

Why Hold Up Sheriff's Fees? County Commissioners Strain

At Gnat And Attempt To Swallow Camel

Sheriff Windly Does Not Ask For An Increase In Salary, He Seeks Justice Only, And Has Been Forced To Call On Voters To Secure It.

Why This Continual Nagging At An Official Elected By The People?

On account of the misnomer the Board of County Commissioners have given to the sheriff's salary bill there has arisen some confusion as to the real purpose of the bill. It is not a bill to increase the sheriff's salary as the county commissioners have attempted to impress upon the people. They have entitled it, "A bill to increase the sheriff's salary." This title was given it by them in an attempt to prejudice the minds of the public thinking they would not learn the true facts.

I shall endeavor to give a brief history of the bill and the reason for introducing it in the Legislature.

Soon after I was nominated last June, Mr. W. E. Swindell, chairman of the Board of County Commissioners saw me on the street in Washington and began a discussion about the sheriff being on both salary and fees and suggested that some change should be made in the bill. I stated to him that I had tried to get the Board which was the same board as are now holding office (and of which he was chairman) to have some change made two years ago, while Sheriff Ricks was in office and they had refused to do so and now I would not have any thing to do with it and would not make any change. This conversation was prior to the time the County Convention was held and at the convention the Board of Commissioners offered a resolution requesting that some change be made. The resolution was not adopted by the convention but was referred to me for my consideration. Up to this time the board had been paying all of the bills which had been filed by Sheriff Ricks for fees and services rendered and continued to pay them until about November, 1914. Only one or two months before Sheriff Windly went into office, just prior to the January, 1915 meeting, I was informed that the board was holding up some of Sheriff Ricks fees and that they would hold up Sheriff Windly's also. I then saw Mr. Swindell, the chairman and suggested that the board and Sheriff Windly get together and agree on some kind of a settlement and I would be glad to pass a bill in accordance with their agreement. I also saw Sheriff Windly and made the same suggestion to him which met with the approval of both parties. Sometime after the January meeting I asked the sheriff if they had reached any agreement. He replied they had not. Mr. Swindell later called my attention to the fact that no agreement had been reached and at the same time stated that something should be done about it. I then made the suggestion that at the February meeting they should get together as the sheriff's fees were being held up and it looked as if he would be forced into a law suit to collect the fees which they had always paid prior to Mr. Windly's election and without any question as to their being proper charges against the county. He told me that he would see the sheriff and endeavor to reach some agreement before the February meeting. I later

saw the county attorney, Mr. Lindsay C. Warren and told him what I had said to both Sheriff Windly and Mr. Swindell. Mr. Warren appeared to be anxious that the matter should be settled and immediately went to see the sheriff and they discussed the matter without reaching any definite agreement.

I was not informed what action was taken by the chairman at the February meeting until late in February and was then told by Mr. Windly that the board had done nothing; that they were holding up his fees and he was having to take money from his own pocket to pay certain expenses and the board had failed and refused to repay him.

I then asked for a statement of the expenses of his office and he filed with me a statement sworn to before Geo. A. Paul, clerk, showing actual expenses which are as follows:

Chief Deputy Washington	\$ 75.00
Asst. Deputy Washington	\$ 50.00
Deputy Pantego Township	50.00
Deputy Richland Township	50.00
Janitor of Jail and Court House	30.00
Feed for two Horses	30.00
Stable rent	5.00
Premium bond per month	15.85
Shoeing horses and wear and tear on bugles and harness	10.00
Other incidental expenses	10.00
Total	\$325.85
Salary received from the county	\$323.34
Less monthly expense	325.85
Leaving net bal. of	\$ 7.94

The only other compensation the sheriff receives is fees from the Recorder and J. P. Courts, and these having been held up leaves him with a less salary than what he was receiving as Recorder.

I believe that every fair minded man in Beaufort county will agree that the sheriff should receive not less than \$2400.00 per year net for his services. (I consider this only a reasonable compensation when you remember the fact that he is under a heavy bond for the faithful performance of his duty, not only by himself but his deputies also, and that at all times in the service of process he takes his life in his own hand and he is in danger in other ways.) I therefore fixed his salary at \$3,000 per year out of which he has to pay Premium on bond per month \$ 15.85 Horse feed \$ 30.00 Stable rent \$ 5.00 Wear and tear on bugles and harness and shoeing horses \$ 10.00 Incidental expenses \$ 10.00 Total monthly ex. \$ 70.85

Which would leave him a net balance of \$2,149.80 for his services per year. I then named the salaries of the deputies as follows:

A chief deputy to be located in Washington at \$90 per month, an assistant deputy for Washington, Chocowinity, Long Acre and Bath

townships at \$50.00 per month, one deputy in Pantego township at \$50 per month and one deputy in Richland township at \$50 per month, and a janitor for the Courthouse at \$30 per month, neither the sheriff nor any of the deputies should receive any other compensation from the county and all of the fees which now go to the sheriff and the deputies should be paid into the county treasury. The new bill was intended and the sheriff understands that he was to receive no extra compensation for his services as jailer except board for the prisoners. If this provision is not plain in the bill the sheriff will agree that he shall not receive extra compensation for this work I will in the near future publish for the benefit of the people of the county the actual figures showing the amount of salary and fees which has been paid by the Board of County Commissioners to the sheriff in addition to all the fees which he receives from the Recorder and J. P. Courts of the county.

The bill on which you are asked to vote does not provide any increase in salary but it does place the sheriff and his deputies on an all salary basis and not on part salary and part fees which to say the least is absolutely unsatisfactory and is not a policy in the interest of good government. In fixing the salaries of the deputies you will have raised the standard for them and will thereby secure a more competent corps of men performing these duties and you will have made it so that it is of no pecuniary interest to the sheriff to employ cheap incompetent men as deputies because it will not increase the sheriff's compensation one cent to have cheap inefficient help. As the law now stands the cheaper labor he employs the more he receives as it is all paid to him in a lump sum.

I recall that in 1912 Mr. W. D. Windly was elected recorder of Washington, Chocowinity and Long Acre townships, immediately after he was nominated a movement was begun to reduce the compensation of the office and it was cut down from more than \$200 per month to \$75 per month. His political enemies thought they would force him to resign. Recorder Windly was later elected before the Board of County Commissioners to show cause why his salary should not be further reduced. (This was all the work of the political machine in the city of Washington who think they can bound the life out of every person who has the temerity to oppose them.) but the men of good judgment and common sense throughout the entire county said we do not propose that you shall slaughter Mr. Windly just because he was not of your clan and the Board of Commissioners did not reduce the salary.

The primary for the nomination of county officers was held last June and Mr. Windly was nominated for Sheriff and before he was elected the Board of Commissioners was after cutting off a part of his salary. It is rather a singular thing that they should pay all bills for fees filed by Sheriff Ricks up to within about two months of the time when his term would expire and then begin to hold up the fees so that it possibly would not appear clearly that they were after Sheriff Windly, but they have held up his fees ever since and the total up to March 1st amounted to more than \$300, and when Sheriff Ricks term expired the board was holding up about \$700 of his money and he was holding up about \$600 of the county's money to offset his claim against them.

The chairman of the board has not tried to reach an agreement with Sheriff Windly but has concluded to enter into a lawsuit with Sheriff Ricks so that the court costs will amount to more than the fees now involved and the county attorney will be enabled to feather his nest from the county treasury to the extent of several hundred dollars. Will the taxpayers of the county stand for this kind of politics? Place your sheriff on all salary basis and thereby remove every cause for litigation by the county.

Do justice by the sheriff and don't leave him at the mercy of a bunch

AUDIENCE OF 300 PEOPLE AT PINETOWN

Dr. M. G. Smith of the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry, gave an illustrated lecture Thursday night to an audience of 300 people at Pinetown. Dr. Smith is trying to interest Beaufort county in the eradication of the cattle tick and the improvement of live stock conditions in general. He says that it is useless to try to get anywhere in the live stock business as long as the county is infected with ticks and hog cholera. He also advocates an adequate stock law for the protection of the stock, since infectious diseases cannot be controlled under free range conditions. Dr. Smith spoke at length on the progressive farmers he found in Richland township. He cited us to various parties around Aurora who have already started to build up herds of improved hogs and cattle. A Mr. Dixon has some 50 native cows and a purebred Aberdeen Angus bull. He thinks Mr. Dixon has an ideal fountain for a herd of beef cattle. He also spoke of a purebred Red Poll bull owned by Mr. Clayton near Aurora. This animal weighs over 1800 pounds and his yearling calves are selling for double what the usual run of calves in Beaufort county are bringing. There are two or three herds of purebred hogs and several purebred stallions in Richland township. Dr. Smith considers Aurora community one of the most progressive and up-to-date localities he has visited in the state.

Some of the interesting facts mentioned in the lecture were that the federal government is spending \$400,000 this year on tick eradication and that none of it is being spent in Beaufort county, simply because our county will not co-operate in the work. The counties further west, where the farmers have added live stock to their money crops, are being developed much more rapidly; the houses are better; there is more paint used and they have better schools and churches. He suggested that it would be well for the farmers around Pinetown to take a day off and visit the Aurora section just to see what progress has been made since they have been to pay some attention to stock raising.

Lectures will be given at Bath Friday night and Runyan Saturday night.

"ZUDORA" AND FIVE OTHER REELS TONIGHT

The New Theater will offer their patrons tonight a five reel program headed by the eighth installment of "Zudora," the twenty million dollar mystery. The six reel feature last night "The Sunray Man" was certainly the best picture that has been seen here for some time. With such pictures as this house is now offering the movie fans of the city they should build up a good patronage.

MRS. MANNING HAS GUESTS.

Mrs. T. S. Manning of West Main street, has as her house guests Miss Cora Carroll and Susie Gatecholor and her sister, Miss Nina Laughlin, house of Grimesland.

of scheming politicians, some of whom are using county business to perpetuate themselves in office.

I will deal with this bill more fully in the near future and will give figures which are convincing. All Sheriff Windly is asking for is a square deal and he has on every occasion been forced to appeal to the voters of the county to secure it. He has not at any time nor is he now asking that his salary be increased, but he is asking that the Board of County Commissioners be required to pay him that which he is entitled to and this I believe the citizens of Beaufort county will do.

JAMES L. MAYO.

NEW HEALTH OFFICER FOR PITT COUNTY

The county board of health of Pitt county has just elected Dr. M. T. Edgerton whole time county health officer. He is expected to begin his work immediately. This makes ten counties in the State with men giving their entire time to health work. Dr. Edgerton hails from Fremont, N. C., and is a graduate of the University of Georgia and of Johns Hopkins. He was elected from quite a number of strong applicants for the position. For several months the county board of health had deliberated over the matter of securing the right man for the place. In making their choice in this matter, the local board asked for recommendations and advice from the State Board of Health. The State Board unhesitatingly recommended Dr. Edgerton because of his superior training, experience and personality which should preeminently fit him as a health officer.

Several other counties are considering the matter of a health officer, but by all odds the greatest difficulty in the way in most cases is to secure the right man. Just because an applicant is an M. D. does not necessarily guarantee that he will make a health officer.

MR. WILLIS IMPROVING.

Mr. Albert Willis, who was recently operated on for appendicitis, is greatly improved at this time, and was able to be moved from the hospital on yesterday to the residence of his mother in East Second street.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PLANTING OF SHAD FRY

Chapel Hill, Mar. 25.—One beneficial result already derived on account of the establishment of the Fisheries Commission passed by the General Assembly of 1915, is that the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries have issued instructions for the planting of shad fry in the Pamlico, Neuse, Trent and Cape Fear rivers. These fry will be obtained from the hatchery at Edenton.

There is no need for another shad hatchery in eastern Carolina, and in consequence of the jurisdiction of the Fisheries Commission being state-wide, it is expected that very favorable consideration will be given by the Federal Government to the establishment of such a hatchery at an early date. Application will also be made another year for a floating hatchery in the Cape Fear river.

JOSEPH HYDE PRATT.

WILL ERECT WHITE WAY.

The proprietors of "The Palms" have received material for the erection of a white way in front of their place of business. Five light posts will be erected; three on Market street side and two on Second street. Each post will be fitted with three globes and the number of posts used in lighting will aggregate about forty five hundred.

PLAY KINSTON TODAY.

The High School ball team left on a Norfolk Southern train this morning for Kinston, where they will begin the season by going up against the High School team of that city.

REHEARSALS GOING GOOD.

The Elks had an enthusiastic and well ordered rehearsal at their hall last night, where preparations are under way for the presentation by the order of a musical comedy and extravaganza at an early date. Washington is noted for its home talent along all theatrical lines, and under the able management of Mr. and Mrs. Patty, the public is assured of one of the most entertaining shows of the season.

THE GERMAN SUBMARINE U-29 IS REPORTED SUNK; ANOTHER RUSSIAN VICTORY

London, Mar. 25.—"The admiralty has good reason to believe the German submarine U-29 has been sunk with all hands."

This news published tonight, following reports that the attack on the Dardanelles had been resumed and that the Russians had won important victories over the Austrians in Bukovina and at Uskok Pass in the Carpathians, gave the allied countries cause for cheerfulness.

The admiralty gave no details of how or where the U-29 was sunk but the report that she was disposed of was received in shipping circles with relief.

It was this vessel which a fortnight ago torpedoed six steamers in Bristol channel and off the Scilly islands within two days. Her commander told one of the merchant captains who was taken aboard that he commanded the submarine which torpedoed the British cruiser Aboukir, Cressy and Hogue. If this were true, he was the man who was looked upon as Germany's most daring submarine navigator.

This makes the sixth German submarine sunk so far as the British admiralty has reported, five of them at least by British warships since the outbreak of the war, and in only one case the British report being denied by the Germans. Besides these, a German warship recently sank a small French merchant ship off the French coast and the British merchant captains have claims for rewards offered for men ramming German submarines.

One of these claims that of the captain of the steamer Thordis, has been allowed and the reward paid.

The news of a Russian victory and the renewal of the attack on the Dardanelles lacks official confirmation but comes from sources usually well informed. Russian victories are announced in private telegrams received from Bucharest by way of Rome. These state that the Russians have won a great victory on the Austrian extreme right in Bukovina and with strong new forces they have driven the Austrians back in Uskok pass of the Carpathians.

It is believed here that the Russians, bringing up new forces, may have turned the Austrian right and reached the Sereth river, getting behind the Austrian army operating in the vicinity of Czernowitz.

Big events at Uskok pass were expected as both Russian and Austrian official reports spoke of heavy fighting there, and with the troops released by the fall of Premysl the Russians might be able to despatch strong reinforcements to this point.

The Russians also, have resumed the offensive in the region of the Pilica river, southern Poland, and, according to Petrograd, have taken an important German position; while in the north heavy fighting again is in progress along the east Prussian frontier, despite the condition of the ground.

Reports coming across the Italian border of increasing preparation in that country for war, although it is added, German diplomats have not given up the hope in inducing Austria to make territorial concessions that would satisfy both Italy and Rumania.

King George today visited Admiral Sir John R. Jellicoe's fleet.

Notice To All Cover Crop Demonstrators

My Dear Sir:—This is probably first year you have used a green cover crop to improve your soil. We therefore wish to call your attention to a few important points regarding the best method of handling your land for the succeeding crop.

The state at which a cover crop should be turned under depends upon the soil, weather conditions and the crop that is to follow. Where corn is to be planted on crimson clover land the clover should be turned under just when the bloom begins to appear. The crop at this stage will contain about the maximum amount of plant food. Besides, it will decay much more readily than if permitted to reach full maturity. It may be necessary to turn the clover under a little earlier in order to get the corn planted at the proper time. It is sometimes advisable to turn under earlier on account of the soil being in good condition, whereas to put it off for a few days or a week, dry weather might prevent doing the work as it should be. When the land is to be planted to cotton it will be necessary to turn the cover crop under earlier regardless of the stage of growth. This will allow a few days for the land to settle and to be gotten in proper shape for a good seed bed. The plow should be followed closely by the harrow to pulverize the soil before the wind and sunshine drive it out. Unless the soil is full of moisture, or there are prospects of an early rain it is best to run a roller over the land to firm it, which will aid in holding the moisture. The roller should always be followed with the weeder or light smoothing harrow to mulch the top soil.

After mature consideration, I have decided to withdraw my name as a candidate for Alderman from the Third Ward in the primaries to be held for city offices on April 9th, 1915.

I find it important for my own interests to do this, and trust my friends will appreciate my reasons for taking this step.

I heartily endorse the candidacy of Mr. W. C. Dudley for Alderman from the Third Ward and will appreciate any support my friends may give him.

J. H. ECKLIN.

in a layer is what is sometimes called souring the soil with green manuring crops. Double disc the cover crop two or three times with a sharp disc harrow before plowing; plow well by taking a narrow furrow and edging rather than taveling the furrow; then double disc the land again rather deeply, and the injurious effect will result however large the growth may be. This is the important point I wish to impress upon you. The thorough incorporation of the vegetable matter with the soil. Do not get in a hurry and neglect this important part of the work if you expect good results from your cover crop. Use the disc and smoothing harrow until you have the soil well pulverized and the vegetable matter mixed throughout the soil.

Very truly yours,

J. F. LATHAM,
County Agent.

FROM BRIDAL TOUR.

Rev. and Mrs. R. V. Hope have returned to the city from an extended bridal tour of northern cities, and are at home to their friends on West Second street.

TO THE DEMOCRATIC VOTERS OF THE THIRD WARD.

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New Theater

TONIGHT
Eighth Installment of "ZUDORA"
The Serial of Mystery in Two Reels Also Three Other Reels.
Price 5c and 10c.