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**SEC. WILSON PLEASED**

**SEES GREAT FUTURE FOR N. C.**

A Little Disappointed in Its Backwardness in Agriculture—Struck With Commercial and Industrial Progress.

By Thomas J. Pence.

Washington, D.C., Nov. 13.—The Secretary of Agriculture, Hon. James Wilson, has a mighty high opinion of North Carolina and Tar Heels generally, since his recent visit to the State; in fact he is enthusiastic over the progress and bright future of North Carolina. Mr. Wilson stated today that it had been several years since he had been in that section of the country; that he was agreeably surprised at the progressiveness of that section of the State, which he visited, and that he sees a great future for the State of North Carolina commercially and industrially. He said that while the State has a great future before her, he was just a little disappointed in its backwardness in agriculture. He said while in Raleigh, Durham and Greensboro he met delegates to the Congress from all over the country, especially from the North, the East and the West and they gathered the same idea and impressions that I did in regard to the progressiveness and the future of the State. I found men who will go home and sell lands at \$10 per acre and go to North Carolina to buy the cheaper lands, which in my estimation, are productive and capable of yielding a good return for more than they are now selling for. I have heard a great deal of the hookworm and its origin in North Carolina, but certainly from what I saw in the State there was no sign whatever of any such germ. I wish to extend my thanks, not only to the people of Raleigh, Durham and Greensboro, but over the State, for the cordial and generous reception which they gave me, and I hope, in the near future to visit the State again, when I will have more time for meeting the people and seeing the State, and the people of North Carolina can depend upon the Federal Department of Agriculture doing everything possible to aid them in their march of progress. We have men of our department in the State co-operating with the State Department. Particularly is this true of the Bureau of Soils, which is co-operating with Dr. B. W. Kilgore in an examination of the soils of the State to determine what they are best and specially adapted to. The other bureaus of the department are also doing good work, and I would like to see the work increased in the State.

Jenkins-Luther.

On Sunday November 14th, a charming wedding took place at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, at Worthville, N. C. The contracting parties being Miss Crissie Luther, the youngest daughter of Mrs. A. L. Luther, and J. W. Jenkins a popular young business man of this town. Rev. T. Matthews officiating. The parlor was beautifully decorated with ferns and chrysanthemums which gave a pleasing effect. The bride a pretty young lady who is greatly admired, never appeared to better advantage. She was beautifully attired in white, alpine trimmings, with hat and gloves to match, and held in her hand a bunch of white chrysanthemum. After the friends arrived the bride, accompanied by her brother, Lineberry Luther, advanced to the parlor while simultaneously, the groom, accompanied by his best man John Cross, came, meeting the bride there, taking their places before the minister, were happily married. After the ceremony the guests were received in the dining room by Miss Patie Luther, Annie Swain and Joe Lineberry, where a sumptuous supper was served. Their many friends wish them a long and happy life. At home after December 2, Worthville, N. C.

**Baptist State Convention.**

The Baptist State convention of North Carolina will meet in its seventy-ninth annual session in the First Baptist Church of Wadesboro on Tuesday, December 7th, 1909.

Joseph Burleyson, or Stanly county, who has been mentally afflicted for some time, and who tried to commit suicide some weeks ago, died last week.

**THE EIGHTY-FOURTH SESSION**

Of the North Carolina Annual Conference of the M. P. Church Meets at Randleman.

On Thursday, November 18th, the annual North Carolina conference of the M. P. church met with the Mt. Lebanon church in Randleman and remained in session until Monday of this week. The election of officers took place on Thursday afternoon, when Rev. W. E. Swain was elected president, and S. W. Taylor, secretary. Rev. W. E. Swain and R. T. Pickens were appointed stationing committee.

On Thursday night Rev. D. L. Greenfield, of Westminster, Md., gave a most interesting lecture on "Jesus as a Preacher." The chief feature of Friday's programme was the meetings of the Women's Home and Women's Foreign Missionary Societies. Friday night Rev. Thos. H. Lewis, president of the Western Maryland conference gave an eloquent educational address.

**MEMORIAL SERVICES.**

On Sunday afternoon services were held in memory of the late J. C. Roberts, of Kernersville, and Rev. W. C. Hammer, of Asheboro. Papers written by Rev. W. F. Kennett, Mrs. Kennett, Rev. W. R. Lowdermilk, Rev. J. F. McCulloch and others were read. Rev. T. J. Ogburn, of Greensboro, read the memorial address on Rev. W. C. Hammer, and other addresses were made by Revs. T. J. Ogburn, W. L. Harris, J. S. Williams, C. A. Cecil, W. C. Kennett and others. The Stationing Committee made its report at the close of the conference on Monday afternoon:

**STATIONING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.**

Alamance—W M Pike. Albemarle—J F Dozier. Anderson—L W Geringer, supply. Asheville—J S Williams. Asheboro—T M Johnson. Buncombe—G L Curry. Burlington—J D Williams. Caldwell—H D Garmon. Chatham—J R Hutton. Caroline—J W Self. Cleveland—W D Reed. Concord—A O Lindley. Davidson—J W Hulm. Denton—To be supplied with W A Leford. Fairfield—Fairview—D A Braswell. Flat Rock—W F Kennett. Forsyth—W C Lassiter. Gaston—T A Williams. Graham and Haw River—A H Bryans. Granville—J W Frank. Greensboro—T J Ogburn. Greenville and Spring Church—W D Fogleman. Guilford—J H Stowe. Halifax—W L Harris. Haw River—O E M Raper. Henderson—R M Andrews. High Point—A G Dixon. Ivy—W A Lamar. La Grange—J H Abernethy. Lebanon—J H Mott. Liberty—Chas J Edwards. Lincoln—T F McCulloch. Littleton—S W Taylor. Mebane, Geo W Holmes. Mecklenburg, O D Stacey. Mocksville, W J Huckney. Monroe, W P Martin. Mt. Hermon, J A Burgess. Oak Ridge, W R Lowdermilk. Orange, Homer Cato. Pinnacle and Mt. Zion, A L Hunter. Randleman, T H Matthews. Richland, — Hatley, W F McDowell, supernumerary. Roanoke, C L Whitaker. Rockingham, J F McSwain. Rocky Mount, C H Whitaker. Saxapahaw, J H Bowman. Stanly, E. G. Lowdermilk. St. Pauls, H W Braswell. Tabernacle, C A Cecil. Thomasville Station, E. Suits. Uwharrie, T A Plyler. Vance, R C Stubbins. Why Not, J A Ledbetter. Winston Station, G F Milloway. Winston Mission, D E Williams. Yarboro, N G Betha. Yadkin College, H L Powell.

**Western North Carolina Conference Delegates to General Conference Appointments.**

The Annual Meeting of the Western North Carolina Conference of the M. E. church South, held at Hickory, N. C. this year adjourned on Monday night of this week after a most harmonious conference at the close of a most successful year. Nine ministers were received on trial one of whom R. K. Brady was from Randolph county.

The following were ordained as traveling preachers, as elders: W. E. Abernethy, R. L. Doggett, J. H. Greer, C. S. Kirkpatrick, W. A. Lambeth, W. O. Rudolph, D. P. Waters, J. A. Sharp, W. T. Albright, A. R. Bell, M. B. Clegg and P. W. Tucker. At the same time J. A. Fry was ordained local elder.

Delegates to general conference were elected as follows: Revs. J. H. Weaver, T. F. Marr, J. C. Rowe, H. K. Boyer, G. H. Detwiler and W. L. Sherrill.

Lay—J. L. Nelson, W. D. Turner, W. R. Odell, C. H. Ireland, F. M. Weaver and F. S. Lambeth.

The following are the appointments for the various charges in the Greensboro District: Presiding Elder, W. R. Ware. Asheboro Circuit—Jann's Wilson. Asheboro Station—C. A. Wood. Coleridge—R. L. F. ut. Denton—H. V. Clark. East Greensboro—S. T. Barber. Greensboro, Caraway Memorial—S. B. Richardson. Centenary—D. M. Litak r, W. L. Grisson, assistant. Spring Garden Street—J. W. Long. Walnut Street—J. W. Igle. West Market—E. K. McLarty. West Greensboro—W. L. Dawson. High Point, South Main—O. P. Ader. Washington Street—J. E. Thompson. Liberty—C. H. Caviness. Pleasant Garden—R. A. Taylor. Ramseur and Franklinville—J. E. Woolley. Randleman and Naomi—G. E. Eaves. Randolph Circuit—L. E. Stacy. Reidsville Station—L. T. Mann. Ruffin Circuit—J. F. Hornbuckle. Uwharrie—J. A. Sharpe. Wentworth—A. L. Aycock.

Editor North Carolina Christian Advocate, H. M. Blair; assistant editor, W. L. Sherrill; secretary-treasurer Greensboro College, W. M. Curtis; missionary to Korea, J. R. Moore.

**THE NICARAGUAN AFFAIR.**

After a Conference With the President At the White House Secretary of State Knox Issues Statement.

Secretary of State Knox was in conference with the President for two hours on Sunday. Counsellor Henry M. Hoyt was also present. The subject under discussion was the killing of two Americans in Nicaragua and the decision of the conferees culminated in the following statement issued by Secretary Knox. "If certain representations of fact which have been made to the State Department concerning the Grace and Cannon case are verified by inquiries that have been made, this government will at once prepare a demand on the Nicaraguan government for reparation for the death of these two men.

**Rowan Will Fight Plague.**

On last Saturday night a most important meeting was held in the court house at Salisbury when the Rowan county Anti-tuberculosis association was formed. Dr. John Whitehead was elected president and Dr. W. W. McKenzie secretary. Instructive addresses were delivered by Dr. W. T. Rankin and Dr. C. A. Julian.

J. S. Hasty who has been postmaster at Monroe, N. C. for seventeen years died last Friday.

Welch Memorial, Thos C Davis. Supernumerary: J W Heath, D D Moore, J N Garrett, J E Hartzell, Geo E Hunt, W C Kennett, D A Highhill. In the hands of the president: J L Giles, E A Plyler, at his own request, Wm Porter. Left without appointment at their own request: I. I. York, J H Turner. Editor Our Church Record, J F McCulloch. Loaned to Theological Seminary, O E Fortline. Educational Work, S Simpson, W T Totten, Geo L Reynolds.

**BIG RALLY AT CARAWAY.**

Presentation of Flag and Bible to School by Junior Order—Large Attendance and Good Order.

What proved to be a gala day occasion for the north-western part of the county was the educational rally at Caraway last Saturday, November 20th. The primary object in view was the presentation of a flag and bible to the school by the Caraway Council of the Junior Order. In addition to this feature of the program there were exercises by the school, music by the Farmer Cornet Band, a fine public dinner and a general educational address by Mr. J. R. Joyce, Postmaster of Reidsville. The audience was the largest seen at a gathering of this kind in the county for several years. The room was taxed beyond its capacity, and many were turned away from the door.

In the forenoon the exercises were conducted by the school, after which came the address by Mr. Joyce. The subject discussed was the relation of the Junior Order to public education. After this excellent address, the largest crowd was treated to one of the finest public dinners ever prepared by the good women of Randolph county. No one went away without being filled, and many baskets of fragments were taken up.

In the afternoon the flag was presented by Rev. F. H. Spencer, of High Point, and accepted by Dr. Stephen B. Weeks, of Trinity. The Bible was presented by Dr. Burrus, of High Point, and accepted by E. J. Coltraue. It would be a difficult task to attempt even to give an account of what was said. Many things bearing on the patriotic and educational awakening of the age were discussed. Perhaps the address of greatest significance was that delivered by Dr. Weeks, principal of Trinity High School. Dr. Weeks has a clear correct understanding of educational matters, and his address was a thorough exposition of his views.

Everybody went away feeling that the great impetus to better things in the community around Caraway and all over the entire northwestern part of the county. Other councils of the Junior Order can well afford to follow the example of the Caraway Council.

**Teachers Meetings.**

Only two more teachers' meetings of the series are to be held, one at Coleridge, next Saturday, November 27, and the other at Asheboro, Saturday, December 4th. All teachers who have not attended one of the other meetings will be expected to be present in one of these meetings. This does not excuse teachers for any, except providential reasons.

The basis of the work in each meeting will be the first three chapters of "The Recitation" by Hamilton. Teachers should read these three chapters carefully, and also take copies of the book with them to the meetings. If you do not have copies of the book, write at once to me, and a copy will be sent to you by return mail. The price is \$1.00.

All the district meetings have been well attended, and an unusual interest has been shown in the effort to improve the teachers of the county. The work has only commenced. The improved equipment in schoolhouses and the increased attendance of pupils call for better work on the part of teachers. By the plan outlined before we hope to accomplish this purpose. Please remember that the meetings open at ten o'clock.

E. J. Coltraue, Conny Supt. of Schools.

**The Strike at Spencer.**

The strike of the machinists at the railroad shops at Spencer, N. C. lasted on, sixty-five machinists having walked out last Saturday after having demanded that Round House foreman W. F. Norman be discharged for alleged inhuman and cruel treatment of various employees.

The railroad men claim that the men have violated an agreement in not making an appeal to the master mechanic, and they further claim that there is no proof of cruel and inhuman treatment on the part of the foreman. Everything has been and continues to be quiet.

J. P. Murray and Miss Minnie Wooley were married in Alamance county one day last week.

**COBLE AND ELLIOTT HELD FOR GRAND JURY.**

Elliott Virtually Admits That He Killed Simpson Coble.

On the trial before Justice Collins in Greensboro last Wednesday and Thursday Daniel Coble father of the murdered man, and Hiram Elliott were held for the Grand Jury at the December term of Guilford Court. They were committed without bail.

The prosecution subjected the witnesses to a searching cross-examination and at last got the confession from Coble that it was Hiram Elliott who killed Simpson Coble and threw him into the gully where he was found. Coble swore that he had nothing to do with the killing. Very reluctantly this was drawn from him by the scathing denunciations and searching cross-examination by Judge Shaw.

**Elliott's Statement.**

Hiram Elliott who is in jail with Daniel "Foot" Coble charged with the murder of Simpson Coble in Green township ten days ago, sent for Deputy Sheriff George P. Crutchfield yesterday afternoon and had a talk with him.

In the course of the conversation Mr. Crutchfield told Elliott that John Amick and Henry Holt were likely to give bond in the case charging them with illicit distilling and asked him if they had anything to do with the homicide. Elliott declared that they did not nor did the old man Dan Coble have anything to do with it, adding that the "man who killed Simpson Coble is in jail" and that he would make a statement at the proper time.

To those who have kept in touch with the case it becomes more and more evident that Elliott will confess that he killed Coble and that he will set up the plea of self-defense, though if he should do this now and by such a statement completely exonerate the old man Dan Coble, the latter probably could not gain his liberty before the December term of Guilford Superior Court which convenes on the 13th. In fact, Elliott's statement to Mr. Crutchfield is construed as practically a confession. The plea of self defence will be based upon the fact that Simpson Coble's knife was found near the fence and that Coble had quarreled with Elliott.

**FORTY-ONE MINERS TAKEN OUT ALIVE.**

Said to be Fifty More Living and Heroic Efforts are Being Made to Save Them.

Entombed for exactly one week, eating caps, leather belts and pine wood to keep life, forty-one miners were taken out of the St. Paul Mine alive, while the rescuers report at least fifty others still living. Heroic efforts are being made to save them.

Many of the miners were brought out so exhausted that the doctors, who were on hand forbade giving them any food, allowing them only a little milk diluted with water.

**Not Cognizant of Time.**

The miners had lost all trace of time. Some of them were unconscious and believed they had been entombed only twenty-four hours.

**Christian Hero Among Them.**

William Clellan, during a week of torture, kept up the spirit of his comrades by holding religious services twice each day, preaching sermons to them and urging them to put their confidence in God and they would surely be saved. Later reports say that all are dead.

**Died.**

Mrs. D. E. Ellis Brown, of Salisbury, N. C. was buried to death last Friday at her home on Northbough St. Her clothing was burned completely and when found her whole body was black from burns. Dr. McKenzie was summoned but she was beyond all aid. Deceased was 55 years old and was buried on Sunday at Chestnut Hill Cemetery.

Marriage at Graham. Tuesday, November 16th, 1909, at 10:45 a. m., at the home of the bride's uncle and aunt Capt. and Mrs. E. S. Parker, in Graham, Miss Neale Norwood was united in marriage to Mr. A. K. Hardee in the presence of the family and a few intimate friends, Rev. Dr. E. G. Murray, pastor of the bride, performing the ceremony.—Alamance Gleaner.

**CONGRESSMAN D. A. DE ARMOND PERISHES IN FIRE.**

Distinguished Democratic Representative Loses His Life in Conflagration of Home—Young Grandson Also Dies.

Hon. David A. De Armond, one of the oldest and most prominent Democratic members of congress, and his grandson were burned to death in a fire that destroyed the De Armond home at Butler, Mo., early Tuesday.

The other members of the family escaped and it is believed that none are hurt. Neither the body of congressman De Armond nor that of the grandson have been recovered as yet.

It is believed that they were incinerated. Bones believed to be those of the congressman were found by searchers this morning. Other occupants in the house who escaped were Mrs. De Armond and a son and daughter.

In De Armond's death the Democrats lose one of their leaders on the floor of the house. He was a member of that body for the past nineteen years, and a man whose wide education and experience and fluent speech had become one of the principal resources of the Democratic party in debating national questions.

He will long be remembered for his brilliant oratory and especially for his powerful sarcasm and his capacity for invectives. He was conspicuous for his ability as a party fighter, but was inclined to be pugnacious. This quality was once the means of getting him into an altercation with John Sharp Williams, then minority leader of the house.

He was an aspirant for the leadership of the house until the recognition of Champ Clark by the minority.

**Valuable Animals Burned to Death.**

The barn of J. M. Porters of Matthews, Union county, was destroyed by fire together with several head of horses and cattle which were in it at the time.

The fire was discovered at 4:45 o'clock but gained so much headway that it was impossible to save it.

Bloodhounds were used to try and track the supposed incendiary. Loss about \$1500. No insurance.

**Good Roads Betterment Days.**

Thursday, Friday and Saturday of next week have been set apart as good road betterment days and it is to be hoped that every road overseer will warn his hands to work the roads at least two of these days, and if six full days have not been worked during the year, it would be well to work the full six days, so that the grand jury which will be in session will have no overseers to report for failure to do their duty.

The magistrates should look after these matters. Finally, every man who can use a mattock, shovel or plow, no matter whether a road subject or not, should be on hand bright and early next Thursday morning and do a full days work.

Let us make these Good Roads Betterment Days a record breaker. If it is wet weather a split log drag can be used in some places directions for using which have been published in the Courier more than once during the last year.

**Carry Concealed Weapons.**

On Sunday afternoon four men were taken before Justice of the Peace Ridge charged with shooting a revolver. The charge was disturbing the peace and breaking the Sabbath. They were each fined \$2.10 and the costs, amounting to \$3.75. The party were out for a stroll and thought they would amuse themselves by shooting at a target. Sheriff Hayworth and Chief of Police Kennedy went out on hearing the shooting and ordered them all to appear before the court.

**The Christian Conference.**

The Western Conference of the Christian church was in session in Graham last week. The North Carolina and Virginia Conference will meet at Belews Creek on the 23rd. The eastern conference met at Sanford last week. Quite a large crowd of delegates and ministers were at Graham attending the conference. Dr. Barrett, editor of the Herald of Gospel Liberty, of Dayton, Ohio, is attending the conference.

The New Rex hospital, at Raleigh has been opened. The new building cost about \$50,000.