

### SENATOR CURRIN'S BILL

#### ENDORSED BY THE DEMOCRATIC MASS MEETING

Some Strong Speeches Were Made for and Against the Measure—Lawyers Talked and Farmers Voted

Senator Currin's bill to repeal the present crop lien system was overwhelmingly endorsed by the democratic Mass Meeting held in the Court House Saturday. By an actual count there were three hundred and ten people present when the vote was taken, 152 voting for the measure and thirty-five voting for the present law to stand. Senator Currin sat in the bar of the Court room and heard his bill assailed by three lawyers and one farmer and he had the satisfaction of hearing nine farmers praise it in open debate upon the floor.

#### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

B. F. Hester was called to the chair and he presided over the meeting with a steady hand while Charles R. Gordon jotted down the minutes.

Upon throwing the meeting open, B. K. Lassiter was the first to address the chair. Mr. Lassiter said that he wished to set history straight; that there was nothing "cut and dried" in the recent meeting of the Granville County Executive Committee of which he is chairman. Before taking his seat Mr. Lassiter declared that he was in favor of Mr. Currin's bill or some measure that would improve our methods.

E. C. Harris followed Mr. Lassiter, stating that in his opinion the Currin bill was the very best thing for the poor man.

Dr. Morris advocated the passage of the measure; he stated that it was against the interest of the poor man to permit it to longer remain on the statute books; that the supply man could not sell at a low price because he had to sell to everybody; that the crop lien does not benefit the poor man; that the farmer cannot pay thirty per cent when his farm only pays five per cent upon an average; that it makes an unthrifty farmer because he cannot pay his accounts.

C. W. Bryan stated that he doubted that the measure could be carried in Granville, Vance, Warren and other counties in this section of the State.

James W. Horner argued that the passage of the Currin bill would do more harm to the white people than it would to the negro; that the negro has the happy faculty of getting along somehow or other; that the real milk in the coconut was the question of labor.

J. I. Gordon registered his protest against the passage of the bill. He declared that its passage would hurt the white man more than it would the colored man.

Senator Hicks was called for and in a vigorous speech he said that he would always be found in full sympathy for the poor man. He stated that he was opposed to the repeal of the present lien system because it would work a hardship on the poor man.

M. F. Adcock and P. W. Knott took the floor in favor of repealing the crop lien law.

Representative Brummitt was called upon to give his views on the question. He stated that he would not give an expression unless he was permitted to talk longer than the allotted five minutes. In a neat speech of ten minutes he argued the measure from a legal standpoint. He stated that the big land holders like Senator Currin could take care of themselves, but that it was the interests of the under dog that should have protection. Mr. Brummitt thought it would be the best thing to submit the question of a repeal to the primary next year.

Judge Graham said that this was a serious question and needed careful consideration. He stated that it was the interests of the common laborer, the white man and the negro that was involved. He stated that he does not represent any supply house in Oxford, but that he was opposed to the repeal of either the crop lien law or homestead law.

J. L. Peed, County Commissioner, stated that he wished to correct an error. He stated that when the Board of Commissioners recently sat with the County Executive Committee in a body the Board did not go on record for or against the passage of the Currin bill.

The motion of W. S. Howell to submit the question to a vote of the people at the 1916 primaries was defeated by an overwhelming majority.

**SENATOR CURRIN'S VIEWS**  
Immediately after the adjournment of the meeting we asked Senator Currin if he intended to work for the passage of his measure. He replied that he was reasonably sure that people of Granville and some of the counties in this part of the State are in favor of repealing the present system. He doubted that it would

### ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS

#### GATHERED FROM THE TOWN AND COUNTY

Happenings That are of Interest to the Many Readers of the Public Ledger.

**Earning Their Wages**  
The school teachers of Granville county are earning their salary.

**The Gifted Soprano**  
The date of the appearance at the Orpheum Theatre of the gifted young American soprano, Miss Belle Gottschalk, will be announced later.

**Forty-Five Join Church**  
As a result of the recent revival services at the Baptist church forty-five young people joined the church and were baptised Sunday morning by Dr. Lumpkin.

**January Tobacco Sales**  
We see from the tobacco sales made in the State during the month of January that Oxford ranked as the fourth market selling 1,289,342 pounds. Creedmoor sold 241,499 pounds of tobacco.

**Drag the Roads**  
Now is the time for the overseers to drag the roads and fill up the deep holes made during the long wet spell of weather. Get busy Mr. Overseer, as the drag will save the roads just at this time of the year.

**Card of Thanks**  
Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Perkinson desires to thank through the Public Ledger the many friends and neighbors for the sympathy and kindness shown them during the sickness and death of their dear little daughter.

**Miss Lizzie Gooch Goes North**  
Miss Lizzie Gooch will leave for Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York Thursday morning to study the advanced styles of millinery. After a brief stay in the north she will return to Albemarle for the season.

**Progression**  
We have noticed that it is the custom in Oxford for the men who buy flour by the pound and wood by the stick to say that when they get sick they send for the "doctor". Those who buy flour by the sack and wood by the load send for a "physician" when taken sick.

**Dr. Hays Will Investigate**  
Dr. Hays, our excellent Health officer, will visit the principal cities and towns of the State at an early date to investigate certain health problems. We are sure that no phase of the great work will be neglected by the distinguished Health Physician of Granville.

**Our Health Physician**  
At their regular monthly meeting last week the Town Commissioners elected Dr. Hays to serve as health officer of Oxford in conjunction with his duties as County Physician and Health officer. Dr. Hays was present at the meeting and addressed the Board on health measures.

**Mr. Hobgood Gets a Raise**  
We are glad that the Town Commissioners at a recent meeting saw their way clear to increase the salary of Mr. Hobgood, Foreman of the street gang, from \$60 to \$70 per month. Mr. Hobgood is an industrious man, and if he is given the material he will show results.

**The Store of Quality**  
We invite your attention to the advertisement of the Perkinson-Green Company on the last page of the Public Ledger. Read it carefully and as you pass along Main street notice their fine display window and we are sure the rest will be easy. Their line embraces everything that is needed to make the ladies neat, pretty and comfortable.

**The Roads**  
Old Sol, the road mender, has performed wonders in the past few days. There was more water in the ground last week, perhaps, than there has been at any time these seven years. Roads that looked then as if they never would be navigable again are now in pretty fair shape. However, there are still treacherous places, that look much better than they are, as automobilists have been finding out, to their sorrow.

500 barrels Magnolia flour, every pound guaranteed. Save you money at LYON-WINSTON CO.

**CONCRETE BRICK WALKS BUILT.**  
One dollar per sq. yard. Curbing, 20 cents per foot. Sample may be seen at residence of Mr. H. M. Shaw. Oxford Brick & Tile Works.

become a state law. "It is always best to reason together," said Senator Currin, "and while I had the private views of a majority of my constituency I am glad we came together in a quiet way today to discuss the question. I have always looked at the question of abolishing the crop lien system from a business standpoint, and not from a political point of view. I am sure the passage of the bill will be of great benefit to the people as a whole."

### THE SITUATION PERPLEXING

#### THE FARMERS WANT A MOSES TO LEAD THEM

Organize and Cut Down the Individual Acreage and Bend Every Energy to Produce Tobacco of Quality.

The chief item of concern to the Granville county farmer is the tobacco crop. For several years he has reaped profits from tobacco culture by reason of the fact that weather conditions were good and he sent to the market a crop bright in color and rich in leaf texture. Last year, however, he met with weather conditions, in the growth and curing of his crop, that in a large measure destroyed both color and quality and resulting in unsatisfactory sales. This is true of eighty-five per cent of the farmers of Granville who grow tobacco last year. The land owner made no money and the tenant has come out in debt. It is now up to both to get even on the coming crop.

How will they do it? Grow less tobacco, and better tobacco. In doing this let there be a general unity of action among the tobacco growers all over Granville county. It is a great economic question. One of two things should be done to combat the situation and bring about sure relief. First the reduction of the acreage. Hold a meeting and take down the name of every tobacco producer, the number of acres cultivated last year, and have him sign a paper to the effect that he will decrease his acreage thirty per cent and the troubles of the tobacco grower will be partially solved. By this plan the tobacco land and labor will be conserved.

A thirty per cent reduction in the individual crop acreage will be sufficient to frighten the four arms of the so-called tobacco trust. A better crop will be produced, in fact, the 1915 crop under this policy would be one rich in color and leaf and texture.

It has been suggested to us that the tobacco growers want a Moses to lead them out of the wilderness of despair caused by low prices. Organize the farmers, and by the aid of individual acreage and being organized to produce tobacco of quality, it can not be done by over-cropping. A lack of barn room and a lack of labor to handle the crop are two ruinous propositions.

#### WILL EXECUTE THE LAW

##### Chief Williford Has His Weather Eye On You

The various city ordinances concerning throwing trash upon and spitting on the sidewalks are going to be rigidly enforced by the police authorities from the present time on and any careless and unthoughtful person who has been in the habit of expectorating here and there, whenever the fancy struck him, is in danger of being escorted to police headquarters by Chief Williford. Kicks have been frequent, particularly from some public spirited ladies of the town, and the mayor and commissioners have decided that the sections of the town code concerning spitting in public buildings, on sidewalks, and to throw peanut hulls upon the floors of any public building shall all be rigidly enforced.

With the officer on the lookout for the spitters, expectorators, etc., the throwers of peanut hulls and other refuse, several persons who do not pause to think are going to be, to say the least, slightly embarrassed if they do not look sharp.

#### BOARD OF HEALTH MEETS

##### Passes Strict Quarantine Law For Small Pox

The County Board of Health met in Oxford last Saturday and adopted the rules and regulations regarding infectious diseases in the county as recommended by the State Board of Health in Raleigh. Copies of these rules will be mailed to every doctor in the county as soon as they can be obtained. In addition to these rules the County Board of Health passed a strict quarantine law for small pox. The diseases which must be reported to the County Health Officer (and this in writing and within twenty-four hours after the presence of the disease is known) are diphtheria, scarlet fever, measles, typhoid fever, whooping cough, tuberculosis and small pox. This report is required not only of the physician in attendance but of the house holder where the disease exists. Should any of the above named diseases exist in a home the head thereof will be subject to fine and imprisonment, even though no physician be in attendance, should the disease not be reported.

Prof. J. C. Horner, of Charlotte, was an Oxford visitor Saturday and his many Oxford friends were glad to see him.

### OUR RURAL MAIL ROUTES

#### ORDER WILL CURTAIL ROUTES IN THIS STATE ONE-HALF

In Many Instances Burleson Cuts Daily Routes to Thrice a Week; Others are Abolished.

Postmaster General Burleson is the most unpopular man in North Carolina today. He has just issued an order which will practically annihilate the rural delivery service throughout the country and make it almost impossible for people living in the sparsely settled districts to have additional routes established. The order will curtail the rural routes in North Carolina almost 50 per cent. In many instances where the routes are now operated six times a week they will be cut to three times a week and in other instances routes will be abolished for good.

When Burleson's order accidentally reached members of Congress Saturday there was an indignation meeting among the North Carolina and other state delegations. They say that if Burleson is allowed to have his way about the only means the average citizen living in the country will have of getting his mail will be by privately owned airship lines or hot foot it to the nearest postoffice.

The only reason any one can give for the postmaster general's order is that he wants to make good his declaration that he would make the postoffice department self-sustaining. So far Mr. Burleson has made a miserable failure along this particular line it is claimed. There is already a deficit of some dozen or so millions of dollars and the end is not yet.

He now proposes to inconvenience thousands of good American citizens throughout the country by depriving them of their daily newspapers and other mail in order that he make a good financial showing to Congress when he hands in his annual report next December.

In view of the fact that the "home back road" and two useless arguments of the government are the only reasons for the existence of the rural mail routes it is viewed by all sensible men as being "penny wise and pound foolish." We believe that if Burleson's order is allowed to stand it will have a tendency to lessen the faith in the wisdom of the administration at Washington.

#### SWINDLERS IN THE COUNTRY

##### A Gang of Chicago Crooks Working The Farmers

From different parts of the country come stories of a swindle successfully worked on farmers, who thought they were going to get cheap groceries. Two smooth strangers went through the communities taking orders for a house in Chicago, pretending to sell a standard brand of sugar and flour so cheaply that every farmer visited took from \$10 to \$60 worth, and other things besides. Because of the low prices the flour and sugar had to be 'paid in advance.' It is alleged that in one community the swindlers picked up some \$3,000, and no groceries delivered. Moral? Buy from the merchants who advertise their wares in the Public Ledger. They can't run away.

#### MORE POTATOES

##### Quantity of Seed Being Bought By The Farmers

If one may correctly judge the outlook for the coming potato crop by quantity of seed being bought by the farmers, The Public Ledger feels safe in saying that a larger Irish and sweet potato crop will be planted in Granville the present year than ever before. While talking with a wholesale drummer a few nights ago as to the general crop outlook in his territory the drummer in question told us that he has already sold twice as many seed potatoes here in this section this year as he has ever sold before and that he still has in view several prospective buyers in Oxford.

#### CABBAGE PLANTS

##### Fresh From Young's Island, South Carolina.

These are the best grown: "Charleston Hard Head" and the Early Jersey Wakefield. Twenty cents per hundred. F. C. SPENCER, W. U. T. Office. advt

#### LAST TAX NOTICE

Collection will be forced after this notice and you need not blame any one, when you find your property advertised for sale. You have had fair warning for a long time and now it is simply business. I am forced to collect and I am going to collect. No one need ask for further time as all will be treated alike. Positively no discrimination. S. C. HOBGOOD, Sheriff, Granville Co. head.

### PERSONALLY - MENTIONED

#### SOME YOU KNOW AND SOME YOU DO NOT KNOW

Personal Items About Folks and Their Friends Who Travel Here and There.

Mr. H. R. Daniel, of Route 3, was in Oxford Monday.

Mrs. W. B. Glenn, of Henderson, is visiting relatives in Oxford.

Mr. C. H. Cneatnam, of Route 3, was in Oxford Saturday.

Mr. Stephen Daniel, of Tar River, was in Oxford Saturday.

Mr. N. G. Crews, of Dabney, was in town Saturday.

Mr. Carl Piper, of Route 6, was in Oxford Saturday.

Mr. Zack Allen, of Providence, was an Oxford visitor Saturday.

Mr. Frank West, of Route 4, was a town visitor Saturday.

Mr. George Cannady, of Dunn, was on our streets Saturday.

Mr. T. V. Bobbitt, of Route 3, was in town Saturday.

Mr. J. F. Hobgood, of Providence, was in Oxford Saturday.

Mr. David Crews, of Tar River, was a town visitor Saturday.

Mr. J. A. Davis, of Route 3, was among the farmers in town Saturday.

Mr. Joe Baird is in Louisville, Ky., on business.

Messrs. L. F. and Ben Currin, of Route 1, were town visitors Saturday.

Mr. Graham Smith, of Tar River, was in town Saturday.

Mr. Lee Hobgood, of Route 1, was in Oxford Saturday.

Mr. Len Knott, of Enon, was a town visitor Saturday.

The Misses Adcock, of Route 5, were Oxford visitors Saturday.

Mr. Lee Veasey, of Lyon section, was in Oxford Saturday.

Mr. J. T. Daniel, of Route 1, was in town Saturday.

Mr. J. R. Daniel, of Berea, was in Oxford Saturday.

Mr. L. G. Breedlove, of Route 5, was in town Saturday.

Messrs. Luther and Otha Daniel, of Route 1, were town visitors Saturday.

Mr. Leroy Crews, of Tar River, was in town Saturday.

Misses A. Hamme and Annie E. Wortham have just returned from a delightful visit to friends in Norfolk.

Mr. Nat Brummitt, of Gray Rock section, was an Oxford visitor Monday.

Mr. H. L. Dement, of Route 5, joined the crowd of farmers in Oxford Saturday.

Mr. C. D. Currin, of Route 6, was among the large number of farmers in Oxford Saturday.

Miss Flora Edwards of Raleigh, is visiting her sister, Mrs. M. P. Chambliss.

Messrs. J. L. Peed and W. H. Daniel, of Lyon, joined the large number of farmers in Oxford on Saturday.

Mr. Ethan Allen, of Providence, was numbered with the Oxford visitors Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodson Cash, of Tally Ho, were among the Oxford visitors Saturday.

Mr. J. N. Watkins, of Cornwall, was among the large number of farmers in town Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Dean and daughters, of West Granville, were among the Oxford visitors Monday.

Mr. Ernest Meadows, of New York City, is visiting his sick mother at the home of his sister, Mrs. W. Z. Mitchell, on Broad street.

Mr. W. H. Howard, of Route 4, was in Oxford Saturday and informed us that he killed a pig 18 months old that weighed 420 pounds, from which Mrs. Howard made 60 pounds of lard.

#### DARK OVERTAKES CHILDREN

##### Misses Betsy Ballou and Elizabeth Niles Ride to the Country

Misses Betsy Ballou and Elizabeth Niles, two charming little ladies about ten years old, saddled their ponies Saturday evening and rode out to the Niles bungalow at Fairport. It was getting dark when they reached their journey's end and after conferring with each other they decided to write to their parents, notifying them that they had decided to remain in the Fairport section until Monday morning. Friends in the country told them that the letter would not reach their parents until Monday morning and advised them to get ready and return to Oxford. The parents of the young people were greatly alarmed when the children had not returned home before dark. They were at a loss to know where they were and all the roads leading out of Oxford were kept warm by the automobiles. Mr. Eugene Crews took the Fairport road and met the little girls, coming to town, escorted by a boy who held the lantern high above his head.

### MISS CLEMENT WINS SUIT

#### JURY AWARDS HER \$5,000 FOR DAMAGES SUSTAINED

She Was Hurt at Dickerson Station Last Year—The Case Attracts Considerable Interest.

The case of Miss Annie J. Clement vs. the Seaboard Air Line Railway, heard in the Granville County Superior Court, came to a close Saturday night, the jury awarding the plaintiff \$5000 damages.

It was a hard fought battle. Gen. B. S. Royster and Hicks & Stem appeared for the plaintiff. Judge Graham and Murray Allen appeared for the defendant.

The council on both sides handled the case with credit to themselves and the Judge's charge covering the legal points at issue were covered in an admirable manner.

Owing to the prominence of Miss Clement the case attracted considerable interest. She sued the Seaboard for damages sustained at Dickerson station.

#### Farm Work Delayed

Farmers in Granville have done little farm work this winter on account of the wet weather all through December, January and the first part of this month. During that time there were very few days that it did not rain. With a few days of dry weather the farmers will get busy turning the soil preparatory to pitching their crops.

#### Unloading Sale

Kaplon & Company, the new store next door to the National Bank of Granville, announce elsewhere in this paper a ten days sale, starting Wednesday morning, February 17 at nine o'clock and ending Saturday night, February 27th. This is to be a sweeping unloading sale that involves every article and every garment in the big Kaplon store. The quality and the price of the goods are set forth in the advertising elsewhere.

#### Death of Infant

The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Perkinson died Saturday at the home of her parents on Rectory street, following an attack of meningitis. The dear little girl had been critically ill for several days, and while her life had been despaired of loving ones who watched beside her cradle hoped against hope for a turn in the tide that would restore the precious babe to health and strength. The heartbroken mother and father have the sympathy of a multitude of friends in the sore bereavement that has come upon them. The little body was consigned to the tomb on Sunday amid the tears of loved ones. Jesus said: "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

#### Spring Greeting

The announcement of the Long Company on the last page of this paper is a reminder that Spring with all of its freshness is upon us. The announcement carries with it a large list of the pretty things that the ladies must have. These goods are so very nice we thought that prices must be high, but Mr. King tells us that considering the excellent quality the prices are very attractive.

#### A BAD PRACTICE

##### The Business Men of Oxford Observe Banking Rules

The almost usual custom of overdrafts at a bank is a bad one. Bankers know this and would like to get away from it if they knew how. Perhaps they may be able to do so. Comptroller William's order which looks to its elimination from national banking should immediately be followed by State bankers. No banker desires to pay an overdraft, which in the nature of things means loss instead of profit to his business. He is forced to do so in certain instances, or thinks himself so to be forced, because of competition for business and because of the bad custom of the past. Nevertheless, the loss of a good customer who may be offended by a refusal of honor his draft drawn against a non-existent account would in any event prove the exception and not the rule. The good bank customer is not the man to overdraft, unless it happen that overdrafts are the fashion. There is no question but that, as a fashion, overdrafts are an iniquity.

Before issuing his order, the Comptroller announced that overdrafts had already fallen from \$47,000,000 in national banks to \$19,000,000. This shows that bankers generally have been drawing in the sail they had spread too widely. Good bankers led into bad banking had already seen their error before the issue of the final order. The order itself should establish a hard and fast rule in all sorts of banking.