

THE COURIER

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No. 1

LEGISLATURE CONVENES

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA NOW IN FULL SWING AT RALEIGH—EMMETT R. WOOTEN, OF KINSTON, MADE SPEAKER AND MAX O. GARDNER, OF SHELBY, PRESIDENT PRO TEM.

Raleigh is now in the midst of the General Assembly of North Carolina and a more representative body of men is unknown to our citizens.

There are several new faces in the Senate at this session but a good many of the past Senators are back at their old posts and the lobbyists in abundance. Farmers, merchants, lumbermen and other men are there for the interests of their districts. There are a number of candidates there for various minor offices such as special clerks, pages, etc.

When nominations for Speaker were called for Tuesday night in a caucus Representative Allen of Wayne in a brief speech presented the name of Emmett R. Wooten of Lenoir, for that honor. Mr. Allen said that in Mr. Wooten's hands the welfare of North Carolina would be safe, that he would watch not only the temporary needs of the hour but for the demands of the future.

He paid a tribute to Mr. Wooten as an experienced legislator, that he was wise and courteous, that he would reflect credit both on himself, the House and the great Democratic party.

The nomination was seconded by Mr. Roberts, of Buncombe, and there being no further nominations, on motion of Mr. Grier, of Iredell, the nomination was made unanimous.

Cobb Selected Chief Clerk
Representative Grier, of Iredell, nominated T. G. Cobb, of Burke, for principal clerk, the nomination being seconded by Mr. Mintz, of Wayne. Mr. Cobb was named by a unanimous vote.

For reading clerk the name of D. P. Dellinger, of Gaston, was presented by Representative Bowie, of Ashe, and that of John D. Berry, of Wake, by Representative Page, of Moore. Mr. George W. Huntley of Wadesboro, for the position of Sergeant at Arms, Senator McNider nominated Benjamin F. Perry, Perquimans county. Senator McNeely, of Union nominated Mr. John R. Simpson, of Union. A second to the nomination of Mr. Perry was made by Senator Cochran, of Lenoir. Senators McCracken and MacJette spoke very favorably of Mr. Perry and a ballot being taken declared Mr. Perry the choice of a majority of the Senators.

Nominations were then in order for president pro tem and Senator Johnson of Duplin, nominated Senator O. Max Gardner, of Cleveland county. Senator Hobgood, of Guilford, Mr. Gardner's opponent, heartily seconded the motion to elect Senator Gardner by acclamation which was done by a rising vote.

The next in order was the election of a clerk and Senator Hobgood made a motion for the re-election of Mr. R. O. Self, of Jackson, to this office by acclamation, which was done.

Mr. J. H. Burnett was nominated for reelection to office of reading clerk and his election was made unanimous.

For enrolling clerk Prof. Chas. W. Davis, of Carteret county, and Mr. W. G. Aycock, of Wayne, were nominated for this office. After several speeches were made in favor of both, a ballot was taken and Mr. Aycock received 18 votes and Mr. Aycock 22. Neither man being elected a second ballot was ordered after which Mr. Aycock was elected, receiving 24 votes.

The next and most spirited contest was the election of a sergeant at arms. Five aspirants were out for this office. Messrs. James J. Lewis, Henry B. Hunter, W. D. Gaster, J. H. Kerr and R. E. Russell were candidates for this position, two ballots being taken to determine the successful candidate. Senator Snow, of Wake, nominated Mr. Lewis, whom he said was one of the two only surviving members of the army corps of the Confederate army in North Carolina. Senator Polk of Warren, nominated Mr. Henry B. Hunter, another Confederate soldier. Senator Johnson, of Hoke, nominated Mr. W. D. Gaster, who is also a Confederate veteran. Senator Upchurch, of Caswell, nominated Mr. J. H. Kerr, of Durham county (who has once served as Representative and once as Senator from his district. Senators McNease, McNider, Speight, and Stone in some very fitting remarks seconded the motion in favor of their respective friends for this position. A ballot was taken and Mr. Lewis received 18 votes, Mr. Lewis 9, Mr. Kerr 7, Mr. Hunter 2 votes, and Mr. Russell received 1 vote. On this ballot a sergeant at arms not being elected a second ballot was taken, when Mr. Gaster received the majority of votes.

STOLEN COPPER FROM CHURCH TO MAKE STILL

Some time last year when there was a new church built at Aberdeen it appeared that some copper which was being used for the roof was disappearing. Not much was thought about the matter at the time. One day last week a neat little home-made copper still was found in the sandhills to the west of Aberdeen, and it was found that the still was made from the copper purchased from the building of the church. The owner of the still has not been found.

BELEAGUERED BELGIAN RELIEF FUND

FUND IS GROWING RAPIDLY—SUPPORTERS ARE NOT BEING FEARED AS REPORTED—SUFFERING IS INCREASING

Following contributions have been received by Asheville County Committee:
Previously reported \$28.00
Mrs. N. R. Thornburg \$1.00
Hills Store \$1.00
Mr. Kemp Alexander \$5.00
Total \$34.00

County Committee
Asheboro, Messrs. W. R. Julian, W. J. Armfield, J. S. Lewis, C. C. Cranford, D. M. Sharp, Rev. C. L. Whitaker, Rev. J. E. Thompson, Mesdames E. L. Moffitt, John Penn, Wm. Underwood, Miss Julia Thorns, chairman, Franklinville, Mr. Hugh Parks, Caraway, Mrs. Emma Kearns, Mr. John F. Jarrell, Kemp's Mill, Mr. Anderson Barker, Providence, Mr. S. E. Coble, Science Hill, Mrs. C. C. Hubbard, Farmers, Mrs. G. T. Macon, Trinity, Mrs. W. F. Ellis, Seagrave, Mrs. D. A. Cornelison, Spero, Mr. W. J. Gregson, Back Creek, Miss Dora Redding, Randleman, No. 1, Miss Lizze Phillips, Hills Store, Mrs. N. R. Thornburg, Mechanic, Mrs. Mollie F. Sheen.

Correction: In listing subscriptions last week The Courier mentioned one received from Mrs. Nellie F. Sheen, which should have been, Mrs. Mollie F. Sheen, Mechanic, \$2.50.

There is some erroneous idea abroad that there is any supplies which we may contribute might in some way be diverted to feeding soldiers. As far as the soldiers of the Allies are concerned, no such interference with any nation's military plan of campaign would be tolerated; and as for Germany, the lines and points of distribution in Belgium are safe-guarded to the utmost by the direct representatives of America and Belgium.

Randolph county has promised to cooperate with Dr. Westray Battle State representative and President of the COMMITTEE OF MERCY whose sole purpose is to alleviate the terrible suffering of the WOMEN AND CHILDREN MADE DESTITUTE BY THE GREAT WAR.

Notice!
Dr. S. Westray Battle not yet having notified the County Committee of the closing date for receiving contributions for the Belgian Relief Fund the time will be extended until a date is announced in a later issue.

A special appeal for contributions for the Belgian Relief Fund was made in the different churches in town last Sabbath and it is earnestly hoped that each resident in Asheboro will gladly and voluntarily deposit some contribution in either one of the blanks.

SUPPLIES TO BELGIUM WISELY DISTRIBUTED

Report of Consul General Watts at Brussels After Investigation
London, Dec. 29.—The American Consul General at Brussels, Ethelbert Watts who has arrived here on his way to the United States said that a personal investigation had satisfied him that Belgian supplies were being wisely distributed and were reaching the right people. The American Commission got to work only just in time.

Lindon W. Bates, vice-chairman of the Commission received word from Ambassador Gerard that the German Foreign Office in Berlin would arrange for passes for Americans with automobiles engaged in distributing food in Belgium.

Numbers of competent engineers of international reputation whose business is at a standstill on account of war conditions, have consented to work with the Commission for Relief in Belgium in distributing supplies.

Walks Eight Miles for Food

Special Cable dispatch to the Sun. A letter from Maastricht to the American Consul General at Rotterdam tells of distress in the Campine district not far from the Dutch border. The people are walking eight miles to Maastricht every day to get two loaves of bread. The Consul General asks that help be sent to this moribund district.

What can I do to help the Belgians?
Many who are able have given a thousand dollars and asked that their names be mentioned. The Women's Club of Homestead, Fla., sent a car load of grapefruit to New York to be sold at auction for the benefit of the Belgians. In another statement the committee shows fifty cents sent by an ex-convict for the purchase of condensed milk for Belgium babies. A little child in another state gives eleven cents the contents of her bank.

There are few of the people in Asheboro who are not as glad as much as that ex-convict to feed those suffering and dying babies. Will we do it?
The great need is for food, clothes and blankets are also acceptable.

America Alone Can Save

Sir Gilbert Parker reports to America, at the request of the American Committee for the Relief of Belgium upon the conditions he observed as

THE EUROPEAN WAR

ALLIES, FOR THE MOMENT, ARE TAKING THE OFFENSIVE, BUT GERMANS HOLDING THEIR OWN—NO IMPORTANT PROGRESS

The new year opened with renewed fighting, in both the western and eastern "arenas." For the moment the Germans seemed to be on the offensive, with the Allies making the attacks. As usual both sides claim success, but it is plain that neither has won success in any large measure.

In former wars great battles would result in the unquestioned defeat of one side or the other, and the defeated side would run. Nothing of the sort has been seen in this war, which seems to be more bravely fought, on both sides, than any other war in history. Every inch of ground is stubbornly contested. At the end of a battle the opposing armies are facing each other, their position altered but little from what they were when the fighting began.

The Russians are reported to be taking the offensive along their entire front, in Russian Poland, in Galacia and eastern Prussia. Some of the passes of the Carpathian Mountains have been forced; and again, for a third time since this war began, Russian troops are on the plains of Hungary.

In France and Belgium there is no important change.

LABEL CASE TO SUPERIOR COURT

J. E. Mendenhall and C. H. Ellison Hound Over From Magistrate's Court

J. E. Mendenhall, editor of The Bulletin, and Clyde H. Ellison, of Franklinville, were tried before Magistrate W. D. Spoon and J. S. Ridge in the courthouse Monday for criminal libel against J. T. Wood, the defendants introduced no evidence, but made a motion to dismiss the action which was denied. Bond of \$250 each was fixed for their appearance at the next term of Randolph Superior court.

The case grew out of an article written by C. H. Ellison and published in The Bulletin.

Since all hands are denying responsibility for this war must be a self-starter.—Washington Herald.

near the frontier as a British subject was allowed to approach. He says the horror of what he saw almost paralyzed expression.

"In a freight boat on the River Maas at Rotterdam, without windows, without doors, with only an open hatchway from which a ladder extended, several hundred fugitives spend their nights and the best parts of their days in the iron hold, forever covered with moisture, leaky when rain comes, with the floor never dry and pervasive with a perpetual smell of a cave which never gets the light of day. Children are born in the huger-mugger of such conditions.

"In Bergen-op-Zoom where I write these words, there have come since the fall of Antwerp 100,000 hungry marchers with no resources except what they carry with them. This little town of 15,000 people did its best to meet the terrible pressure, and its citizens went without bread themselves to feed the refugees. How can a small municipality suddenly deal with so vast a catastrophe?

"In Belgium itself the misery of the populace is greater than the misery of the Belgian refugees in other countries. It is a democracy of famine.

"Of all the democratic nations of the world the United States is the only one that can save Belgium from starvation, if she will. She is the only nation that Germany would allow a foothold for humanity's and Christ's sake in Belgium. Such an opportunity, such responsibility no nation ever had before in the history of the world. Spain and Italy join with her, but the initiative and resources and organization are hers.

"Will the American nation rise to the chance given to it to prove that its civilization is a real thing and that its acts measure up with its inherent and professed Christianity?

"In the circumstances the Belgian people are special wards of the one great country that is secure in its peace."—Literary Digest, Dec. 19, '14.

The Kansas City Star believes, "that one who refuses to contribute to Belgian relief on the ground that charity should begin and end at home is less likely to give for home consumption than one who helps the Belgians."

The Outlook wonders at the question, "Has Christianity failed? We do not recall in the world's history a more splendid exhibition of a Christian spirit than that manifested by heroic little Belgium. She had pledged to Europe her neutrality. That pledge was the protection of Germany from invasion by France, and the protection of France from invasion by Germany. The proffered bribe to disregard her pledge she rejected with undisguised scorn. She had nothing to gain and everything to lose by resistance. And she heroically laid down her life rather than sacrifice her word. If she should never recover from the wounds inflicted upon her, history should reverently inscribe upon her tomb the apothegm, "She laid down her life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."—The Outlook, Dec. 23, 1914.

AT THE COURT HOUSE

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, BOARD OF HEALTH AND COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION WERE ALL IN SESSION MONDAY—SOME IMPORTANT BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

Commissioners' Meeting.

The county commissioners met in regular session Monday morning with all members of the board present. The business was such that it was impossible to get through in one day. They met again Tuesday morning and adjourned about 3:30.

Besides the regular routine of business, a number of important items were disposed of. The matter of electing a farm demonstrator was brought up and it was decided to call for applicants for the position. The names to be sent to Mr. W. J. Scarborough, chairman of the board, by January 15. The man employed must devote his entire time to the work, have an office in the court house and be in the office on public days and must live in Asheboro. The commissioners will continue the appropriation of \$45 per month which will be supplemented by \$55 per month from the State Department of Agriculture. The man for the position will be selected from the applicants by District Agent T. D. A. Clean and State Agent C. R. Hudson.

Messrs. Ferd Ingold and W. J. Scarborough were appointed a committee to settle for the commissioners with its county treasurer, Messrs. H. M. Robinson and H. M. Worth were appointed a committee to check up the Clerk's report.

The Board of Education

The county board of education met Monday with two members of the board, Dr. C. H. Phillips and J. Wood, present, Mr. T. W. Ingraham was absent on account of sickness.

The regular routine of business was gone through with and some important matters taken up. A resolution was passed prohibiting any high school subjects from being taught in the one teacher schools. The County Superintendent was authorized to move his office to the northeast corner room on the first floor. This change will make it more convenient and give more light.

The appropriations for teachers salary was made and will be published in The Courier next week.

The Board of Health

The County Board of Health composed of Supt. T. F. Bulla, Mayor C. Cranford and Commissioner W. Scarborough, met Monday morning at 9:30 and elected Drs. W. J. Moore and F. E. Asbury as additional members of the board. The board composed of the above named parties will meet Monday, the 11th, at 1:30 in the courthouse for the purpose of electing a County Superintendent of Health.

BRITISH CAPTURE GERMAN ISLANDS

A British warship has taken possession of the German islands in the Solomon group, and hoisted the British flag over the largest of them, Dougallville.

The islands belonging to Germany have an area of 22,000 square miles more than equal to New Hampshire and Vermont combined. By an agreement made in 1885 the group was divided between Great Britain and Germany.

The Solomon group is situated in the Pacific Ocean, about 500 miles east of New Guinea and the same distance south of the equator. The islands are volcanic; hot springs abound, and earthquakes are common. There are 409,000 natives, of the Papuan race.

Most of the German islands in the Pacific have now been captured, either by the English or Japanese.

FARMERS' MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE MEETING

Dear Sir: Editor: Please allow me space to report the work done in the meeting of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association, Randolph Branch.

The annual meeting of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association met in the Court House in Asheboro, at 12 o'clock today and elected officers for the year 1915.

President—S. S. Cox, Brown, N. C.; Vice-President—N. C. English, Trinity; Sec. and Treas.—W. R. Julian, Climax No. 1, or Asheboro.

Directors—A. C. Cox, Ralph; L. T. Branson, Seagrave 2; W. A. Williams, Randleman 2; A. B. Coltrane, Glenola.

Appraisers of claims for various townships—N. C. English, Trinity; J. W. Brown, Grant; J. M. Allen, Asheboro; Willard Brown, Coleridge; J. Harris Kearns, Concord; J. T. Thornburg, New Hope; R. O. Parks, Union; L. T. Branson, Cedar Grove; J. Troy Redding, Back Creek; A. B. Coltrane, New Market; W. M. Julian, Providence; W. C. Hinchshaw, Randleman; C. M. Free, Franklinville; J. A. Patterson, Columbia; J. M. Williams, Liberty; John A. Ward, Pleasant Grove; C. M. Taylor, Brower; Marcus Wood, Cabernacle; J. A. Auman, Richland; Kelly G. Coltrane, Level Cross.

Yours respectfully,
W. R. JULIAN, Sec.

FROM WITHIN THE STATE

ITEMS OF LIVE NEWS GATHERED FROM EXCHANGES AND CONDENSED IN BRIEF FORM FOR BUSY READERS—A COLUMN IN ONE PARAGRAPH.

Pitt county is to have a whole-time health officer. This decision was reached by the county commissioners on January 4.

Mr. J. T. Matthews, formerly of the Yarrowborough hotel, Raleigh, has been named manager of the Stonehill hotel in Charlotte.

Frank A. Linney, of Boone, says there is no truth in the statement that he is to resign as State Chairman of the Republican party.

Zeith Gore, of Rowden, who was shot by a jealous rival in a love affair last week died in a hospital at Warsaw Tuesday.

Theo. F. Klutz, formerly of the Charlotte Observer, has been appointed editor in the library of Congress at Washington.

Mr. W. C. Newland of Lenoir has been appointed a member of the board of directors of the school for the Feeble-Minded at Kinston, succeeding Dr. A. A. Kent.

Fire in the boiler room of the Kress building at Salisbury Wednesday last week threatened to destroy the building. It was extinguished before much damage was done.

Mr. B. E. Washburn, who has been health officer of Nash county since last May, left last week to accept a position with the International Health Commission. He is succeeded by Dr. W. H. Kibler, formerly from Burke county.

One day last week Charles Sheek, white, aged 35 years was killed in an accident which occurred at Hall's Ferry at the steel bridge which is being constructed across the Yadkin River, while another workman, a man named Knight of St. Louis was seriously injured.

Mr. William Madison Barker, Salisbury's oldest citizen and perhaps the oldest man in Rowan county, died last Friday night at 9 o'clock at the home of his son Col. Cisero B. Barker. Mr. Barker was born in Rockingham county on November 30, 1823 and was 91 years old last November.

Fire broke out Wednesday of last week in the three story building of the Lexington Hardware Company and almost completely destroyed it. The loss will exceed \$22,000. Insurance will fall short of covering the loss by about \$10,000. It is rumored that the body of a man is underneath the wreckage, but it is hoped that the report is a mistake.

SHOWS APPRECIATION OF THE COURIER

Mr. B. L. Spencer, son of the late Esau L. Spencer, who resides in Taft, Texas, writes on December 28:

"When I took from my P. O. box last evening a paper with the headline 'The Courier' I threw down all local business and carefully scanned both local and patent medicine ads. I saw familiar names and places that put me to thinking of old North Carolina."

This, after an absence of 20 years from North Carolina and a complete silence of over four years to any of his people goes to prove how beneficial a sample copy of The Courier would be to a western relative or friend. Suffice to say that his name is now on our mailing list.

PANAMA-CALIFORNIA EXPOSITION OPENS

On January 1 President Woodrow Wilson arose at three o'clock in the morning and pressed a button which opened to the world at midnight in San Diego, Cal., the Panama-Pacific Exposition, which will remain open until Jan. 1, 1916. Despite the war in Europe many foreign countries were represented at the opening exercises. W. G. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury, represented President Wilson and delivered an address at the opening.

IN MEMORY OF H. H. NANCE

My fathers Bible is all that's left me now. Tears will unbidden start with faltering lip and throbbing brow I press it to my heart. And speak of what these pages said in tones my heart would thrill. Though they are with silent dead here are the living still. While father and mother are with you you know that you have a friend more supreme, of course that parting hour has come with father and mother on earth as I have met them at the portals of heaven in the morning of the resurrection.

O. L. NANCE.

MUCH BUSINESS FOR PARCEL POST

The Postoffice Department estimates that 100,000,000 Christmas packages were sent by parcel post, and that the number of packages mailed in the whole year 1914 was about one billion. If they average ten cents each for postage, that would yield a hundred million dollars.

STATE AND GENERAL NEWS

HAPPENINGS OF INTEREST TAKING PLACE THROUGHOUT THE DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF THE COUNTRY—POLITICAL AND OTHERWISE.

There were 600,000 fewer immigrants arriving at New York in 1914 than in 1913.

It is officially announced that the London stock exchange, which has been closed since the beginning of the war, will reopen for business Jan. 4.

Dr. Newton, president of the State Board of Health of New Jersey, is convinced that the chief cause of appendicitis is eating too much meat.

The recent fire in the Edison works at West Orange, N. J., again proved the superiority of concrete as a fire resister, all the brick and frame buildings were destroyed. Eight concrete buildings are but little hurt.

Col. Henry Watterson, the veteran political observer, will nominate associate Justice Charles E. Hughes as its candidate for President in 1916, and that he will be defeated by Woodrow Wilson.

A meteor is reported to have fallen near Delmont, Pa., Dec. 23. It exploded with a report that was heard for miles.

Mrs. Hanna Koskoff died in New York last week. She was believed to have been the oldest woman in the United States. Records show that she was born in Russia 117 years ago.

The French Parliament, without one dissenting voice, voted a new "credit" of 5,500,000,000 francs (\$1,100,000,000) to pay war expenses.

The Senate confirmed President Wilson's nomination of Brigadier General Fred Funston, late commander of our troops at Vera Cruz, to be a Major General.

The recent naval battle near the Falkland Islands has drawn the world's attention to the solitary group in the South Atlantic. Argentina, too has just made its yearly protest against British ownership. Since 1833 the geographers have called the islands a British possession, but the Argentina Republic has claimed them.

Secretary of State W. J. Bryan and Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels will speak at the North Carolina Social Service conference which meets in Raleigh January 28-30.

At a recent meeting of the Rowan county Farmers Union, the following officers were elected: President, O. S. Phillips; Vice-president, Ollin Crouse; Secretary and Treasurer, A. L. Klutz.

Monroe Bolick of South Lenoir, was fatally shot last Thursday while rabbit hunting, by the accidental discharge of a shot gun in the hands of his brother-in-law, Vadrig Hoke. He died that night.

Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan spent last Friday and Saturday at the Grove Inn, Asheboro. He was accompanied by his small grandson, his wife being on a visit to their son in Tucson, Arizona.

The night watchman at the plant of the Interstate Chemical Corporation, Raleigh, came unexpectedly upon a negro stealing coal one night last week and shot at him as he ran. The bullet took effect in the negro's side and brought him to earth at once.

E. R. Preston and T. A. Adams, two well-known members of the Charlotte bar, participated in a lively fist fight in "Square F. B. Alexander's" court one day last week, and disturbed the court so that the case on trial was postponed. Each was fined \$5.

Rev. John M. Cole, aged 66, for a number of years superintendent of the Methodist Orphanage at Raleigh and one of the best known Methodist preachers of the State, died last Friday as a result of a stroke of paralysis. He was the father of Mrs. Philo Durban, of Charlotte.

Owing to the scarcity of neutral ships and the risks connected with transportation, trans-Atlantic freight rates on cotton have reached very high figures. The average price of cotton at Savannah, is \$35 a bale, and the freight rate to Bremen is about half of that. This enormous freight rate is largely responsible for the low price of cotton.

The Republic of Chile formally protests to Germany and Great Britain against violations of her neutrality. Germany is charged with taking temporary possession of Chilean islands, and Great Britain with taking on mails from Chilean waters.

Germany is exporting prisoners of war from the east. It is said to be very much like beef or venison.

An American who has lately been at the Hague describes Andrew Carnegie's \$3,000,000 Palace of Peace as the most forlorn of buildings. It is closed, and only a single janitor is on the premises.

Turkey gives consent for American Hebrew societies to send supplies of food to the people of Jerusalem. It is reported that 100,000 Jews there are in dire want.