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ANDREW J. CONNER, PUBLISHER

"CAROLINA, CAROLINA, HEAVEN'S BLESSINGS ATTEND HER"

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EXPLOSION KILLS ONE

John L. Hopkins of Middlesex Loses Life Early Tuesday Morning by Explosion at Tank Car

Early Tuesday morning, Dec. 28, the people of Rich Square were saddened when the report of an explosion at the railroad depot resulting in the death of a young white man, John L. Hopkins, of Middlesex, Nash County, an employee of the State Highway Commission, spread over the town.

The explosion occurred at 5:30 Tuesday morning, severely burning Mr. Hopkins and fracturing skull by the fall or by hitting something. No one was present at the time except W. L. D. Pickett, of Rich Square, another employee of the Commission. They had been employed in putting oil or asphalt on the State roads in the vicinity and went to the siding at the depot before daybreak to start fire in the boiler used in heating the asphalt in the railroad tank car, as they had been doing for some time. In cold weather it takes several hours to get it to the right temperature to put on the roads. At five thirty Mr. Hopkins took a lantern and went up on the running board of the tank car and opened the manhole on top to examine it. The lantern caused an immediate explosion of the gases formed by heating the oil. His hat and lantern were blown over the tank car and landed several yards over on the East side of the railroad while his body went in the other direction, falling several yards away. The explosion was heard by most of the citizens of the town and vicinity, but as the boys had been making the nights hideous for several nights with fireworks, but few went out to investigate. The oil or asphalt had spread over Mr. Hopkins clothes from the waist up and his clothing was burning when found. Mr. Pickett gave the alarm, yelling fire, fire, and rushed up town on his car for a doctor. James T. Futrell and sons, Ashley and Wilbur, and Mills H. Conner were the first to respond. The latter was already up with his clothes on when the explosion occurred, and Mr. Futrell lives just across the railroad from the explosion, about 30 yards distant. When they reached the scene it was some little time before they could find the injured man, it being cloudy and dark. With a flashlight they found him, his clothes still burning, and rendered first aid. He was unconscious, lying in a pool of water and oil. He was carried into the store of M. H. Conner & Co. and in a few minutes Dr. J. C. Vaughan came, but said there was no hope for him. The fractured skull or burns either would have caused death in a short time. He expired about 9 o'clock without regaining consciousness. The tank car was not injured.

At Jackson Next Monday

It is our purpose to have a representative of the paper at Jackson next Monday, it being the first Monday in January, to receive subscriptions. The one dollar we charge for the paper barely pays for the white paper the paper is printed on and for the postage, the other expenses have to be met by charges for obituaries, cards of thanks, resolutions of respect and advertisements, so we cannot afford to send the paper after subscriptions have expired.

POTECASI LOCALS

Miss Jessie Marie Parker is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. N. Parker.

Mr. and Mrs. N. B. Boone and children spent Christmas with his parents in Boykins, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Jenkins spent Saturday and Sunday in Belvidere.

Quite a number of young people called on Mr. Clyde Brown Monday evening.

Miss Helen Britt of Mapleton was the guest of Miss Gladys Lassiter Monday.

Mrs. E. B. Lassiter spent Christmas with her home folks in Colerain.

Mrs. Gladys Lassiter is spending the holidays with her sister, Mrs. Doffermyre.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Beale left Monday for Reint to visit her grandfather for some time.

Miss Jessie Marie Parker and Mr. Ronald Chappell went to Hobbsville Monday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Draper, of Edenton, spent several days with their parents.

Mrs. J. E. Boone spent the week with her mother, Mrs. Maggie Beale.

Mr. Johnnie Riddick of Hobbsville, was the guest of Miss Annie Rae Beale Sunday afternoon.

Messrs Charlie Brown and Bernice Griffin are spending Christmas with their respective parents.

Miss Lillian Joyner spent the week with her uncle, Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Joyner.

Mrs. Goldie Edwards, Henderson, is spending the week with Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Joyner.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Lassiter and little daughter spent Sunday in Ridgeway.

Mr. Edward Parker of Norfolk is spending some time with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Parker.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Capel spent Monday with Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Beale.

Mrs. Bettie Holoman of Lasker spent Tuesday with Mrs. W. C. Beale.

Misses Willia and Audrey Parker are spending the holidays with their parents.

Mr. Simon Parker, of Mass Hill College, is at home for the holidays.

Windsor The Mecca

There was a time when the humble peanut like the modest violet were little known and little regarded. But that time belongs to another era. No flower is so appreciated as the little violet and the prose poem of Erwin Avery raised it to new heights in North Carolina.

The humble peanut, without any parade or show of circumstances, has forced its way to a high place as one of the leading agricultural products of a score of counties in North Carolina and as many in Virginia. No legislative body, no public gathering, no ball game, no circus, no outdoor event is complete unless it is adorned with the presence of Sir Peanut.

This is Peanut Week in North Carolina and the Peanut Exposition opened Monday in Windsor, the capital of Bertie county, and continues all this week, with such attraction as will bring great crowds to Windsor. It is the North Carolina Mecca for the week.—News and Observer.

LEADERS TO BE REWARDED

Greatest Contributors to Improvement to Agriculture and Community Life to be Selected

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 24 —The master farmers, those who have made fine contributions to the agriculture and community life of their home sections, will be sought out by the county men and women agents of the agricultural extension service at State College and will be rewarded by public recognition and a gold medal under a plan proposed by Dr. Clarence Poe, editor of the Progressive Farmer.

Briefly, Dr. Poe's plan calls for the county home and farm agents to work with a local committee in searching out and deciding on the best farmer in the county. This man or woman shall not necessarily be the one who has made the most money but rather the one who has done most for his community, either by example of good farming or by contributions to the community life. Those who are selected will then come on up through the five different districts and finally from those deemed worthy of the honor, about 10 or 15 will be selected for the award of the gold medal.

The expenses of the plan will be borne by the Progressive Farmer and the medals will be awarded by this magazine. Dr. Poe plans to award the medals at a large public gathering held at the time of the county agent conference next winter. Some of the influential public leaders of the State and Nation will be invited to the event. There will be a banquet and the entire proceedings will be broadcasted over the country by radio.

The agents have worked out a score card in cooperation with the Progressive Farmer editors and this card will be used as a basis for selecting the farmers to be rewarded.

By this means, it is hoped to give to deserving men and women some public recognition of their efforts in making rural North Carolina more attractive and a better place in which to live.

Three Persons Killed Near Tarboro As Train Hits Stalled Automobile

Tarboro, Dec. 26th. — It was learned here today that Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Baker, of Farmville, and Mrs. Katherine Watson, of Old Sparta, were killed Christmas Day when their car stalled in front of an Atlantic Coast Line train at Moore's Siding.

The crossing was a slight grade and it is supposed that Baker, who was driving, realizing suddenly that the oncoming train was so near, stalled his car on the crossing. Mrs. Baker and Mrs. Watson were killed instantly. Baker died a few hours later. The bodies were brought to Tarboro on the train immediately after the accident.—News and Observer.

Buy Brooders Now

Buy brooders at once if you expect to raise cockerels. I can buy you a good brooder, 44 inch canopy, at 35 per cent discount, making it cost you \$13.33.

I am now making up an order for carpet grass seed. The price will not exceed 25¢ per pound. This is about half what we paid last year.

E. P. GULLEDGE,
County Agent.

DEFRAUDING THE FARMERS

Swindlers Operate in North Carolina for Short Time, Offering Baby Chicks and Oranges

Few weeks ago several papers in the State carried an advertisement of a fake concern under the heading, "Baby Chicks for Sale," and doubtless many farmers lost by sending money for baby chicks and pullets which were advertised at little more than half what reputable dealers charge. The same people, we are informed, advertised Florida oranges for sale in the same way but under another name.

Both these advertisements were sent to the TIMES but were not accepted for the reason that we suspected them frauds. A mere glance at the advertisement was enough to convince one that there was something wrong. The post-office, which, on the one we received, was given as Clayton, N. C., a town in Johnson County, was written with pen and ink at the bottom of a mimeographed copy of the advertisement. This indicated that the advertisers were using other postoffices for the same advertisement, which proved true, as it has been learned they covered several states with their advertising campaign and used, or tried to use, about eight hundred newspapers. Another ground for suspicion was they instructed the advertisement to be run for twelve weeks without first getting rates. No general, reputable advertiser does this. These things, coupled with the low price they offered to sell chicks for caused us to reject the advertising as being fraudulent. But when we saw the same advertisement in such high class papers as the North Carolina Christian Advocate and Charity and Children we wondered if we had rejected perfectly good business.

The plan of these swindlers was to go over the entire South and select one or two postoffices in each state to have orders sent, and make arrangements with the postmasters to forward all mail to Atlanta, Ga., where they had headquarters. They were operating from two offices in this State. They operated only a few weeks before the Postoffice Department issued an order that no mail be delivered to them, but in the meantime no doubt a large sum was collected from people all over the South. They operated from Clayton under the name of "The Fulghum Hatchery."

Several years ago a similar scheme was operated in Washington, D. C., under the name of Hill & Co. and at that time several North Carolina papers carried their advertising and thousands of dollars worth of poultry and eggs were shipped to Washington in the course of a week. It was just before Christmas and they advertised to pay much more than the market price for poultry and eggs. They had rented a shed where the shipments were received and sold quickly before the Postoffice Department was informed what was going on. When the investigation started the swindlers escaped without paying anybody for the produce shipped them.

Newspapers owe it to their readers to exercise great care in publishing advertisements.

ROXBEL NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Paschal left Saturday for Goldston, N. C., to visit Mr. Paschal's parents. Misses Lois and LeClaire Jacobs are at home from Meredith College to spend the Christmas holidays with their parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Jacobs.

Mr. Warner Coggin of Suffolk was a visitor here Christmas day.

Mr. James Livermon of Scotland Neck spent last week in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Jilcott.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Tyler left Thursday for North Wilkesboro to visit Mrs. Tyler's parents.

Mr. Wiley Bullock of Tarboro was the guest of Mrs. J. G. Baker last week.

Mr. Wayland Barnes of Colerain spent Saturday and Sunday with his brother, Mr. W. E. Barnes.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Acree of Bethel are spending the holidays with relatives here.

Miss Elizabeth Mason Capehart arrived Sunday from Winston-Salem, where she is teaching, to spend her vacation with her mother, Mrs. Mary J. Capehart.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Peele of Rock Hill, S. C., are spending Christmas holidays with relatives here.

Miss Malinda Wilkins, who is teaching near Ayden, is spending her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lathan Wilkins.

Mr. and Mrs. Ela Spruill of Creswell, N. C., are visiting relatives here.

Miss Ruth Tyler, who is teaching at Newport, is at home with her mother, Mrs. Sallie Tyler.

Mrs. Eunice Marsh, of Marshville, is visiting her sister, Miss Eva Watson.

Misses Louise Jilcott and Elizabeth Pritchard, of E. C. T. C., Greenville, are at home with their parents.

Mrs. Margaret Pearsall, of New Bern, is visiting in the home of her brother, Dr. A. Capehart.

Mrs. W. E. Barnes and daughter are visiting relatives in Ports mouth.

Mr. Jule Barnes of Berkville, Va., was a visitor here Sunday.

Mrs. Doris Chandler of Portsmouth is spending Christmas with her aunt, Mrs. Frances Spence.

Miss Mary Helen Burden, of Aulander, spent Sunday with Miss Frances J. Peele.

Mammoth Incubator Installed

Mr. Eugene W. Brown has completed the installation of his mammoth incubator in rooms in E. L. Smith's store at the railroad station in Rich Square and began placing eggs in it first of this week. It has a capacity of twelve thousand and ninety-six eggs at a time but it is his purpose to begin the first week with one third that number, one third the second week and one third the next, so that hatching will be every week. He is receiving many orders for both custom hatching and for baby chicks.

Mr. Brown's pen of ten white leghorns won the silver cup in the Southeastern egg laying contest in 1926, winning over exhibitors from eleven States, including New York. The managers of the laying contest valued his pen of ten hens at five hundred dollars. In returning them one was killed by careless handling by the express people, having its head crushed. Mr. Brown has sent another pen to enter the 1927 contest.

GIVEN T. B. ERADICATION MISSION

Former Rich Square Citizen Goes With U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry January 1st

The Washington special correspondent of the News and Observer under date of Dec. 21, tells of the appointment of Dr. N. B. Tyler to an important place with the Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Dr. Tyler is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Pulaski Tyler, who live in Rich Square School District. Dr. Tyler graduated from our High School and from the State College at Raleigh. Following is the Washington dispatch:

Dr. Napoleon B. Tyler, of Roxobel, has been detailed by the United States Department of Agriculture to tuberculosis eradication work in animal industry at the request of Commissioner of Agriculture W. A. Graham, Senator F. M. Simmons announced today.

Dr. Tyler has been connected with the State department of agriculture as a veterinary inspector, but he recently passed a civil service examination and was offered similar work with the Department of Agriculture in Virginia.

At the request of Mr. Graham, Senator Simmons took the matter up with Dr. J. R. Mosler, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, and Dr. Mosler today advised Senator Simmons that he is offering Dr. Tyler an assignment with the tuberculosis eradication forces in North Carolina effective January 1.

Surprise Shower For Pastor

One of the most delightful social features of the season was a surprise Christmas shower given on Christmas night in honor of Mr. J. Gurney Wright, pastor of Rich Square Friends Church.

A previous invitation to supper had been given him by Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Elliott in order that his cottage might be decorated and arranged for the occasion.

At the hour of seven the guests began to assemble, being received at the door by Misses Marion Ward and Helen Elliott.

On Mr. Wright's arrival he found the anxious party waiting to greet him. Miss Lottie Elliott had charge of an interesting Christmas program which was rendered as follows:

Devotional Exercises—Mrs. E. F. Outland.

Recitation—Mary Elizabeth Elliott.

Solo—Bernice Elliott.

Chorus—Silent Night.

Solo—Miss Marion Ward.

The party was silenced by a knock on the door when little Thomas Elias Elliott and Ernest Outland entered drawing a wagon beautifully decorated in Christmas colors and laden with many useful gifts. Before their presentation a poem composed by Miss Esther Ward was read by Mrs. E. F. Outland which described the good work and accomplishments of the guest of honor. Then Mr. Wright in his beautiful appreciative manner opened the packages, expressing to each individual donor a word of thanks.

Several games were enjoyed, after which refreshments were served, consisting of candies and salted peanuts.

Those present, numbering forty-four, expressed a very pleasant evening.