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CHRISTMAS AT STATE CAPITAL PASSED QUIETLY

N. C. Education Association Asks Governor to Endorse Eight Months Term Plan

SEVERAL CONVICTS PAROLED

(By M. L. SWIPMAN)

Raleigh, December 28.—Raleigh capitulated to the Christmas spirit and the Chief Executive of the State took the lead Thursday evening by pressing a button which illuminated a huge Christmas tree provided by the Rotary Club on Capitol Square at the head of Fayetteville Street. Around this pretty tree choirs of the various churches sang appropriate anthems and from that good hour until this morning the capital city of the State enjoyed a quiet and orderly holiday season, during which all state and city departments were closed. Governor McLean issued a Christmas message to the people of the State in which he stated that "the immortal conception of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man is the great charter of human freedom and human happiness," and admonished one and all to keep in mind this revelation of strength, of kindness and unselfishness. The Executive and his family spent the holidays here, while the heads of some of the departments and many State employees went to their former homes in various sections of the commonwealth.

During the week the State Highway Commission let the contract for a bridge over the Chowan River between Windsor and Edenton and received bids for the construction of the Beaufort-Morehead City bridge across Bogue Sound. The Chowan River bridge will, it is said, be the longest in the State, having a swing of 200 feet, and being all told one and a half miles in length. It is to be constructed by the Sanford and Brooks Company, of Charleston, S. C., at a cost of \$432,422.75 the actual work of construction to begin early in the new year. Contract for the Beaufort-Morehead City bridge to be the second longest in the State, is to be let later on.

Governor McLean issued a statement commending the decision of Duke University to erect its proposed new buildings from stone procured in the quarries at Hillsboro, Orange county, instead of running out of the State for material that is little if any more desirable for building purposes. The Governor does not fancy the idea of neglecting native stone and has in mind a movement to utilize other North Carolina resources when ever possible in the construction of buildings and for other purposes.

The Governor commutes the sentence of A. B. Crutchfield, Winston-Salem, convicted of running over and killing a child while driving an automobile in an intoxicated condition from "not less than ten nor more than fifteen years" in the State's Prison, to "not less than three nor more than ten years." Paroles were recently granted to Jesse Silverthorn of Beaufort county, convicted with Leonard Ormand, of the same county in 1918, of second degree murder. Fish Brown and John Hairston, who had each served long terms for a similar offense, have been given their freedom on the recommendation of Pardon Commissioner Hoyle Sink.

Jesse H. Wyatt, former Raleigh detective captain, will begin his sentence of not less than eight nor more than eighteen months in the State's Prison for the killing of Stephen S. Holt, Smithfield lawyer, on March 15. The date was advanced by Judge Middleton on account of his expectancy of another child in the Wyatt home. Wyatt's former associates on the local police force expressed their appreciation of his public service and sympathy in his misfortune in the presentation of a purse containing \$60, during the holiday festivities.

The North Carolina Education Association will ask Governor McLean to join in the fight for a minimum eight month school term. Officers of the Association expect the Governor on recommendation of the organization, to app int an educational (Continued on page 6.)

CHRISTMAS TRADE GOOD.

Some Beaufort merchants have expressed themselves to the News as having had the best Christmas trade this year that they have ever had. It seemed that every merchant in town whether he broke any records or not had a good business. Good fishing, better farming conditions and general prosperity probably accounts mostly for the good holiday trade. It may not be amiss for the News to state that the merchants in Beaufort advertised more freely this year than ever before in the town's history. This publicity naturally attracted a great many people here and so money that might have gone to some other place was spent in Beaufort. There has not yet been discovered any substitute for good advertising as a promoter of business.

WASHINGTON NEWS CHARGES SECRECY

Does Not Like It Because Stancil Refused to Comply With Request

In its issue of Monday December 21st the Washington, N. C. Daily News carried an article in regard to a recent bond issue in Carteret county. Judging from the size of the type used in a streamer that ran clear across the front page the article was intended to be sensational. However in the judgment of several who have seen the piece referred to the information conveyed was not in proportion to the size of the type.

The general tone of the Washington News article was critical of County Auditor W. L. Stancil for not furnishing the newspaper a copy of the opinion of Reed, Daugherty and Hoyt bond attorneys of New York city. This legal firm passed upon the validity of the bonds and according to their custom furnished the county with their opinion. It is also customary to furnish such an opinion to the party who buys the bonds. The Washington newspaper wrote the attorneys first for a copy of the opinion and upon being refused wrote County Auditor Stancil for a copy who also refused to furnish it. Auditor Stancil was advised by Attorney Luthy Hamilton that he was under no obligation to furnish the opinion to the Washington News. The editor of the Washington News did not state why he wanted the opinion and no other newspaper has asked for a copy of the opinion on this bond issue or any other Carteret county issue. The board of commissioners will hold their regular meeting here Monday and Mr. Stancil will take the matter up with the board at that time.

MR. MOONEY AND MISS JONES WEDDED LAST EVENING

A quiet but impressive marriage ceremony was solemnized at the Methodist parsonage Wednesday evening when Miss Lillian Jones and Mr. Jack Mooney were united in wedlock. Reverend E. Frank Lee officiated at the marriage which took place in the presence of a few relatives and close friends. The couple left on the early morning train for Boston and other northern cities.

NEW ORDINANCE ADOPTED.

According to a new ordinance it is now unlawful to haul fish chum or its by products through the streets of Beaufort. There is a fine of \$25 as a penalty for violating this ordinance. However it is not unlawful to load chum on railway cars at the railroad Y or near the city power plant. The ordinance referred to was adopted at a called meeting held Wednesday evening the 23rd. No other business was transacted at the meeting of the board.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Parvin of Morristown, N. J. spent several days at the Davis House recently leaving in their yacht for Florida.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

M. A. Hill Tax. Col. to Arthur Stewart 1-4 of lot 175 old town, Beaufort, consideration, unpaid taxes.

J. E. Woodland and wife to Geo. J. Brooks 100 acres Beaufort Township, for about \$500.

Chas. Wheatly et al to W. L. Stancil interest in lot Beaufort for about \$100.

Kilby Salter and wife to W. T. Salter one acre Hunting Quarter Township for about \$250.

J. W. Rose et al to Irving Salter 2 7-10 acres Hunting Quarter Township for about \$10.

Malichi Robinson and wife to Morris W. Willis 1-4 acre Hunting Quarter township for about \$25.

W. J. Lowe to Alfred Hoover tract near Camp Glenn no consideration shown.

B. J. Taylor and wife to L. Trotts 10 acres White Oak township for about \$100.

ORGAN RECITAL TONIGHT.

The organ recital tonight at Ann street Methodist church promises to draw a large crowd. Dr. Herbert Potest of Wake Forest whose ability as a musician is well known throughout the State, will be the attraction. The recital is to begin at eight o'clock.

WATSON LAWRENCE DIED TUESDAY

Mr. Watson Lawrence a well known and highly esteemed citizen of the Otway neighborhood died at his home there Tuesday morning after an illness of several weeks. He was about 70 years of age so the News is informed. Mr. Lawrence had been a merchant and farmer and had been engaged in other business enterprises for many years. He had a large circle of acquaintances and friends and his death is regarded as a severe loss to his community. He is survived by his widow, two sons and three daughters. The two sons Watson Jr., and Elijah David live in Miami, Florida. The daughters live in the Otway neighborhood and are Mrs. Wheeler Lawrence, Mrs. Harvey Lawrence and Mrs. Harvey Hancock.

POLICE COURT ITEMS.

The results of too free indulgence in alcoholic beverages last week were seen in Mayor Thomas' court Monday. The Mayor was a little lighter on them than usual however. The following offenders were tried: Floyd Robinson, drunkenness, \$10 and costs.

Herbert Springle, same as above.

Charles Parker, drunkenness, \$15 and costs.

Ramond Springle, drunkenness suspended on payment of costs.

Tom Davis and Jim Harris, fighting, judgment suspended on payment of costs. George Copes, fighting and drunkenness two cases, judgment suspended in each case on payment of costs.

Lee Springle drunkenness and Jim Chadwick disorderly conduct, cases continued.

JOHN DEMEAN THOUGHT TO HAVE COMMITTED SUICIDE

The tragic death of John Demean, formerly of Beaufort, at his home in Portsmouth, Va. Tuesday brought sorrow to a number of his friends when the information was received here. Mr. Demean was found with his throat cut, a razor lying near and a pistol in his left hand. He had been dead several hours when found. The police investigated the affair and concluded that it was a case of suicide. Mr. Demean was a native of Finland and in his youth had been a sailor. He came to Beaufort a number of years ago and lived in the home of Dr. C. S. Maxwell while he went to St. Paul's School. He was very much attached to Dr. and Mrs. Maxwell and left a will leaving his property to Dr. Maxwell. Mr. Demean was a quiet unassuming sort of man, but very honest and reliable in every way. He had no near relatives in Finland and none at all in this country.

Sitting Bull's headdress, saddle and coat were sold to the Wyoming Historical Society of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania for \$600.

HANCOCK DEATH CAUSES SHOCK

New Bern Section Distressed By Unusual Sad Passing

New Bern, Dec. 29.—This section has seldom been shocked as it was Monday when news of the passing of Capt. Charles K. Hancock by being frozen to death became known. For many years Captain Hancock was a conductor on the Norfolk-Southern Railroad, and was of the most popular the road ever had. In this way he became known to people in all parts of the State, and especially those who traveled the road frequently. The body was found in a ditch about 300 yards from his hunting lodge near Croatan.

There was twenty or more persons in the party that found the body the discovery actually being made by "Buster" Hardison, 13 year old son of Cicero Hardison.

The body was lying face up, in a ditch just wide enough to serve to wedge in the body. There were evidences in the grass along the bank that Captain Hancock had made a desperate struggle to free himself. There was about 6 inches of water in the ditch and this was frozen about the body of Captain Hancock when it was found yesterday morning about 8:30 o'clock.

Coroner J. L. Hartsfield was notified and he viewed the body, but did not consider an inquest necessary, as there were no evidences of foul play.

Sheriff Lane was told that Captain Hancock had left the home of John Henderson at 10 minutes past 4 o'clock Sunday morning, returning to his camp. It was about 350 yards from there that the body was found, and it is believed that he lost his bearings and stepped into the ditch which was only about three feet from the path. Searchers Sunday night passed within three feet of the body, but it was so well concealed by the weeds that it was not observed.

BRIDGE MEN INVITED TO LOCATE HEADQUARTERS HERE

The Beaufort Chamber of Commerce is making an effort to get the contractors for the twin city bridge to locate their headquarters in Beaufort. Telegrams extending invitations to them were sent last week to the Sanford and Brooks Company, Charleston, S. C. and to the Roanoke Iron and Bridge Company Roanoke, Va. The Charleston concern replied to the invitation promptly and said they would send a representative here to look into the matter of locating headquarters before they started to work. It is considered likely that the construction of the bridge will bring a considerable number of people to this section and they will be here for a year or more.

MOREHEAD CITY ADVERTISES

The Chamber of Commerce of Morehead City has gotten out and is distributing a handsome booklet for the purpose of advertising that city. The booklet contains numerous illustrations and a very good writeup of Morehead City. Reference is also made to the climate, fishing, hunting and other attractions of this section.

A BRIDGE PARTY GIVEN FOR

MR. AND MRS. JERNIGAN

Mr. and Mrs. Bayard Taylor charmingly entertained at their home on Ann street Tuesday evening in honor of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Jernigan who will leave the first of the year for their home in the western part of the state.

he lower floor was thrown ensuite and beautifully decorated. Six tables were arranged for bridge. The high score prize was won by Mrs. O'Bryan and Mrs. Jernigan was presented with a guest of honor prize. A lovely salad course was served the 24 guests present.

CLUB MEETING.

The regular meeting of the Community Club will be held Thursday afternoon January 7, at 3 o'clock, in the hall over the Ladies Rest Room. Mrs. Haywood, Cor. Sec.

LITTLE CHILD SCALDED BY FALLING IN POT

Little Jane Vause, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Vause of Kinston, sustained painful if not dangerous injuries Tuesday afternoon at the home of her grandmother Mr. J. T. Simpson on North River road. The little girl, who is eleven months old and just beginning to walk, fell head foremost into a pot of boiling water and was scalded about the head and face. Dr. Whitehurst who attended the child says that her eyes were not injured at all and does not think there will be any scars or serious effects of any sort. Mrs. Vause and Mrs. Simpson were in the room with little Jane at the time of the accident but had been called to the door for a moment and in that brief time she managed to get into the water. She was pulled out so quickly however that she was not very badly burned.

BARGE HAMMOND LEAVES SUDDENLY

Held At Southport And Required To Give \$35,000 Bond Before Released

The barge Hammond which was salvaged Sunday a week ago by Captain Ned Lewis and several others, as told in the News last week, took French leave of Beaufort Christmas eve. The vessel was brought into the harbor and a watchman put aboard for the purpose of holding her until some agreement had been reached as to the salvage. On Christmas eve about dark the tug that had the contract to tow the barge arrived and the watchman was told that the vessel had been released. The barge was taken in tow and they went to sea. When the salvors found out what had happened they got busy and had the barge stopped at Southport. Attorney J. F. Duncan representing the salvors had the Hammond libeled and a bond of \$35,000 was required. Tuesday afternoon Rountree, Carr and Poissons appearing for the owners of the Hammond notified Mr. Duncan that the bond had been arranged and the barge was then released. The matter is now in the Federal Court and will be heard in due season.

Captain Ned Lewis having gotten his hand in proceeded to do some more salvaging Christmas day. A yacht that had started to sea had to turn back and lost her way coming into the harbor and got on a shoal back of the Bird Shoal Christmas day. The Fort Macon Coast Guard crew and Captain Lewis got to work on her and after working hard for two tides finally succeeded in getting the vessel in deep water. There was no controversy about the salvage in this case though as the yacht captain was willing to pay Captain Lewis \$200 for his services which he did and proceeded on his way.

MAIL SERVICE ESTABLISHED TO CAPE LOOKOUT NOW

Bids for carrying the mail between Beaufort, Harkers Island and Cape Lookout were received by the U. S. Postoffice Department on December 22nd and the contract was awarded to Captain Cleveland Davis of Harkers Island. The service will start on January the first.

The mail boat will arrive in Beaufort every morning at 11:30 and will start on the return trip immediately after the morning mail train arrives. It goes to Harker's Island, then to Cape Lookout landing and back to Harker's Island. A passenger service will be maintained as well as the mail service and it is thought that this will prove to be considerable convenience to the public as a good many people go back and forth between the cape and the mainland especially in summer.

MRS. GUTZELL ENTERTAINS.

Mrs. Gutzell charmingly entertained at bridge on Tuesday afternoon in honor of Mrs. Jernigan. Four tables were arranged in the hall, living-room and music room. At the conclusion of the game prizes were awarded and delicious refreshments served.

SCHOOLS SELECT THEIR QUERY FOR ANNUAL DEBATE

Will Discuss Advisability of Tax For Eight Months School Term

OTHER QUERIES SUGGESTED

Chapel Hill, Dec. 30.—The query to be discussed in the contest of the High School Debating Union of North Carolina this year was announced here today by E. R. Rankin, secretary of the union, as follows: Resolved, That North Carolina should levy a state tax on property to aid in the support of an eight-months school term.

The question was decided upon by the central committee, Mr. Rankin stated, after it had received a large plurality of the votes which were cast on a list of thirteen suggested queries. The result of the vote by 314 high schools on the list of suggested queries was given as follows:

A total of 130 high schools cast votes for the question selected, this question having been given this preliminary phrasing: Resolved, That North Carolina should adopt a state-wide uniform property tax for providing an eight months school term covering elementary and high school education.

Fifty three high schools voted for the query: Resolved, That Congress should enact the Sterling-Reed bill, providing for a federal department of education and for federal aid to the states for education.

Twenty-seven high schools voted for the query: Resolved, That North Carolina should abolish capital punishment.

Twenty-three high schools cast ballots for the question: Resolved, That the Legislature should enact a law setting up the county manager plan of county government in all North Carolina counties.

Twenty high schools cast ballots for the question: Resolved, That the United States should join the World Court.

Thirteen high schools cast their ballots for the question: Resolved, That the federal government should own and operate the coal mines.

Twelve high schools voted for the query: Resolved, That the federal constitution should be so amended as to prohibit future issues of tax exempt securities.

Seven high schools voted for the query: Resolved, That the proposed child labor amendment to the federal constitution should be adopted.

The following queries received five votes each: Resolved, That the United States should adopt the cabinet form of government; Resolved, That North Carolina should adopt a workmen's compensation law; and Resolved, That the United States should immediately grant independence to the Philippines.

Three high schools voted for the query: Resolved, That the Governor of North Carolina should be provided with the power of veto, and two high schools voted for the query: Resolved, That Congress should be empowered by a two-thirds vote to override decisions of the Supreme Court.

Secretary Renkin stated that all secondary and high schools of the State are invited to become members of the High School Debating Union with the object of participating in the high school debates in the spring of 1926. Triangular debates between competing high schools will be held throughout the State, and the schools winning both debates in this series will send their teams to the University to take part in the final contest for the Aycock Memorial Cup, trophy provided by the inter-collegiate debaters of the University.

A COUNTY SURVEY.

Carteret County is to have a written survey made of its progress, problems and activities. The committee in charge of the bulletin hopes to have the help of the people in filling out the blanks sent them.

C. W. LEWIS.
Mr. A. L. Wilson of Newport was a business visitor in Beaufort today