

OF LOCAL INTEREST

LOCAL MAN APPOINTED TOBACCO FIELD AGENT.
Senator Overman secured the appointment, made Thursday, of G. L. Hodges, of Kinston, to be field agent for the Department of Commerce to gather tobacco statistics.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.
Licenses to wed have been issued since last reported to two white couples: Henry Rouse, 22, of Wayne county, and Lodie Dail, 23, of Lenoir county. Rufus B. Hodges, 23, of Wilmington, and Nona Williams, 23, of Kinston.

FREIGHT TRAFFIC BEING SATISFACTORILY HANDLED.
Although freight traffic over the Norfolk Southern lines continues very heavy, being augmented considerably by the holiday business, the company is having no difficulty in handling it. A sufficiency of extra cars are at hand and on some of the lines extra trains have been operated during the past few days.

DEATH OF BAKER.
BRYAN REPORTED.
A report is had here, unconfirmed, that Baker Bryan, the notorious New Bern character who, several years ago, killed William Avery there, is dead. Baker was freed of the charge, thereby arousing public indignation. His whereabouts are unknown here, and his people in New Bern know nothing of his death.

THEY MIGHT BE TWINS, BUT THEY ARE NOT.
Adolph and Octave Westbrook are a messenger and operator, respectively, in the office of the Western Union Telegraph Co. Some time ago one of the boys was taken sick with typhoid fever. The other followed in a few days. Now Octave Westbrook is just out from a siege of the mumps. Adolph is just in with the same trouble. They are not twins. Oh, no.

FOUR SCORE AND TEN, BUT STILL ELIGIBLE.
Veteran James B. Carter of Pink Hill walked into the clerk of the court's office at the Courthouse today to draw his pension check. The pension clerk, especially courteous in consideration of the aged man's venerable appearance, inquired about his health. Comrade Carter, who served with credit to himself in the Sixty-sixth, declared he was very fit in spirit, and wanted a young wife. He is ninety years of age, he said. The embarrassment of several women seated in the office when he announced his nuptial eligibility can be imagined.

HORACE HODGES ALLAYS NEW BERNIANS' FEARS.
Horace H. Hodges, the Kinstonian who is now at the head of New Bern's water and light department, Thursday expressed himself emphatically as of the opinion that a costly filtration plant that had been advocated by many scared water consumers there would be a useless expense to the city. New Bern's debt is already big. The newspapers, local and State, have been playing up New Bern's water scare. There is a great amount of lime in the supply. Hodges, admitting it, declares that altogether, despite the lime, "the water is unusually healthful."

MAN MARRIED TO KINSTON GIRL WAS BORN IN ASIA.
The Durham Daily Sun gives a lengthy account of the recent wedding of Miss Annie May Cockrell of this city, to Gregory S. Wallins, a cafe proprietor of that city. Mr. and Mrs. Wallins were married in the bride's home on East Gordon street. Mrs. Wallins were married in the bride's people were residing there, a cashier in her husband's restaurant. Mr. Wallins was born in Asiatic Turkey, and has been in this country five years, four of which have been spent in Durham, where he is well known and popular.

HERE'S A KIND DEED SOME ONE CAN PERFORM.
Wanted—a Santa Claus for 65, or it may be a larger number after the present court is concluded—convicts on the county roads. The county, it is said at the Courthouse, doesn't consider it its duty to spend the people's money for the filling of stockings of black men in stripes on Christmas eve, but anybody who is willing to be proxy for Santa Claus, who so consistently neglects these children of misfortune, is perfectly welcome to "shoot." The whole thing can be arranged at a minimum cost, too, since it doesn't take much of a gift to make the heart of a fellow who doesn't even expect it, glad on the day when, being allowed a "holiday," possibly, his only pleasure can be to sit reminiscently over the Christmases past and think of how the people out in the world are enjoying the present. And, since imagination is not usually well developed in the criminal of the county road class, he won't even get the consolation that old man Scrooge did out of dreams of Christmas future.

GENERAL COMMITTEE FOR CHRISTMAS CHARITIES

Mrs. R. L. Crisp is Chairman and All Churches and Other Benevolent Organizations Are Requested to Confer with Committee.

In order to aid in the distribution of charities this Christmas, a general committee has been appointed to get from all the churches, Sunday schools, lodges, mills, public schools, etc., a list of the families they purpose helping. This will not in any way interfere with the choice made by the organizations. Each can choose its own list, but the General Committee can inform them whether or not any names on their list are on another also, and thus prevent unintentional duplication.

Mrs. R. L. Crisp is chairman of the committee. Each church or organization is requested to prepare a list of those it expects to help Christmas and report to Mrs. R. L. Crisp or some member of the committee not later than Monday morning, December 21. The following ladies have been asked to serve upon the committee, viz.: Mesdames R. L. Crisp, J. F. Marquette, Dan Quinerly and E. B. Marston, and Misses Jennie Shaw and Newton.

NO MORE TOBACCO SALES UNTIL AFTER HOLIDAYS

Local Market Closes Today and Reopens Monday, January 4—Snow Hill Market Also Shuts Down for Christmas Season.

Kinston tobacco market will close after today's sales for the Christmas holidays. The tobaccoists will take a whole fortnight for their midwinter vacation, and most of them, hard worked during the nearly four months since the warehouses were first opened for the season, need it. The season up to now has been an extraordinarily busy one. Most of the buyers and some of the sales force men will spend the holidays at out-of-town points, and a few have already left for the Kentucky and Western Carolina markets, where the season for the dark leaf is now on in full blast.

The Kinston market will be re-opened on Monday, January 4. Resident tobacco men believe a considerable quantity of the weed in this territory yet remains to be sold. The Snow Hill market also closes down this evening, and will start up again on January 5, one day later than the market here.

JAIL CASES STILL HAVE COURT'S ATTENTION

Superior Court, with but little more than one day of the session left, is still engaged in the trial of "jail cases," in order to clear the county prison. None of the most important cases, so far as general interest is concerned, have yet been taken up. Cases disposed of and sentences passed on Thursday were: E. W. Wade and Pearl Wade, fornication and adultery, six months for the man and judgment upon the woman suspended. T. J. Potter, larceny, nol pros. Petty Teachey, carrying a concealed weapon, twelve months. Sam Moody, assault and battery on his wife, 12 months. Tom Tucker, retailing, six months. Because of physical infirmity, Tucker was ordered to be allowed to work out his time around the Courthouse. Shade James, carrying a concealed weapon, four months. J. D. Williams, assault, nol pros. Anderson Gibson, carrying a concealed weapon, eight months. Morris Jones, assaulting a woman, guilty; not sentenced.

There were around a dozen of the jail cases. These usually are given the preference over all except cases of much importance in Superior Court, in order to avoid congestion in the jail and to allow prisoners not able to furnish bail a chance to be liberated or receive their punishment as the case may be, without undue incarceration.

GABRIEL POOLE LIBERATED.
Magistrate H. C. V. Peebles after a hearing Thursday night ordered the discharge of Gabriel Poole, a white man arrested by county officers last spring for the alleged operation of a whiskey still near Kelly's Mill. Poole, who fled his bond, was recently located in Lexington, Ky., and returned here. The magistrate decided that there was no evidence to connect Poole with the still which the officers destroyed and accused him of running.

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CITY SCHOOLS DISMISSED FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Will Resume January 4—Boys and Girls of All Grades Given Two Long Weeks' Rest from Lessons and Other Duties.

The city schools were closed this afternoon for two weeks' holidays, and the more than a thousand white and several hundred colored children turned loose to behave extraordinarily well, pester their parents and prepare for Santa Claus for a week, and suffer from indigestion and romp without restraint for the week following. In the high school and grammar grades there were no Christmas exercises worthy of mention, but in the primary department several classes of the little folks recited, sang songs and went through simple tableaux. A number of patrons attended the exercises in some of the rooms.

Practically all of the teachers residents of other places are leaving today or preparing to leave for their homes.

When the schools re-open on January 4 it will not be with the congestion that has existed all the fall in the white buildings. The new building on East Lenoir street will be occupied for the first time by the high school and seven grades of the grammar school. The building at Peyton avenue and Independent street will house one grammar grade, and the primary department. It is said that both buildings will be at least comfortably filled even then. The new school house was rushed with a view to its occupancy two weeks ago, but bad weather conditions obtaining about that time made this impracticable.

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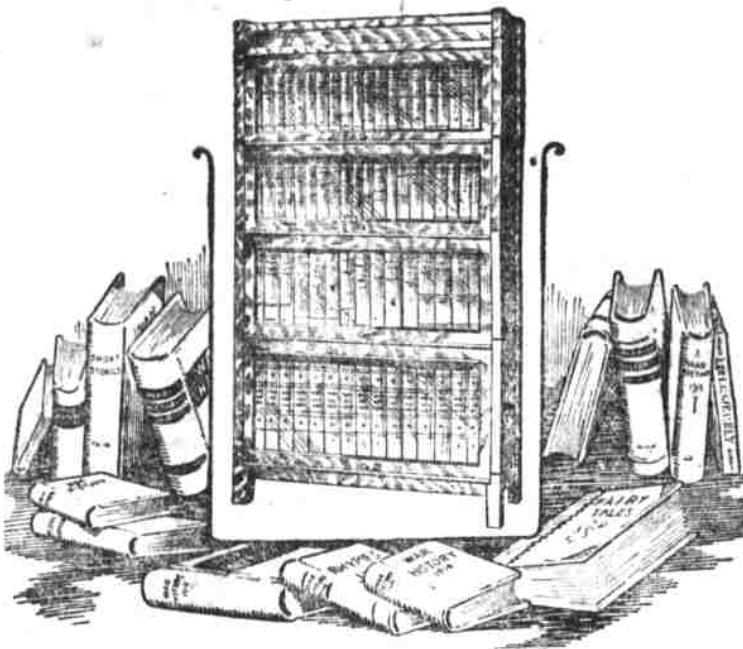
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