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MORE POST OFFICE TALK FROM WASHINGTON

Laurinburg, Reidsville and Marshall Post Office Matters Unsettled. Oliver, Russell and Swann Being Opposed by Simmons. Ex-Governor Glenn Trying to Help Oliver. Who Will Give Up?

GEORGE H. MANNING, IN CHARLOTTE NEWS.

Washington, July 17. — What will be the ultimate outcome of the squabbles over the post offices at Reidsville, Laurinburg and Marshall, where John T. Oliver, G. H. Russell and J. R. Swann respectively are being opposed for appointment by Senator Simmons? That is the question uppermost in the minds of a large number of more or less interested people in North Carolina, and which is the subject of considerable thought in Washington by Congressmen Steadman, Page and Webb, who have recommended them for appointment.

The weeks have rolled by since the appointment of these men was recommended to Postmaster General Burleson by the congressmen concerned, after considerable thought, worry and investigation to decide upon the man who seemed most acceptable to the patrons of the different offices, but the matter has not advanced a step since they were recommended. The recommendations with the accompanying endorsements still repose undisturbed in the files of the post office department, and all that can be learned with regard to them by the inquisitive newspaper man is that "the matter is still pending."

No less a personage than ex-Gov. "Bob" Glenn interested himself in behalf of the appointment of Oliver at Reidsville, and several others have made special trips to Washington to see if they could not offer some solution in the matter. John T. Oliver himself came here the end of last week and spent several days talking over the matter with Major Stedman. The Major has submitted all the papers in the case to Senator Simmons and asked him to give the matter his attention just as soon as he can spare sufficient time from his tariff matters. To several inquiries since then the senator has replied that he is too much occupied with the tariff to go over the matter. To newspaper men Senator Simmons has declared, too, that he has not had time to look into the situation, but has said that he did not believe that he would ever change his mind in regard to his opposition to Oliver.

On the other hand, Congressman Stedman states just as firmly that he will never withdraw Oliver's recommendation, and Oliver is just as firm in his belief that he should have the position.

Senator Simmons' opposition to Oliver is based upon the fact that his friends have told him that during the last campaign Oliver fought his re-election very bitterly and made statements in his newspaper, the Reidsville Review, attacking Simmons' character and motives.

At Laurinburg Senator Simmons is understood to be not so much opposed to the appointment of G. H. Russell as he is in favor of the appointment of A. H. James, who, he has been advised by his friends in the State, is the most desirable man for the place. Congressman Page was aware of Simmons' opposition to Russell several months before he recommended him for postmaster, but realized that he was the choice of the patrons of the office. He has since stated that he never in-

tends to withdraw Russell's name as long as Russell desires to continue the contest. Several of Russell's friends have been to Washington in his behalf and Russell himself was here last week for a conference with Page. He did not see Senator Simmons, believing that the better plan was to put the matter in the hands of some mutual friends to see if an agreement could be effected. In this case, too, Senator Simmons has stated that he does not believe he will ever change his mind in regard to Russell.

At Marshall, Madison county, the squabble is not so serious, and Congressman Webb has hopes of putting J. R. Swann through just as soon as Senator Simmons has sufficient time to discuss the case. Friends of Simmons advised him that Swann has been rather indiscreet in some statements as to the democracy practiced by Senator Simmons, Governor Craig and a number of others. Swann's statements had been so bitter and frequent that it was thought inadvisable to allow him to accept an office in the State. Swann came to Washington with Guy Roberts, a strong friend of Congressman Webb and Senator Simmons, and after talking on the senator went direct to Asheville to see Governor Craig. From word received from the Governor since, it is believed that he withdrew his opposition to Swann. It is quite probable that this matter is not so serious it cannot be patched up in a few weeks and Swann's nomination sent to the Senate.

But at Reidsville and Laurinburg it is different. The patrons of these offices are already becoming restless at the continued stay of the Republican postmaster and are demanding that something be done to have a Democrat appointed.

Senator Simmons has declared that he does not intend to recommend men for any of these offices, but simply wishes the congressmen to choose a man other than the ones they have recommended. This they refuse to do and it will be interesting to watch the final outcome.

When Senator Simmons rids himself of the tariff bill it is more than likely he will confer with the congressmen concerned and a change in the situation within the next three weeks is expected.

But who will give in? Will the congressmen change their minds and name another man, will Senator Simmons retreat from the position he has taken to their appointment, or will the applicants, not wishing to embarrass the congressmen any further, agree to step aside for a man upon whom the congressmen and senator can agree?

Unable to get a single juror out of 75 men summoned, Judge Ferguson ordered the case against Nancy Kurley, a white woman of Haywood county, who is charged with putting her grand-child in a hole in the mountains and blocking entrance with stones, causing death, removed to Swain county for trial.

In Rowan court, last week, it was legally declared that champagne is wine and not whiskey. The indicted party had too much on hand if it was whiskey, but not so if it was wine. The court held it was not whiskey, the good returned and the defendant dismissed.

CONDENSED NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

A Column of the Week's Happenings Throughout the World Told in Brief—Gathered From Our Contemporaries and Boiled Down For Our Readers.

A home for stray dogs has been opened in Fulham, London.

Two youngsters up in Missouri are making a fine living shipping crawfish to the St. Louis market.

At Passiac, N. J., the school truant officer reports 81 school children found intoxicated during the year.

Because he went without shoes while on duty, W. Bascome has been dismissed from the police force of Lima, Ohio.

As a method of stopping the ravages of grasshoppers, the farmers in a Kansas community have put out eight tons of poisoned bran mash.

After ten years of fighting for the privilege, the government has at last granted the request to permit automobiles to enter the Yellowstone Park.

Bristol, Virginia-Tennessee, experienced the highest temperature in years Friday. The highest temperature recorded was 120. Gaffney, S. C., recorded 102 degrees.

Postmaster General Burleson has announced some important changes in the parcel post. The maximum weight is to be increased from 11 to 20 pounds and rates in the first and second zones will be reduced.

Washington dispatches say that it is rumored that President Wilson is displeased with Mr. Bryan's statement that he is unable to live on his salary of \$1,000 per month and it is suggested that he may ask Mr. Bryan to cancel his lecture engagement.

Harry D. Winston, a recent graduate of Western Reserve University, Pennsylvania, while waiting in the office of a friend, was choked to death by his high collar. It is supposed that he was overcome by heat and fell in a faint and his collar, an extremely high one, strangled him to death.

A new form of begging has been uncovered in Kansas. A man and his wife were caught touring the country in an automobile. They leave the auto hid outside of town, the man feigns blindness and the woman begs. When they have cleaned up the necessary coin, they slip out, take an auto spin to the next town and work it in the same way.

While his comrades stood by and watched him, H. G. Fleming, a 26-year old engineer, who was slowly burning to death by steam escaping from his overturned engine, drew his knife from his pocket and cut his throat. The young man had begged his companions to kill him and end his suffering and their refusal to do so caused him to commit the act. Fleming was to have been married within a week.

With two postoffices at Bristol, Tennessee-Virginia, the government has discovered that both are an expensive luxury and has discontinued the one on the Virginia side. One office is sufficient and the government claims that the operation of both caused a loss of \$6,000 per year and hence the discontinuance of the one on the Virginia side. The Virginia office was created by President Taft against the recommendation of Postmaster General Hitchcock.

A COLUMN OF STATE NEWS

Short Items of North Carolina News of General Interest To Scotland County—In Condensed Form For Exchange Readers—Gathered From Contemporaries

Morganton has organized a woman suffrage league. Mrs. F. W. Hossfeldt is its president.

Hon. E. J. Justice, of Greensboro, has announced his candidacy to succeed Overman as U. S. Senator.

Congressman Heflin of Alabama, will deliver an address in Gaston county at a Confederate reunion July 31st.

A large oak tree on the farm of Col. Beneham Cameron, near Creedmore, has become petrified. A piece of it weighing 500 lbs. is on exhibit at Durham.

The Southern Wholesale Grocers' Association, which met in Charlotte the past week, adjourned Friday. Charleston, S. C., was selected as their next meeting place.

Louis Lee, a printer, charged with killing Floyd Beam, publisher of the Lincolnton Times, was convicted last week of manslaughter and sentenced to five years in the State prison.

Melvin Horne, a former deputy sheriff in New Hanover county, who recently plead guilty to a charge of embezzling \$500 of the sheriff's funds, was sentenced to a year in jail, with the privilege to hire out.

The Western Union Telegraph Company is being sued for \$4,000 damages by Edward Barron, of Asheville, for its failure to deliver a telegram announcing the death of his uncle, who died in Rhode Island.

Rev. J. W. Little, in a sermon at Polkton, bitterly denounced gambling, and the next morning found on his porch a deck of cards and a letter threatening him, if he continued his assaults on that class of sports.

During a thunder storm, Mrs. R. M. Meyers, of Iredell county, was knocked down by a thunderbolt, which broke the glasses in her spectacles and melted the frames. She was rendered unconscious and remained in a critical condition for some time.

Thos. Wright, a farmer of Iredell county, walked into his house from his garden, where he had been working, and told his daughter that he was going to kill himself, and before the girl had time to summon any one the father shot and killed himself.

The Charlotte baseball club will bring suit against the Winston-Salem Journal unless it proves or retracts its statement that the pitcher's box on the Charlotte field was moved just before an engagement between the Winston and Charlotte teams.

Hoke county is to launch a campaign for tobacco growing in that county. A movement is on foot to settle fifty families of tobacco growers in that section, and Beck & Johnson, of Wake county, have agreed to build a warehouse in Raeford. It is proposed to put 700 to 1,000 acres in tobacco.

Rev. W. E. Trotman, a Methodist minister of the Haw River circuit, charged with having written an indiscreet anonymous letter to a lady member of one of his churches, was vindicated of the charge at Pittsboro last week. The unfortunate affair took place in the early spring and the minister was suspended from preaching until this investigation.

ACCOUNT BOOK KEPT BY LAURINBURG'S FIRST STORE

Book Kept by McLaurin's Store, Laurinburg's First Store—An Interesting Document—Book Appears to Have Been a Tobacco and Whiskey Account Book, Few Other Entries—Contains Names of Prominent Citizens.

Through the kindness of Mr. J. L. Pate, we are in possession of an account book that was kept by McLaurin's store, which was among the first of Laurinburg's business houses. The book is the possession of Mr. Pate and was bought in a large box of goods offered at auction during the sale of the personal effects of a prominent citizen. The book was among other old articles in the box and having been associated with the first business life of Laurinburg was preserved by Mr. Pate.

There are a number of interesting notations in reference to the accounts and can be offered as good evidence that some of the natives in 1849 were as delinquent about paying their debts as some of the present day citizens. It is hardly the practice of the modern merchant to say at the foot of a delinquent's account what the bookkeeper at McLaurin's store in '49 said, though. Among the notations, we mention: "For collection, he is dead." "Was hung in Virginia for his abolition acts." "He is not worth a setting of buzzard eggs." "He is gone the way Ward's ducks went." "He is dead and debt lost."

Almost the entire book is filled with charges for whiskey, occasionally some fellow is charged with a plug of tobacco, but nearly every item is for booze. The price in those days was much lower than the present day prices, and from the entries, a great deal more was consumed by each customer than is the case now. The prices charged then were 10 cents per pint and one-half pints were sold for 5 cents. One account shows 19 entries, three were for tobacco and sixteen for whiskey and the entire account foots up \$5.81½.

The following bond is written on one of the pages: "October the 14th A. D. One thousand, eight hundred and fifty-nine. Know all men by these presents, that I, I. W. Snead am held and firmly bound in the sum of \$500 to be paid in good and lawful money in case I do not make my personal appearance at the next term of our superior court of law, to be held in Richmond county at the court house in Rockingham on the third Monday in March next, then and there to answer a charge of the State vs. Geo. Wright."

Other items appearing in an account on which no whiskey appeared were as follows: 6 lbs. coffee, \$2.00; one bunch cotton yarn, \$3.; 6 plugs tobacco, \$1; one yard calico, 27½ cents; 1 spool thread, 15 cents; one yard calico, 25 cents; one handkerchief, 40 cents; one pound soda crackers, 30 cents.

An address, presumably of one who had gone to the war was written on one of the pages and is as follows: "North Carolina, Richmond county, June 30th., 1861, William Snead, Scotch Boys, care of Michael Cronley, Wilmington."

In another account the following articles appear: 7 pounds bacon, \$1.75; 1 yard homespun, 40 cents; 1 yard apron checks, 60 cents.

Whiskey sold for 20 cents per quart or 75 cents per gallon.

Two Gallons of "Yellow Corn" Poured Out.

The official destruction of two gallons of "booze," guaranteed to be good by the Hoffman distilling Company, of Virginia, took place Monday morning, July 21, before his Honor Judge Gibson. The late "search and seizure" act requires the destruction of all liquors seized where the defendant is found guilty; and it was under the provisions of this act that the aforesaid "Oh, be joyful" was returned to mother earth. It was a solemn occasion—never before witnessed in the good prohibition county of Scotland, and followed the conviction of Early Quick, who was arrested by Mr. Cockman, one of the rural police, just after he had left the express office at Wagram. In addition to the two gallons, those "tell-tale" express books were introduced in evidence, and the defendant, failing to convince the court of his capacity, aided by every member of his family—big, little and old—to personally drink as much as he had ordered, was adjudged guilty of keeping whiskey for sale.

After a fine of \$40 and costs, notwithstanding hard times, the court ordered Mr. Cockman to destroy the whiskey. As the officer gathered the package under his arm, and began to march away, several sad-eyed spectators followed. One was heard to remark in the words of Mutt, "have a heart, boys, have a heart." And another quoted Mark Anthony to the effect, "If you have tears to shed, prepare to shed them now." But all was lost upon the officer of the law, who cruelly dashed jug and all contents against the wall. After remaining a few moments "to get a whiff of fresh air," the witnesses returned into court to report the "death" of the booze." And thus passed away "the evidence" in the burning, intended for Cool Springs picnic last week.

Knights of Ezelah Go Camping.

The Boy Scouts of the Knights of Ezelah of the Laurinburg Sunday schools, twelve in number, in charge of four men, left Tuesday morning on a camping trip to White Lake, in Bladen county.

The party went to Elizabethtown by rail, and tramped nine miles across country to the lake.

The party is supplied with everything for an ideal camping trip, consisting of blankets, tents, cooking outfit, etc., and will return to the city tomorrow night.

Composing the party are the following youngsters: Thos. Covington, William Haywood Cooper, Edwin Gill, Willie and Ben Herndon, Frank and Edgar Whitaker, Halsted and Harold Covington, Harry Epstein, Ned Clayton and Wilmer Bostick.

The men in the party are: Rev. H. A. Humble, Messrs. E. H. Gibson, H. O. Covington, C. L. Sanford and Tom Myers.

Both Going Good.

Columbia State: North Carolina may have her Jo Daniels, but South Carolina has her Jo Jackson, who is going some."—Wilmington Dispatch. They play in different leagues, but the latest averages show that both are slugging well over .400.