

# The Stanly News-Herald

The Albemarle News Established in 1880.

The Stanly County Herald Established in 1919

Fortieth Year.

Albemarle, N. C., Tuesday, March 1, 1921

\$2.00 Per Year in Advance

## TERRIBLE ANIMAL SEEN BY BOYS NEAR NORWOOD

### Break Horse That Could Cry Got the Boats of Party of Small Boys.

## OTHER INTERESTING NEWS

Norwood, Feb. 28.—For once this writer has to differ with the editor of the Stanly News-Herald. According to some of the boys here there certainly was a strange-looking animal lurking in the woods near the graded school. Such a queer animal it was, as they tell it they were just going through the woods hunting for a owl's nest and they found what they supposed was a dead horse lying under a tree. One of them said: "See that dead horse," and immediately it rose, stretched itself, and began to walk along. The boys became frightened and ran. In a short time, seeing that the horse did not follow them they sat down on the banks of a stream and began to shout: "There's nothing in these woods, we are not afraid!" when immediately they saw the same animal walking up the bank of the creek and crying like a baby. Their description of this animal is so fierce that some one asked them if they did not think it was the Devil haunting them for breaking the Sabbath. One little fellow said he was sure it was not the devil, for he would go after bad boys, for he did not go to. Those boys imagined all kinds of things, some of them were that they had heard of a still it was captured in these woods and a man had been shot. He was riding a gray horse, just like the one they saw. The strange thing is that no one else had heard the cry. However, they were running fast up the railroad track after the terrible thing appeared the second time that they were not very sure how things were. One boy had his knives open ready to cut, but he was running. Another one had two teeth so badly loosened, having so hard against a tree, and one of his clothes badly torn. Someone said to the boy who had his clothes: "James, you will certainly get to get some new clothes now before you can go to Washington." He replied that he had made up his mind not to go to Washington. In regard to that horse, it was almost all to the one used in the Trojan; it was no good except for what was inside of it, and connected with it very particular were some persons who enjoy a practical joke. So finally all the whole strange animal was manufactured article, which frightened about a half dozen boys. Some of the grown-ups felt that these boys no business out there on Sunday mornings, but if you want to know how to run just ask James and Geo. Well Campbell, Clinton and Geo. Peck, Henry Smith, Charlie Hatley, Pearl Surratt, for they have art down to perfection.

Mrs. D. N. Bennett was the charm-hostess to the Laf-a-Lot Club on Wednesday afternoon. This was so short a time from Washington's birthday, the color scheme was tied out in the room and in the refreshments. A delightful four-course luncheon was served. Mrs. Bennett at all times makes her guests feel the cheer of home, but at this particular time the guests voted her the most delightful hostess.

About half of our town is attending the Campbell-Doughton contest this week in Albemarle, also numbers of people from around here.

Miss Jennie Russell, of Monroe, the active niece of Mrs. Lizzie Keenan spent several days here last week.

Mrs. W. H. Moyle, of Salisbury, is visiting in the home of Mrs. Keenan at present.

Miss Hattie Beachum has returned from a visit to Washington, D. C. She spent quite awhile there with her sister, Mrs. Dunlap Hathcock.

Miss Fay Parker is spending this week in Clements, N. C., visiting her friends.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Gresham, of Georgetown, visited in the home of Mr. Edd Harris the past week.

Messrs. Farmer and Mabry have a tract to paint the home of Mr. J. Barringer. The Messrs. Lentz are pressing nicely with Mr. C. A. Lentz's house. If this improvement continues as it has begun, we shall

## FORTY-TWO VICTIMS OF TRAIN WRECK LOCATED

### Eye-witness Tells in Graphic Fashion His Version of Horrible Wreck.

## WAS THROWN FIFTY FEET

Porter, Ind., Feb. 28.—Forty-two bodies had been collected early this forenoon from the wreck last night when the Canadian and the Interstate limited on the Michigan Central and the New York Central Lines, respectively, crashed at a crossing. It was a diamond shaped crossing, permitting the New York train, which hit as the other sprang, derailed, over the intersection, to rake two Michigan cars instead of cutting them at right angles.

Edward W. Fierke, of Grand Rapids, Mich., who stood on the platform of the day coach of the Michigan Central train, just a few feet from the point where the New York Central engine hit it, and who saw the passengers in this coach trying to escape as the headlight bore down on them, gave a graphic description of the wreck today. Beginning at the point where the Michigan Central train derailed and came to a stop across the New York Central tracks, Fierke said in part:

"The car swayed suddenly and left the tracks. We bumped along the ties for a few feet at full speed. From one side I heard the blast of a whistle. I looked out. There was another train bearing down upon us at full speed.

"I couldn't move. My tongue stuck up in the roof of my mouth. I tried to open the door in the day coach and shout to the people inside. My hand refused to function.

"It perhaps wasn't over thirty seconds between the time I saw that big train, and the moment it hit us. It was ten years to me.

"The light from the headlight of the approaching train made everything as bright as day. I thought I was surely going to be killed.

"As I stood I could see in the day coach. On the side the New York Central train was approaching. I could see that other passengers had seen the train. A woman jumped up from her seat. She held a little girl—looked as though she were about eight or nine years old—to her breast. Man jumped up—one even started for the door, where I was standing.

"Then suddenly the side of the car buckled in. My last conscious impression was of everything dissolving in front of me. I remember seeing the nose of the engine. I remember the lights in the car going out suddenly. I remember hearing a scream that I will never forget. And then came darkness.

"I was thrown from that platform nearly fifty feet. I lit on the ground the breath knocked out of me. As I sat up I saw the whole middle of our train was gone. It was a little hell there for a few minutes.

"I wish I could accurately describe the sensations of that moment that I waited for death. I can't understand even now how I am alive. When I could get to my knees I stayed there and gave up a prayer.

"I'll never forget the expressions on the faces of those poor souls as they died. The staring eyes of one man looked directly into mine. His face is going to come before me for the rest of my life."

Fierke, outside of numerous bruises, was not injured.

The car platform on which he stood was smashed into fragments.

Soon have a town to be proud of.

Rev. Daniel Austin preached an inspiring sermon at the Baptist Church Sunday morning. He has been kind enough to preach for the different congregations several times recently. He and his splendid family are making their home with Mr. Ed M. Harris, and we are very glad to have them in our midst.

Dr. and Mrs. L. W. Hart and family spent the week end in Charlotte visiting relatives.

There have been several exchanges of homes here this week. Duce Furr sold his home to Gus Kimrey and in turn bought G. M. Henderson's house.

## ORIGINAL SECTIONS OF PROPOSED ROAD BILL

### Original Section 23 of Bill, and Section 12, Which Has Been Amended.

## IT IS A WISE AMENDMENT

In our last issue we published a copy of the proposed Stanly County road law which is now being considered by the General Assembly. The bill as printed by us was an exact copy of the one that was given a favorable report by the Senate committee, but it was not a copy of the bill as originally prepared and introduced in the Senate. We did not have an opportunity to see a copy of the original bill but wired one of our State Senators to send us a copy, which he sent and which we printed last week, of course, as amended. The following was cut out of the bill by the Senate Committee and we think wisely so as it shows on its face that it was designed for the purpose of legislating every particle of authority away from the County Commissioners, except the power to levy taxes. The following is a copy of Section 23 of the original bill as introduced:

Section 23. That the Road Commission of Stanly County shall be and it is hereby vested with all the powers and authority, and shall perform all the duties which have heretofore been performed and exercised by the Board of County Commissioners of Stanly County (except power to levy taxes,) or by the road officials of the several townships within said county now, or heretofore acting under authority of existing law in relation to the public roads and bridges of said county, whether under general or special laws; and all powers pertaining to roads and bridges conferred by the general laws of the state, on the County Commissioners are hereby conferred upon the Road Commissioners of Stanly County with full power and authority to act under, and in accordance with, said laws, in as full and ample manner as if its name was designed in the original act conferring said powers.

We are informed that section 12 has since been amended, cutting out the most objectionable feature, that of penalizing a land owner who might not see fit to agree with the Board of Highway Commissioners. Section 12 as amended reads as follows:

"Sec. 12. In opening new highways or roads, widening, straightening, improving, altering, or changing old roads and repairing the same; the Road Commission, through its agents or employees, are hereby authorized to enter upon any lands and make all necessary surveys, and locate, relocate, build, improve, change, alter, widen, and repair such highways or roads. If the said Road Commission and the owner of said land can not agree as to the damages, if any, the said Road Commission shall, within sixty days after said road or highway is completed cause to be summoned three disinterested freeholders of said county, who under the general law, as it now exists for condemning rights of way for railroads, shall go upon the lands and assess the damage done the owner, and in so doing they shall take into consideration the special benefits received by the owner, and in determining such benefits, consideration shall be given to the benefits the owner has derived from the fact that any old road right-of-way has reverted to said owner by reason of the relocation of the new road: Provided, that no suit shall be instituted by the owner for damages on account of the location of the road under this act, or the taking of timber or material until sixty days after the completion of said road; and no suit shall be brought by any land owner unless the same is commenced within six months after the completion of said road; Provided, further, that either party shall have the right of appeal from the award made by the said jurors to the Superior Court; Provided, however, that after all necessary surveys are made and the location or relocation of the road determined upon, it shall be the duty of the Road Commission to serve notice upon the owner or agent or party in charge of said lands, notifying

## DOUGHTON UNTOUCHED BY SO-CALLED EVIDENCE

### Some Little Irregularities, But No Real Evidence is Uncovered.

## NEWS-HERALD WINS FAME

On last Friday morning when the investigation proceedings in the Doughton-Campbell Congressional Contest convened at the court house at this place, there were many interested Democrats and Republicans present to see the big stunt long promised by the Republicans. Many Republicans were there with the expectation of seeing the evidence of red-handed fraud laid bare to the cold, merciless gaze of an outraged populace. However, despite the fact that a long list of witnesses, including some of the leading citizens of the county, were sworn in and rigidly examined during Friday, Saturday and today, no great election frauds or political rascality has been shown. It is true certain evidence was brought out by some of the Democratic witnesses examined, showing some harmless irregularities, but no fraud or illegal methods have been developed, and the investigation, so far as Albemarle is concerned, would so far, prove absolutely nothing that in fairness would shake Mr. Doughton on the least. For instance it was shown by Mr. J. A. Little, Clerk of the Superior Court that he had been the custodian of the registration books between elections, where as a matter of law, the Register of Deeds is the proper custodian, but Mr. Little testified that it had always been the custom of the Clerk to keep the registration books, and he had not gone to the trouble to investigate whether or not this was a part of his duties, and he further stated that when the Register of Deeds was a Republican, the Clerk also kept the Registration books. Irregularities were also shown regarding absentee votes, but these appeared to have been, as in the case of the Clerk and registration books, harmless irregularities. A. C. Huneyutt was placed on the stand and questioned for nearly an hour regarding the publication of the famous negro woman letter, also regarding the publication of the political edition of The Badin Tribune, which appeared on Saturday before the election. What purpose Dr. Campbell had in getting this evidence is somewhat of a mystery, as the same witness testified to similar literature having been circulated by the Republicans about the same time.

When Joe Lee went on the stand he even went far enough to give the Stanly News-Herald credit for the election of Cameron Morrison as Governor, and stated that in his opinion the publication of the famous negro woman letter in Stanly County caused the immediate registration of fifty thousand Democratic women in North Carolina, which meant Parker's defeat and Morrison's election. (We might state right here that it pays to advertise in the News-Herald.)

Ray Sossamon, Registrar for Furr Township, was rigidly examined for about an hour regarding the alleged conduct of the election at Locust, but it seemed that nothing fearful developed from the questioning of this witness. J. C. Dunlap, registrar for Norwood, and Henry P. Efrid, registrar for Big Lick, were each put thru rigid examinations. It was during the examination of Mr. Dunlap, that evidence came out as to Charlie Swearingen, a discharged soldier, and Dunlap Hathcock, having voted without

(Continued on page four.)

them that the road is to be located upon said lands, under the authority of this act."

We think that this amendment is also a wise one, as section twelve as amended reads more like a law passed in a free country than the original bill.

We don't see how any person of Anglo-Saxon descent could read section twelve as originally introduced without righteous indignation. While the same was in accordance with a recent state law, yet we believe that it was not only tyrannical and repulsive, but unconstitutional and incapable of being enforced in this State.

## DOCK IKE CHALLENGED THE EX-SOLDIER VOTES

### Excerpt From Votes Taken During Statesville Hearing Prove This Conclusively.

## FOR BENEFIT OF DOUBTERS

Is Dr. Campbell making a direct effort to challenge the vote of ex-soldiers who cast their votes at the last election without having paid their poll tax? The position taken by him and his counsel would indicate that he is challenging such votes. In the investigation here last week evidence was brought out to the effect that Dunlap Hathcock and Charlie Swearingen, who voted at Norwood, were both ex-service men, and the question was asked the witness, J. C. Dunlap, as to whether or not these voters had paid their poll tax. As the investigation proceeds in this county other similar cases may develop or where Doctor Campbell is directly challenging the votes of returned soldiers.

As there has been considerable newspaper talk of the Doctor's attitude at Statesville during the investigation there, and as some of Dr. Campbell's friends rather denied that he attempted to challenge the votes of returned soldiers who voted without paying their poll tax, and being desirous of doing Dr. Campbell no injustice we secured a sworn copy of the record of the Statesville investigation which shows conclusively that the contestant, Dr. Campbell, will challenge the votes of returned soldiers in this district who voted without paying poll tax, even though these ex-service men were expressly exempt by the county commissioners of the various counties of the district.

The following is a sworn copy of an excerpt taken from the record as recorded of the Statesville investigation by the official stenographer, Ola H. Cruse:

R. L. Doughton, Contestee, objects to any evidence being introduced in the course of this investigation, in this or in any other county of the District, tending to show that any soldier who served in the World War was disqualified to vote in the last election by reason of his not having paid his poll tax for the year 1919. This objection is based upon the inherent and natural justice of the situation, and also upon the fact that in every county of the District, as will hereafter be shown, the county commissioners expressly exempted all soldiers and sailors from the payment of poll tax.

In rejoinder to the foregoing objection by Governor T. W. Bickett on behalf of the Contestee, R. L. Doughton, I. James J. Britt, as counsel for James I. Campbell, respectfully submitted that under the constitution and laws of the State of North Carolina voters may be exempt from the payment of poll tax on the grounds of poverty and indigence only, and that is by the county commissioners of the county in which they live, which exemption must appear of record, and be in the form of a public certificate capable of proof and administration at any time in the county from which the same is issued, and that on behalf of the said contestant any poll tax of any voter in the Eighth Congressional District of North Carolina not regularly paid or exempted in the manner herein indicated will be challenged according to their tenor.

Counsel for the contestee, R. L. Doughton, in reply to the entry of the counsel for the contestant, desires to have it made a matter of record that neither the laws nor the Constitution of North Carolina in any way requires or calls upon counsel or parties to this investigation to challenge the vote of any soldier on account of the non-payment of poll tax, and when the Contestant does so he does it not as a legal necessity, but of his own free will and choice.

To which counsel for Contestant rejoins that while neither the Constitution nor laws of North Carolina require the challenging of any voter upon the ground of non-payment of tax any more than it requires A. to sue B on a right of action, nevertheless, in all cases where, in the matter of inquiry, the question of whether any voter has or has not paid his

## GEO. AREY IS BURNED TO DEATH AT MISENHEIMER

### Gasoline in Tank Caught Fire When He Used Light to Look In It.

## DIED IN A SHORT WHILE

One of the most horrible accidents ever happening in Stanly County was that which occurred on Monday morning at Misenheimer when Geo. Arey, of Lower Rowan, was burned so badly from a gasoline explosion that he died within a few hours thereafter.

Mr. Arey was driving a Ford car, and, as he supposed his gasoline was exhausted, he used a light to see how much, if any, he had in the tank. The gasoline caught from the light, exploded, covering his clothes with burning gas. He was so badly burned before flames could be extinguished that it is said his finger and toe nails fell off, while the skin slipped from his flesh. He was wrapped in blankets and rushed to Salisbury, but nothing could be done for his relief, and he died shortly after reaching the Salisbury hospital.

Mr. Arey was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Arey, of Lower Rowan. He was 23 years of age, and unmarried. The horrible occurrence has cast a gloom over the community where he lived. Those who saw the accident and watched the man burn to death say that it was the most awful sight imaginable. The automobile was completely destroyed by the flames, and another person who was nearby at the time of the explosion barely escaped a horrible death.

## NIGHT RIDERS ACTIVE IN NORTHERN ALABAMA.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Feb. 27.—Renewed activities of the night riders around Bridgeport and other Alabama towns resulted in an appeal today to federal authorities for protection by residents who have been attacked in their homes. The jail at Scottsboro is under special guard of state law enforcement officers as an aftermath of night riding in that as a precaution against mob violence section the past week.

According to reliable information reaching her today, the farmers in the Bridgeport and Stevenson section are keyed up to a high pitch of excitement over developments of the past few days. Jodie Beavers and John Brown, two farmers, arrested Saturday by state law enforcement officers, sent to Jackson county by Governor Kilby, are confined in the jail at Scottsboro, and Brown is suffering from a wound alleged by officers to have been sustained in the course of a raid on the home of Harry McGowan Thursday night by a band of about 15 or 20 night riders. Both Beavers and Brown, it is said, have been identified by McGowan as members of the gang of alleged riders who attacked his home. Both of the men deny having participated in the raid.

The convening of an American conference in every state, followed by the assembling of a national congress, to be attended by Americanism directors, and representatives of schools, industries, and various civic and patriotic societies is on the program of the Americanism Commission of the American Legion for 1921. The Legion's plan was formed as a result of an Americanism conference in Massachusetts, which was held under the auspices of the Bay State Legionnaires.

poll tax is legal and proper subject of challenge and may be legally and properly challenged, and that there is no provision of the Constitution or laws of the State that in any wise prohibit it.

I, Ola H. Cruse, court reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing testimony is a true and accurate copy of an excerpt taken from my notes in the hearing of James I. Campbell, Contestant, vs. Robert L. Doughton, Contestee, held before Monroe Adams, N. P., and Commissioner of Testimony, which hearing began February 14th, 1921.

OLA H. CRUSE,  
Official Stenographer.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of February, 1921.