

Ernest Watkins, One Of Randolph's Foremost Citizens, Dies At Ramseur

Death Came Monday Afternoon At Country Home Near Ramseur After Long Illness.

Was Long A Leading Citizen Of Randolph

Was Actively Identified With Politics, Social, Civic And Business Interests.

Ernest Calpepper Watkins, one of the county's foremost and most highly esteemed business men, died at his country home near Ramseur, Monday afternoon, following several months illness, from an incurable malady. His illness, in the beginning was thought minor, but a sudden development necessitated a thorough diagnosis which has been treated in various hospitals, the result of which has been extending his useful life. During these months, facing an ultimate end, Ernest Watkins' optimism, loyalty to friends, interest in business church and civic affairs never waned. His fifty-two years had truly been spent in service and encouragement to his family and to his large circle of friends who were numbered by his acquaintances.

He was the son of the late Sheriff W. H. Watkins and Mrs. Lou Smitherman Watkins. Before the death of his father several years ago, Mr. Watkins was associated with him in the cotton mill and furniture and wide farming interests of eastern Randolph.

Following the footsteps of his noble father, he became a leader in educational, political, manufacturing and other forward movements of this section of the state. At the time of his death he was secretary and treasurer of the Ramseur Furniture company, associate owner of the Watkins Leonard Hardware company, president of the Columbia Manufacturing company, president of the Carter Mercantile company, and a number of smaller business interests, in addition to his farm, which is one of the finest in the Piedmont section of North Carolina. He was also a stockholder of the Hunter Commission and Export company, a member of the Randolph County Hospital board, former director of the Bank of Ramseur and former chairman of the Randolph county board of commissioners.

Outstanding in service in Randolph county during his administration as chairman of the board of county commissioners was his contribution to the erection within the county of the home office of the largest capitalized business now located in the county. As a result of this successful effort every tax payer in the county has become and continues beneficiaries of his foresight and accomplishment.

Not only was Mr. Watkins one of the leaders in business, but he was a leader in all charitable movements although his name did not always appear with his works. He was known as a friend to the plain people as well as popular in social circles.

He is survived by his wife, who was Miss Lena Smith, of Ramseur; four children, Ashley, Billy, E. C. Jr., and Miss Pattie Watkins; and one sister, Mrs. I. F. Craven, all of Ramseur.

So far 27,510,876 pounds of tobacco have been sold on the Greenville market in the North Carolina bright belt, the average price having been \$9.15 per 100 pounds. Some grades have averaged as high as \$42 per hundred. Sales at Wilson have been about the same as at Greenville with an average of \$9.19.

Miss Rosalini Smitherman, daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Tomlinson Smitherman, of Troy, was married Saturday evening, October 17, to Charles Hamner Manning, also of Troy.

E. G. Sherrill, clerk and treasurer of Greensboro since 1924, has resigned his position.

After meeting the train daily for 30 years at Ufco, Mo., with his master, "Old Joe," a 25-year-old horse, has been retired.

Depositors in the old bank at Candor, which failed several months ago, have been paid 30 per cent of their deposits, the last ten per cent having been paid Monday, October 19.

An old time fiddlers convention will be held in the school auditorium in Star on Saturday night, October 24, beginning at 7:30 o'clock. The convention will be under auspices of the parent-teachers association of the Star school.

R. L. Macon spent the week end at home. He has a position in High Point.

Rally Day was observed at the local church Sunday night. The children carried out the program well. Misses Lois Gilliland and Della Mae Graves had charge of the exercises.

The October meeting of the Why Not Ladies Aid was held at the home of E. W. Auman, in Asheboro, with Mrs. Auman and Miss Rona Boone as hostesses. Officers for next year were elected at the close of the program. A humorous reading was given by Mr. E. W. Auman, dressed as a spook. Halloween symbols were used in decoration. The hostess assisted by Miss Virginia Whitehurst served pumpkin pie, sandwiches and hot chocolate. 26 members were present and 3 visitors.

The fourth quarterly meeting of Why Not circuit will be held at the church here Saturday afternoon at 1 p. m.

The Why Not ladies aid will have a thank offering program at the church on the first Sunday night in November.

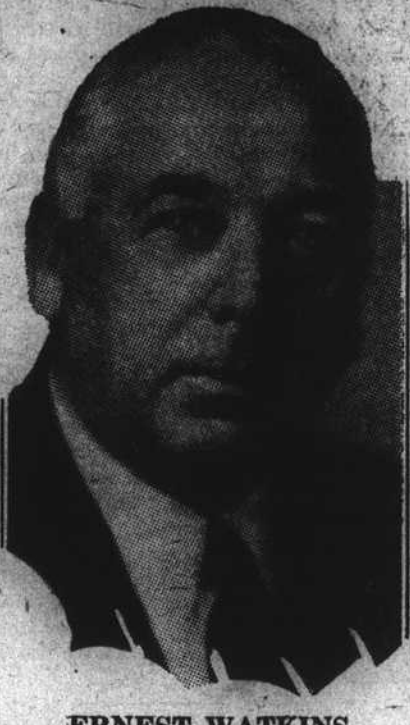
Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Stuart and daughter, Miss Emma, were visitors at the home of C. B. Stuart and C. C. Russell Sunday.

V. E. Stuart had the misfortune to burn his hand and arm very badly with a stove last week.

Preparing For Wheat

Catawba County cotton growers about here their crop from the fields and many are plowing the cotton land for wheat.

Called By Death



ERNEST WATKINS

News In Brief

Short Items Of Important Happenings Of Week.

North Carolina's share of the 125 million dollar road aid fund, just distributed by the national government, is \$2,550,007.

Emery E. Raper, 70, for 40 years a member of the Lexington bar, dropped dead in the Davidson county court room Friday during the progress of a trial. Death resulted from a heart attack.

John J. Rasbok, chairman of the Democratic national committee, has started a drive for a \$1,500,000 campaign fund for the party with a donation of \$100,000.

Bill Hundley, of Aberdeen, was held up and robbed by an unidentified negro between Southern Pines and Monticello one night last week.

Otto Andrews, 57, of Monticello, died of a five cent box of sandwiches from a grocery store. "I was just too hungry to go longer without food," was his explanation, stating that he had averaged only one meal a day for three weeks.

Valma Catherine, five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Floyd, of Winston-Salem, was fatally burned Saturday while playing with matches.

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Cranford Suggests Road Commission Use Local Labor

Writes Chairman Jeffress That Stone Could Be Bought From Randolph Farmers.

Employ Home Folks

In Hauling Stone And Also In Crushing It For Use On Improving Highway 62.

C. C. Cranford, chairman of the local committee on unemployment understanding additional road work is contemplated in Randolph, has made the following timely suggestion to the State Highway Commission as to how the work may be done to best advantage of all concerned, especially to farmers of the county and the unemployed, and at no additional expense to the state:

Mr. E. B. Jeffress, Chairman, State Highway Commission, Raleigh, N. C.

Dear Mr. Jeffress: I understand that the money for treating road No. 62 from Asheboro west has been appropriated or set aside, and that the only question in the way is who shall furnish the stone.

Please allow me to suggest that you move one or two of your small crushers on this road, buy the rock from the farmers—which they will gladly haul in at a very low cost, thereby giving employment to a great number of our people in the county who need the work.

I, being chairman of the unemployment committee, offer this as one way to help the unemployed, and at the same time we will have both the road and the money in our county.

Your prompt action will give us this road before the bad weather sets in.

—Very truly yours,
C. C. CRANFORD.

Little Twin Child Mr. and Mrs. Green Died Last Thursday

Mary Alston, One Of Green Twins, Dies In Hospital After 6 Weeks' Illness.

Seagrave, Oct. 20.—Mary Alston Green, eighteen-month-old twin daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James M. Green, died Thursday morning at Duke hospital, Durham, after an illness of six weeks. She had been in the hospital two days. Funeral services were held Friday afternoon at the home here at 2 o'clock, with Rev. F. M. Shambarger, of Mt. Gilead, officiating, assisted by Revs. C. W. Bates, of Greensboro, and W. H. Neese, of this place. Interment followed in Parks Cross Roads cemetery, four miles south of Ramseur. The pallbearers were Wade Harris, James King, Dal Hogan and Cecil Leach. The flower girls were small girls from Mount Gilead and the community.

The town and community was also saddened last week over the passing of Mrs. W. D. Lemons. We realize that we have lost one of our best citizens.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Farlow, of High Point, visited at Mr. O. D. Lawrence's Sunday.

Miss Eugenia Green, of Ramseur, is visiting her brother, J. M. Green.

Garson Leach, of Lynchburg, Va., visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Leach, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Taft Henderson, of High Point, and Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Williams, of Hemp, visited at Mr. J. W. Keller's Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Thomas spent the week end with Mr. Thomas' parents in High Point.

Dave Kendall, 70, Former Randolphian Dies In Rock Hill

Was Stricken Ill While On Visit To Relatives In Randolph County Recently.

Dave Kendall, 70, who was stricken with illness while on a visit to his sister-in-law, Mrs. Fannie McDaniel, on Asheville, route 3, early in October, died at his home in Rock Hill, S. C., Friday, October 16. He was accompanied to the county by his wife and son, Everett Kendall, and wife, of Santiago, Cuba. The second day after arriving at Mrs. McDaniel's, Mr. Kendall was stricken with a complication of ailments, the result of an indefinite period of ill health.

After a week's illness he recovered sufficiently to be moved to his home in Rock Hill. After a week, he suddenly grew worse, and died Monday Friday. Mr. and Mrs. Kendall formerly resided in Asheboro. He is survived by his wife and two sons, Earl, of Rock Hill, S. C., and Everette, of Santiago, Cuba.

Mrs. Fannie McDaniel and son, Richard, of Asheboro, route 3, attended the funeral in Rock Hill Saturday.

TO BEGIN RED CROSS DRIVE IN NOVEMBER

Mrs. Mary Camp Sprinkle, field representative for Red Cross, was in Asheboro yesterday assisting Mrs. Russell Parks, county chairman, in making plans for roll call which will be held between November 11 and 26. The chapter is hoping to co-operate with other agencies in the county in relief work.

Compressed Air Runs An Automobile



Compressed air as motive power for the automobile is harnessed. In an amazing demonstration conducted at Los Angeles, a standard automobile chassis, powered with a newly developed compressed air motor, whizzed around the city streets at not a cent cost to the driver for fuel. The engine is the result of years of research and work by Roy J. Meyers, who states one filling of the tank will run the car for 600 miles. Resembling in general appearance a radial airplane motor, the engine is mounted in an upright position in the same manner as a gasoline engine in standard motor cars. It requires no cooling system, no ignition system, no carburetor or the hundreds of moving parts included in a gasoline motor. The driver operates but one lever, that is the air throttle. Filled to 500 pounds air pressure, the engine throttle is opened and the car picks up speed quickly and smoothly, the only sound emitted being a slight hiss of the air from the exhaust valves. As the air goes through the engine, forcing pistons up and down, on the same principle as that employed by gasoline explosions, most of it is recaptured and recompressed by a compressor built as a part of the engine.

2 Ramseur Men Are Slightly Injured In Automobile Accident

W. C. Trogdon and Arnold McMath Hurt When Car Collides With Another Machine

Ramseur, Oct. 20.—Mr. J. W. West and Mr. J. H. Allred are spending some time here with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. West.

Mr. and Mrs. Y. L. Busbee and little Jean, of Richmond, Va., spent Sunday here with Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Steed.

Miss Poe, of Fayetteville, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Craven this week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Allred visited near Seagrave Sunday.

Mr. J. S. Wylie and daughter, Miss Lucy, spent last Saturday night and Sunday at Davenport college with Miss Nellie Wylie. Miss Lucy returned with Mr. Wylie here, and spent Sunday night before going back to Greensboro College, Monday.

Dr. C. S. Tate and others attended the state fair at Raleigh last week.

W. C. Trogdon and Arnold McMath had a bad automobile wreck Saturday night near Ramseur's Mill when the Trogdon car and a car from Georgia crashed, turning Mr. Trogdon's car over and making a total wreck of it and bruising and cutting both occupants of his car. They are recovering at home after being attended by Dr. J. R. Johnson. The cause of the crash was attributed to blinding lights.

On October 14, the home economics club met in the laboratory for the purpose of reorganizing and to elect officers after the summer vacation. The meeting was called to order by the teacher, Miss Zelma Farlow. The officers are as follows: President, Edna Highfill; vice president, Ruth Kimery; secretary and treasurer, Bessie Johnson; marshal, Faye Brown; reporter, Cleodell Burgess; and cheer leader, Arta York. The class decided to join the national association. Elizabeth Stroup was elected delegate to the state meeting, which will be at Winston-Salem. After all the business was attended to, the meeting adjourned.

3 Divorces Granted During Special Term Of Randolph Court

Three divorces have been granted during the special term of Randolph superior court for trial of cases on the civil docket, in progress this week with Judge N. A. Sinclair presiding. These were: Cleo Pike from Willie Pike; Myrtle Hicks Anderson from John Anderson; and N. B. Brown from Marshall Brown.

In the action, William Branson vs. D. H. Frasier, admr. Madison Love, the plaintiff was allowed \$150 for services rendered Love before his death.

Court will last only during the week. Session for Wednesday afternoon was adjourned out of respect to Ernest Watkins, former chairman of the board of county commissioners, whose funeral was held at 2:30 from the Ramseur M. E. church.

Chicken Thieves Active

Chicken thieves have stolen recently a large number of fowls from A. T. Parks and Alpheus Auman, in Union township, and also a number of turkeys from S. A. Cox. No clues have been obtained as to the identity of the thieves.

Because he called his father a "fool," John Marran of Shirley, Eng., lost a heritage of \$40,000 when his father died.

Large Number Local School Pupils Are Badly Under Weight

506 Out Of 805 Weighed Are Underweight—This Applies To Grammar Grades.

The following report was requested for publication in this paper and was furnished from the records of the Asheboro school at the close of the first month of school. The situation concerning the alarming number of children underweight in the elementary grades is so alarming that it should be made public through the press in order to remedy the condition, if possible.

Weight Report For Elementary Grades October 14, 1931.

Report reads as follows: Teacher and grade, 1st column; number weighed, 2nd column; number overweight, 3rd column; number overweight, 4th column; number 10 lbs. underweight, 5th column; number 15 lbs. overweight 6th column.

Miss Moffitt, 1st 36 27 2 2 0

Miss Cockrell, 1st 31 23 5 1 1

Miss Lovett, 1st 30 29 1 5 0

Miss Osborne, 2nd 43 26 8 2 1

Miss Cagle, 2nd 39 18 1 2 1

Miss E. Presnell 2nd 44 9 3 7 1

Miss Howard, 3rd 45 38 7 7 1

Mrs. Rice, 3rd 45 34 10 5 1

Miss Rankin, 3rd 41 33 8 5 1

Miss Loflin, 4th 44 40 0 11 0

Miss Hayes, 4th 41 31 7 4 0

Miss Hunt, 4th 38 19 0 8 0

Mrs. Moffitt, 5th 44 19 5 8 2

Miss B. Presnell, 5th 38 31 0 10 0

Miss Armstrong, 5th 43 27 4 11 0

Miss Hamilton, 6th 42 19 4 17 4

Miss Vuncannon, 6th 36 17 5 11 2

Miss Wood, 6th 29 18 4 6 2

Miss Thomas, 7th 50 14 8 6 3

Miss Warren, 7th 46 34 11 13 2

Totals: Number weighed, 805; number underweight, 506; number overweight, 93; number 10 lbs. underweight, 139; or 17.3 per cent; number overweight, 22, or 2.7 per cent.

Complete Formation Of School Band Here With 20 Members

Miss Edith Meigs, the music director of the city schools, has completed the organization of the school band, with about twenty members. The three latest members of the band are John Alexander, who will play the trombone; James Hendrix, the cornet; and Mary Harrison Redding, the clarinet.

A girls' glee club, with about fifty members, is also being organized. The officers are as follows: president, Catherine Presnell; vice president, Virginia Hanner; secretary, Julia Rice; treasurer, Evelyn Harrelson; and press reporter, Roberta Saunders. The girls practice once a week in preparation for singing in public later.

A boys' glee club will be organized in the near future.

The children of the elementary grades are being taught rote songs, and are showing much interest in singing.

An apple tree planted 65 years ago by the late Dr. W. E. Dawson of El Dorado Springs, Mo., is still bearing fruit.

Because he called his father a "fool," John Marran of Shirley, Eng., lost a heritage of \$40,000 when his father died.

JOIN THE RED CROSS.

Hopkins Kin Establish Legal Heirship In Action In Randolph Superior Court

Parent-Teachers Regular Meeting At Franklinville

Large Number Teachers And Patrons Enjoy The Program—Prizes Are Awarded.

Mrs. Mary York Dead

Passed Away Saturday Afternoon At Her Home In Franklinville At Age Of 70.

Franklinville, Oct. 19.—The P.-T. A. held their regular meeting at school auditorium Tuesday evening, with Mrs. C. C. Brady, president, presiding. A large number of parents were present to enjoy the splendid program. After singing "Carolina," prayer was led by W. P. Rodgers, followed by an interesting talk by Rev. A. C. Tippet, using for his subject, "Youth—Its Value To The Community." Prof. J. Harvey Mitchell urged all parents of the district to cooperate in making a better school, giving its best to the boys and girls of the community. The prizes offered for grades having largest number of parents and patrons present at meeting went to 7th and 11th. A prize of \$2.50 in gold was offered for the pupil-getting the largest number of paid members by next meeting.

S. C. Trogdon and Herbert Martin made a trip to Greensboro Tuesday evening.

(Please turn to page 8)

Deaths

Edward Prevost

The death angel visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Prevost, on Trinity route 1, last Thursday afternoon, October 15th, at 8 o'clock, and took their precious little infant, Edward Prevost, 6 months of age. Little Edward is survived by his parents and one little brother, R. A. Prevost. The funeral service was held at Mt. Gilead church Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock conducted by Rev. A. O. Peeler, of Jamestown, and the body laid to rest in the cemetery. The flower bearers were Misses Emma Rush, Minnie Prevost, Carlene Cashatt, Frances Rush and Leona Rush.

Mrs. Nettie Robertson

Mrs. Nettie Robertson, 43, wife of J. G. Robertson, died Monday afternoon in High Point. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Robbins, and though born and reared in Randolph county, had lived in High Point 20 years. Funeral and burial were held at John Wesley Stand Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

Elizabeth Matilda Arnold

Mrs. Elizabeth Matilda Arnold, 77, widow of J. M. Arnold, died at her home in the Fullers community Oct. 12, 1931. Mrs. Arnold was before her marriage Elizabeth Matilda Hughes, daughter of the late David and Martha Hughes, and was born November 1, 1854. She was married with J. M. Arnold August 24, 1873, and to this union were born 13 children, eight of whom with their father are dead. She professed faith in Christ in early girlhood and joined the Methodist church, living a faithful member until death. Mrs. Arnold was a good neighbor, true wife and an ideal mother.

Surviving are five children, who are: Mrs. Walter Cashatt, Denton; Mrs. Bert Hoover, Thomasville; L. P. Arnold, Fullers; Mrs. Allen Skeen, Thomasville; and J. M. Arnold, Fullers; two sisters, Martha Summy, Fullers; and Mrs. Mary Easter, Thomasville; one brother, J. F. Hughes, Fullers; 25 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral was conducted from Pleasant Grove church by Rev. Sisk, and the body laid to rest in the church cemetery.

Mrs. Janie Deaton

Mrs. Janie Deaton widow of Simeon C. Deaton, died at her home at Allreds in Little River township, Montgomery county, Tuesday October 13th, and was buried in the Ether cemetery Wednesday beside her husband who preceded her by six years. Mrs. Deaton before her marriage was Miss Janie Precise. She was born in Jackson county, Alabama, December 30th 1871. She was married to Simeon C. Deaton, August 26, 1888. Immediately after her marriage she moved to Allreds, Little River township, Montgomery county, North Carolina, and resided here until her death. Deceased is survived by five daughters and two sons, Mrs. Clifford Lawrence, of High Point; Mrs. Lucy Lamb, of Randleman; Mrs. J. L. Saunders, of Ether; Misses Naomi and Davie Deaton, of Allreds; R. A. Deaton, of Biscoe; and Alonzo Deaton, of Allreds.

Mrs. Deaton had been in declining health for about eight months, therefore her death was not a surprise but a shock which is severely felt by the entire family and her many friends who knew her. Mrs. Deaton professed faith in Christ during her early girlhood and joined the M. E. church South. She lived a devoted Christian life to the end.

JOIN THE RED CROSS.

More Than 100 Claimants To Estate Left By Mark Hopkins Affected By Action.

Establish Direct Kinship To Hopkins

Legal Efforts To Obtain Possession Millionaire's Estate Moved To California.

More than 100 North Carolinians, claimants to a share in the estate left by Mark and Moses Hopkins, who left Randolph county in 1849 to become great railroad builders in California, believe they are a step nearer their goal. The immediate goal is to secure the appointment by the California courts of Norman Lee Freeman, of High Point, as administrator of the Hopkins estate.

What is considered the last legal hurdle was passed this week in Randolph county superior court when direct kinship was established through direct descent from Edward and Hannah Crow Hopkins, parents of Mark and Moses Hopkins. The immediate suit, which was tried in Randolph court the first of the week, was for possession of the old Hopkins homestead, near Crow Creek in New Hope township. Peaceable possession of the land by W. L. Hopkins, a descendant of Edward Hopkins, for the past 55 years forestalled the purported heirs in their effort to gain possession of the property, but they were able to prove family relationship.

The jury empaneled in the case in Randolph court were called upon to answer the following questions, all of which except the last, regarding possession of the land in litigation, were in the affirmative:

Were James, John, Joseph, Martin, Elizabeth, Prudence, Annie, Mark, Moses and Rebecca Hopkins the children, heirs-at-law, and next of kin of Edward Hopkins and Hannah Crow Hopkins, of Crow Creek, New Hope township, Randolph county.

If so, was Mark Hopkins, son of Edward and Hannah Crow Hopkins, the same person who went to California and became treasurer of the Central Pacific Railway and an organizer of the Ione Coal and Iron Company?

Are plaintiffs in this action the heirs-at-law and next of kin of the said Edward Hopkins and Hannah Crow Hopkins, Mark and Moses Hopkins?

Are plaintiffs owners of the land described in petition?

The case now reverts to California, in which a hearing will be held November 9th, and at which time Norman Lee Freeman expects to be named administrator of the estate of Mark Hopkins.

It is Mr. Freeman's intention, if and when he is named executor, to prove to the courts of California that Moses Hopkins fraudulently acquired Mark Hopkins' estate, after the great railroad builder had died intestate in 1878, by swearing to the court that he was the only living heir. Previously Mary Frances Sherwood had claimed the property, but Moses