

"What the Republican National committee should be doing is to secure a recipe to remove the stain of oil from a second-hand Cabinet," Mr. Daniels said, "instead of trying to draw a red herring across the track in the hope of diverting condemnation for the wanton waste of a billion dollars worth of oil set aside by Taft and Wilson for the 'exclusive use of the navy' from the men who leased it to Doheny and Sinclair."

The former Secretary, replying to the statement issued last night by the Republican National committee news bureau that he wrote the section of the act under which Secretary of the Navy Denby signed the oil lease, said "there is no Democratic responsibility for the crime against naval preparedness for an emergency."

Mr. Daniels' statement further said: "If the Republican committee has any information that I leased or recommended leasing a single foot of naval reserve oil land when the oil could be retained in the ground, that information is manufactured."

"From March, 1913, to March, 1921 in the courts and in the congress I fought every proposition to permit the oil in the naval reserves to be taken out by anybody. The legislation was asked exclusively to conserve oil in the ground. The word 'exchange' gave no authority except to exchange crude oil for oil suitable for navy uses, for to exchange land to conserve naval oil in the ground."

"The word 'lease' could have no meaning, as the letter and context show, except to lease flowing wells or portions of land where the oil was in danger of being drained by owners of adjacent lands. By the terms of the amendment I recommended, 'not to exceed \$500,000' from oil taken out could be used for any purpose by the Secretary of the Navy. Under the terms of the illegal lease signed by Fall and Denby, \$115,000,000 has been obligated for tanks and dredging."

"I see that Sinclair has just returned from Europe, where he is reported to have arranged to furnish Stinnes oil. It looks like it was contemplated to sell navy oil set aside for 'the exclusive use of the navy' to Germany. Conservation and Americanism must cry out against such a possibility."

Loss of the Dixmude and its crew discounts a good many optimistic statements as to the relative safety of air navigation. The cautious citizen will still prefer to have at least one foot on the ground.

So many young radio amateurs are on their way to become experts that this world should see in the near future an advance in electricity and allied sciences such as the near past could not even imagine.

Raisuli, the Moroccan bandit, is reported to be "as alive as ever," but not half as cocky as he was some time prior to the demand for "Perdicaris alive or Raisuli dead."

## BIG LAND AND TIMBER DEAL PENDING FOR BRUNSWICK AND COLUMBUS

Beaufort Lumber Company Acquires Option on Enterprise-Whiteville Lumber Company and Its Millions of Feet of Standing Timber in Brunswick and Columbus Counties.

While no official statement has been given out, it has been stated on the most reliable authority that the Beaufort Lumber Company has an option on the big plant of the Enterprise-Whiteville Lumber company here and that the option includes the privilege of purchase, at a figure not stated.

Some weeks ago the Beaufort Lumber people purchased timber to the value of a million dollars in Brunswick county. They have a mill at Fairmont in Robeson county and steps were at once taken to construct a narrow gauge railroad through this county and extending into the timber holdings in Brunswick. Recent plans call for a change from narrow gauge to standard gauge for this railroad and it is stated that Shallotte, in Brunswick county, will temporary mark the end of the road.

For weeks another deal has been on to acquire the local mill and its holdings in this county. Rumor has on several occasions announced the sale of the property but these rumors always lacked authenticity for a background. During the past several days these rumors have approached a head and the granting of the option leaves no room for doubt that a sale is being contemplated, if it has not already been actually consummated.

Parties connected with the Beaufort mill are quoted as saying that Whiteville people need have no fear of what the results of the sale will mean, if it is consummated. This statement is indicative of the intention of the Beaufort people to either continue operations of the Enterprise-Whiteville plant as it is now or on an increased scale. The last is the most likely.

The Beaufort Lumber people own large mills at Fayetteville, Dillon, S. C., Little River, S. C., Salisbury, Md., Fairmont and other places. The mill at Fairmont has a daily output of one hundred thousand feet of lumber. The Enterprise-Whiteville mill has an output of around thirty thousand feet daily. With a splendid standard gauge railroad and good track equipment already owned by the local company, the Beaufort people, in the event they purchase the local plant, will already be right at the door of the million or more dollars worth of timber that they purchased months ago from the Hammer Lumber company and the Enterprise-Whiteville company in Brunswick county.

The Beaufort folks are apparently greatly interested in Brunswick county and the possibilities for development down that way.

Washington, March 1.—The will of Woodrow Wilson, filed for probate today, leaves the estate to his widow, with the exception that his daughter, Margaret Wilson, shall receive \$2,500 annual income as long as she remains unmarried.

A request in the will calls upon Mrs. Wilson to distribute among Mr. Wilson's daughters, such articles of clothing, jewelry, personal mementos and art works that may have belonged to their mother, the first wife of the former president.

Under the will, Mrs. Wilson is to retain the estate during her life, and the unexpended portion at her death is to be distributed among Mr. Wilson's daughters.

The will was opened February 13, according to a notation on the envelope, in the presence of Mrs. Wilson, Margaret Wilson, Eleanor Wilson McAdoo, W. G. McAdoo and E. W. White, the attorney who filed it.

The will reads: "I will and devise all my property, real and personal, after the payment of any just debts that may constitute a claim upon it at the time of my death, to my beloved wife, Edith, for her lifetime with the request that she distribute among my daughters such articles of clothing, jewelry, personal ornament or art material as may have been the personal belonging of their mother, and with the direction that my daughter, Margaret shall receive out of the income of my estate so long as she remains unmarried the sum of \$2,500, annually unless the sum of \$2,500 should at any time exceed one-third of the entire annual income of my estate; in which case she shall receive one-third of the income."

"Upon the death of my beloved wife Edith, it is my will and direction should she die without issue that the whole and personal, or so much of it as may remain unexpended or undispersed, shall revert to my children share and share alike, and that should she die leaving issue her issue shall inherit share and share alike with my daughters."

The document was dated May 31, 1917. It was witnessed by Helen Woodrow Bones, a cousin of the testator; I. H. Hoover, chief usher at the White House and Ralph M. Rogers, formerly an usher there. Mrs. Wilson is named as executrix.

The value of the estate is not given and Attorney White declined to place an estimate on it at this time. On the envelope which contained the will is written the words: "Last will and testament of Woodrow Wilson."

"Well, Art, I can tell you're a married man all right. No holes in your stockings any more."

"No. One of the first things my wife taught me was to darn 'em."—American Legion Weekly.

## Dillon Banker Killed in Automobile Wreck

Glaring Headlights of Another Car Caused Fatal Accident On Road Near Charlotte

Charlotte, N. C., March 4.—J. C. Bethea, Jr., 30-year-old bank teller, of Dillon, S. C., and a member of a prominent family was killed early Monday morning when the touring car in which he was riding in company with several others rolled off the Belmont-Mount Holly highway on a curve one mile this side of Belmont. Mr. Bethea's skull was crushed.

With Mr. Bethea in the car at the time were B. M. Hammer, well known planter of the Dillon section, who was driving, and three Davidson college students, Flake (Red) Laird, varsity, basketball player; Jimmy Groover and Hamilton Ashley. None of the four was seriously hurt.

The party was returning to Davidson from Gastonia, and met another car on the highway on a curve. The lights of the other car blinded Mr. Hamer, and he drew to one side to avoid a collision, slowing down. The soft ground along the shoulder of the road gave way and the car plunged down a five foot embankment. Mr. Bethea, who was in the back seat, was caught his head under the seat, and his skull was crushed. His death was almost instantaneous. Mr. Hamer was pinned under a seat but his companions managed to extricate him. His shoulder was bruised.

Mr. Bethea was carried to the Charlotte sanatorium by T. C. Toomey and R. H. Ramsey, but he died from the injury to his skull before he had been lifted from the car.

The report of the coroner, who investigated the accident, was that there was no evidence of whiskey in the party. The car had not skidded, the car almost being responsible for the accident. The occupants of the car stated that it was not exceeding 20 miles an hour when the accident occurred.

J. C. Bethea is survived by his mother, Mrs. M. G. Bethea, of Jacksonville, Fla.; five sisters, Mrs. J. B. Gibson, Mrs. W. H. Fuller, Mrs. E. R. Edwards, and Misses Mary and Hattie Bethea.

Mr. Bethea's remains were carried to his home in Dillon, S. C., accompanied by his three brother-in-laws, Messrs. Gibson, Miller and Edwards, who came to Charlotte yesterday. The funeral was expected to be held at Dillon this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Mr. Bethea was an alumnus of Wofford college, Spartanburg, S. C., and attended the University of North Carolina law school. He saw service in France, during the world war. He is declared to have been popular in his community and a young man of fine character.

Headlight Bill was a sporting gentleman of sporting proclivities, who had got his name from a large diamond which he wore as a stud. He had occasion to consult a doctor about a "mystery" in his chest.

The medical man eyed the stud keenly. This made headlight uneasy. After asking a number of questions, the doctor produced a stethoscope and placed it squarely over the stud. Finishing his examination the doctor looked solemn. So did the patient.

"An't it genuwine, doctah?" asked Headlight.—Pittsburgh Sun.

A Mississippi planter claims to have found an Argentine ant which is sure death to the weevil. Before registering loud cheers we shall have to look into the bad habits of Argentine ants.

While Conan Doyle complains that his Sherlock Holmes stories obscure his later and more serious writings, the reading public seems to accept the sad situation with great equanimity.

The soviet government wants to be recognized. There should be no difficulty about that. The question is, after having recognized a bolshevik, whether one wants to speak to him.

Servants are pondering over the age when golf becomes a peril. It is fatal as soon as the bug gets into the system.

ty-three years — from Lincoln to Harding — is 63 years. From this it will be seen that the average of a president's lifetime, that was 75 in the first seventy years of the presidential office, declines to an average of 63 years in the last seventy three years of the office, excluding the ages of the three presidents who have not died natural deaths.

Represented in percentage, this change shows a decline of exactly 16 per cent.

Evidently, the average age of the presidents of the United States is falling, which may indicate an explanation in the wear and tear of increasingly heavy duties of the office that have struck Arthur down at 56, Roosevelt at 60, Harding at 57 and Wilson at 67 — Louisville Courier Journal.

## Clarendon Planning to Market Strawberries

Correspondent Gets Some Personal Assurance From Headquarters That Co-ops Will Settle

By J. D. Frink  
Clarendon, March 4.—Since our article in regards to payments to growers by the Tobacco Growers' Cooperative association appeared in last week's issue of the News Reporter, we have received from headquarters of the association at Raleigh, a letter dated February 27, containing the following information which will be of interest to the growers:

"The association will make the second payment on the 1923 crop to our members in the South Carolina belt before April 1, according to the decision of our directors at last week's meeting of the board in Richmond. This payment will represent one-half of the first advance paid to our members of the South Carolina belt upon delivery of their tobacco and will bring their total receipts on the 1923 crop up to seventy-five percent of the bankers' valuation placed upon the South Carolina belt deliveries. The payment will amount to more than a million and half dollars."

This payment, if made this month, will come in an opportune time for the farmers, as the money can be used to good advantage in paying for fertilizers and other supplies needed on the farm. However, if the payment had been in the hands of the growers before this time, no doubt they could have made arrangements for supplies on a cash basis earlier and saved themselves more money. Hope in the future that payment may be in their hands by the first of the new year.

A movement is on foot among the nearby strawberry growers to build up a strawberry market in Clarendon, by loading their fruit in cars here and selling on the siding. This will save the growers considerable expense in hauling to other markets, and at the same time the berries ought to sell for better prices as they will be in much better condition than when hauled several miles over rough roads. For the past several years the bulk of the strawberries grown in the section adjacent to his place has been sold on other markets, which resulted in an insufficient quantity coming here to justify the buyers to come. In the beginning of the strawberry industry in this section, Clarendon shipped more strawberries than any station on the Conway branch south of Chadbourne. At this time the fruit was consigned by a shipping agent through a local association, and as many as thirteen carloads of berries have been moved from here in one day.

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## WILSON'S WILL AWARDS

### ESTATE TO HIS WIDOW

Margaret Wilson Given An Annual \$2,500 Income Until She Marries

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Some of the new silks shown in New York have an oyster background which is well enough as far as it goes, but the great need for men is a waistcoat with a speckled background calculated to neutralize the effect of hurried eating.

## MALLSBORO SOCIAL

### NEWS OF PAST WEEK

An Entertainment; False Fire Alarm —Electric Lights Installed in Church; Visitors

Hallsboro, March 4.—Mr. Carl Mabry and Misses Virginia Bloxton and Lauretta Smith of the school faculty motored to Greensboro Sunday. Miss Bloxton is spending the week at home, due to sickness.

Miss Gladys Norris, of the Bladenboro school faculty spent the week-end here with Miss Maude Pierce.

Mrs. J. P. Floyd delightfully entertained the B.Y.P.U. at her home Friday night. A contest "An Automobile Romance" was held. Miss Elizabeth Smith and Mr. Edison Pierce won the prize, which was a box of candy. The booby was won by Miss George Hall and Mr. D. B. Guyton. A delicious salad course was served by Mesdames Floyd, Cook and Guyton.

Messrs. James DeVane and Earl Mabry were visitors here Sunday. Miss Mittie Russ, who has been attending a business college in Wilmington for some time, has come home to remain with us for awhile.

Mr. Lonnie M. Pierce left Wednesday for Tampa, Fla. Misses Esther Council and George Hall spent the week-end at their homes in Council.

Miss Ava Barefoot, who is attending school in Wilmington, spent the week-end at home. Electric lights have been installed in the Baptist church. They are a great improvement over the old lights.

Misses Lillian and Alma Pierce spent the week-end at their home here. Hallsboro was aroused Friday night by the fire whistle. However, it turned out to be a false alarm.

Mr. G. M. Clemmons has returned to Bethune, S. C., after spending some time with his family here. Rev. A. J. Howell conducted preaching service at the home of Mrs. E. V. Young Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Joe Thompson, who is teaching in the Freeman school, spent the week-end at his home here.

## AGED SMYRNA LADY

### DIED LAST WEEK

Mrs. Hammond Was Eighty-Nine Years of Age; Funeral at Smyrna Last Friday

Funeral services for Mrs. Eveline Hammond, 89 years of age, who died Wednesday of last week at the home of her son in the Smyrna community, from natural causes, were held at Smyrna Baptist church Friday and the remains were laid to rest in the presence of a host of sorrowing friends and relatives. Rev. C. Stanley conducted the services.

One son, Mr. R. L. Hammond, and several grand-children and great-grand children survive. Mrs. Hammond was one of the most highly respected women of her community.

## WOMAN'S CLUB MEETING

The Woman's club will meet tomorrow evening at three-thirty in the Rest Room at the court house.