

INTRODUCING MORE OF THE STATE'S SOLONS

Anson's Veteran Representative.

Among the seasoned legislators in the present session of the General Assembly is F. E. Thomas, Anson county's able representative. Five sessions he has played an effective part in state legislation, beginning away back in 1913 and following in 1915. A lapse then occurs, and Mr. Thomas does not appear upon Capitol Hill as a legislator again till 1931, when he took a part on the side of those seeking relief for farms and homes in the prolonged battle for a sales tax. He returned in 1933 and is back again, serving as chairman of the house committee on rules and quietly watching the trend of events, for Mr. Thomas is not one of those rampants who must have his say on every occasion and if the occasion doesn't rise proceed to make one.

Real estate owners who in multitudes found themselves harassed by mortgages during the depression period, and much earlier, for North Carolina has been in the doldrums ever since the deflation in 1920, do not realize how much they owe to a measure fathered by the Anson legislator back in 1915. Prior to that date, the man whose land was sold under a mortgage had no recourse if the land went for a song at the first sale. However, there was a provision by which the mortgagee could assure protection to himself by taking preliminary steps to have the sale made by court order, whereby the sale would not be affirmed for ten days, during which other bids could be registered and a resale ordered. But if the mortgagee felt assured that the bids at the first sale would protect his own interest he had no occasion to worry about the mortgagor's interest. But worse, the mortgagee might pick the worst period in the year for the sale and by connivance profit from the sacrifice which naturally followed such a course.

The measure, first offered by Mr. Thomas in his novice year of 1913 but not made law till 1915, changed that procedure and made it possible for a resale to follow in case the first was not satisfactory. Amendments since that time have enabled resale after resale to occur, with advancing prices each time. The writer as a newspaper publisher recalls as many as five sales being advertised for mortgaged property during the hard years, though the sales were too often in the interest of securing the sum of the mortgage, for mortgage sales for several years were mere confiscations for both mortgagor and mortgagee.

Mr. Thomas graduated at Wake Forest with the LL. B. degree and then took additional work in law at the University law school. He taught several years, the last term being at Wadesboro. He began the practice of law in 1917; thus it appears that he served two terms in the house before he became a practicing lawyer.

He married Miss Lucy Hawkins of Louisburg. They have four children, two of whom are now in college.

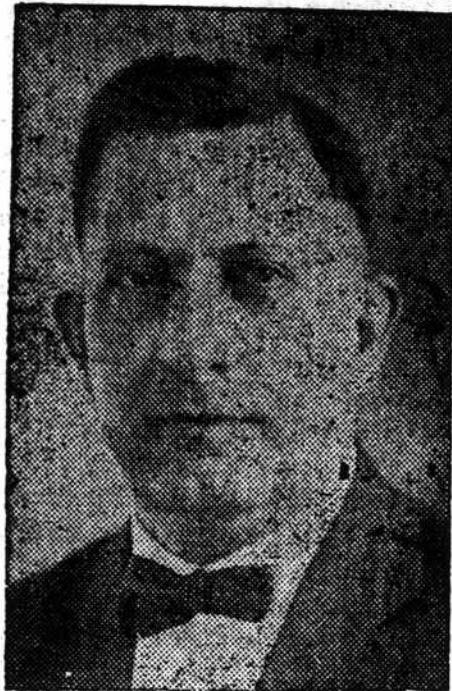
Henderson's Representative a Native of South Carolina.

From Henderson county comes a representative of maturity in both age and experience. Born in Anderson county, S. C., W. M. Sherard got only a high school education. But his experience as a farmer till he was 25 years old, and as a merchant in Anderson till he was 54, together with 12 years of participation in the banking and textile interests of Hendersonville makes him at the age of 66 a man of wide knowledge and practical ideas. He is quite properly a mem-

ber of the finance committee and the banking committee of the house. While he confesses to 66 years of age, he has rather the appearance of a man of fifty-five.

Another Old-Timer from Pitt.

Representative M. O. Blount of Pitt county is another old-timer who got his education in the school of experience. He was a farm boy of Pitt county. At the age of 23 he began merchandising at the cross roads village of Bethel. He has seen the village grow into a prosperous town of 1,200 people, and his



DR. J. T. BURBUS
Guilford County Senator.

business has kept more than apace with the growth of the village. But Bethel could not furnish a sufficient outlet for the energy and enterprise of M. O. Blount. Several sons came along and the Blounts established a department store in Greenville, in co-partnership with Mr. Harvey of Kinston, I believe, which today ranks as probably the best department store of the prosperous city of Greenville and one of the best in eastern North Carolina.

His son, F. L. Blount, is in charge of the Bethel store and J. H. Blount manages the huge Greenville enterprise. Another son is Attorney M. K. Blount of Greenville, who has been a senator three terms.

Mr. Blount has large farm interests. Bethel is in the heart of the Irish potato country of eastern North Carolina and the Blounts



DR. C. A. PETERSON
Mitchell County Representative who is advocating the substitution of a lethal gas chamber for the electric chair.

are a great factor in that staple crop of the section. They buy outright great quantities of the tubers and market them in the North.

Here is a man who, though he will not make any rousing speeches, knows his way about and can be counted upon to use good old horse sense in his voting.

Forsyth's Hauser.

This legislature is marked by the number of solid yeomen in its ranks. Even from the imperial county of Forsyth comes that solid, plain citi-

zen, C. M. Hauser, as one of its representatives. While Mr. Hauser is a native of Forsyth, he sojourned 14 years in Stokes and represented that county in the session of 1923.

The name Hauser connotes that good old German or Moravian stock that became the basic element in the population of Forsyth and Stokes. I am reminded that more than fifty years ago one of the name came down into Sampson as a teacher, and a good one he was. Representative Hauser tentatively identified the old-time pedagogue as Sam Hauser, who not only was a school teacher but also a singing



DR. R. L. CARR
Veteran Duplin Representative.

teacher. Over at Pittsboro is a modern teacher of the stock.

Mr. Hauser is a member of the committees on Health, Counties, Cities and Towns, Pensions, Etc. See if you do not find his picture on these pages.

Beaufort County's Blount.

Beaufort county also has a Blount as its representative. Young Attorney S. M. Blount is a resident of Washington. He is of the stock of Blounts long notable in eastern North Carolina. He secured his law education at the University and has been practicing ten years. This is his first term as a legislator, but he takes to legislation as readily as a duck to water. He is a member of the Judiciary Committee, No. 2, Education, Counties, Cities, and Towns, and others. The bright young fellow is married and has



DR. RALPH McDONALD
Guilford Representative, who with Representative Lumpkin is strenuously opposing the Sales Tax.

one child.

A Mountaineer Teacher Turns Law-Maker.

Here is Dean Swift. This Dean Swift hasn't brought along his namesake's double-edged sword of sarcasm. He parades no Gulliver to the confusion of either his Brobdingnagian or Lilliputian compatriots, but if you want an authority on western North Carolina mountain life Dean Swift is your man. A native of Watauga, he was a student of my old class-mate D. D. Daugherty, at the Appalachian Teachers' Training School. He himself turned to that profession,

and is while serving as Watauga's representative the reputed principal of Cove Creek High School. When he is actually in that service he draws the munificent salary of \$75 a month, or \$600 a year. "But I don't mean to say I live on that sum," he interpolated. "I have a farm." But if he didn't own a farm, if he is the true mountaineer I think him, he could live handsomely on that \$600 and make you envy him for his good fortune. But, seriously, such a combination is one means of solving the school problem. Just the day before this is written Principal I. B. Hudson of the Fayetteville High School, who receives \$1200 a year and had been paying \$30 a month for a little town residence, told me that he had moved out three miles in the country, where he has a roomy residence and five acres of good land and wood for the cost of cutting at \$20 a month. The home has electricity but no running water. There Mr. Hudson can raise all the chickens, pork, vegetables, etc., that he needs, and work on those five acres in the summer will be no mean preparation for eight months of confinement in the school room. He was brought up on a farm just over there in Sampson and knows how to use those five acres.

You may just bet your bottom dollar that Dean Swift's family live in clover.

He has taught eighteen years. His experience and his ability deserve a greater compensation, but I am not worrying over Dean Swift's giving up his job for lack of more compensation. He could but have imbibed some of the spirit of the Daugherties, who would have taught those mountain youths if they had had to live upon bread and water.

Rep. Norwood's Father Born in 1797.

I had thought that I had something to brag about in that my father's and my own life covered a period extending from 1822. But Representative John H. Norwood of Stanly county can beat that record by just 25 years. His father was born in 1797 and was 75 years old when the legislator was born. Washington had two more years to live when the father was born.

Mr. Norwood, more than sixty, looks as if he might cover another considerable stretch of years.

He is a licensed lawyer but has practiced little. He studied law at Wake Forest and later took the LL. B. degree at the University. He served as a railroad mail clerk for 21 years and as a R. F. D. carrier for 13 years. He has his pension, but not a government paid one, as the retirement fund was built up from assignments of a portion of the salaries of mail carriers.

Mr. Norwood, while a R. F. D. carrier served as secretary of the State Association and thereby became exceedingly well acquainted with the geography of the state. He is another of those mature men who help to steady the boat during what is likely to prove yet a rather stormy legislative period.

Norwood, Stanly's town of second importance, is named for Mr. Norwood's family and is his home town.

Rep. Bryson An Orchardist.

From Sylva, Jackson county, comes Representative T. C. Bryson. Law-making is not a new thing for the Brysons. Mr. T. C. Bryson's uncle, Col. T. D. Bryson, who won the rank of colonel in the Confederate army, served as representative from Jackson and senator from that area time after time. It was he who fathered Swain county and had his name memorialized in the name of Bryson City.

Representative T. C. Bryson
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