

PUBLIC LEDGER

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BETTER MAIL SERVICE

MR. ELAM, OF THE POSTAL SERVICE, RUNS DOWN FROM WASHINGTON.

Plans Being Evolved Whereby the Mail Will be Handled Between Oxford and Henderson on the Southern Trains.

Mr. Elam, a very pleasant and capable postal official, made a trip to Oxford last Friday to see what could be done to expedite the delivery of mail a few hours earlier here and at least twenty-four hours earlier on the rural routes of the county.

Mr. Elam good naturedly read and enjoyed the criticism of the Public Ledger, and in the presence of Col. Ballou and the editor of the Public Ledger held up a large bundle of correspondence that had accumulated in Washington and remarked that the more you agitate the question of mail service the sooner you get it.

Mr. Elam explained that up to Friday last it had been practically impossible to perfect arrangements for the mail to be carried between Oxford and Henderson on the Southern trains; that there is more to it than to simply toss a bag on a train and say "here you are." Mr. Elam places the blame, if blame there be, beyond the jurisdiction of either the Oxford or Henderson postoffices, as a monetary consideration is involved in the handling of the mail on the early morning Southern train. He not only hopes to perfect arrangements for the mails to reach Oxford on the early morning Southern train, but he is working with the view of forwarding the afternoon accumulation of mail in the Oxford office by the Southern train that leaves for Henderson at 7:55 p. m. Mr. Elam hopes to accomplish this in a few days, and if successful the service will be better than it has been in a long time.

The Public Ledger is the recipient of many hearty congratulations for having referred to the inferior mail service, but on the other hand we offended certain ones at the local postoffice, and since Mr. Elam has explained that the part played by the Oxford and Henderson offices were in keeping with their instructions we withdraw the charge of incompetency or inferiority as applied to their legitimate duty and condemn those higher up who permit such a thing to occur in an enlightened community.

ST. JOHN'S DAY CELEBRATION

All Trains Brought in Large Crowds. —No Rowdiness.

The celebration of St. John's Day last Saturday was a grand success. The crowd perhaps was not as large as on former occasions but the spirit of the occasion was greater than ever. The conditions of the crops in Granville made it necessary for the farmers to remain at home and fight the weeds, but the crowd from a distance was larger than ever before.

The exercises at the Orphanage were very interesting. The speech of welcome by Mr. B. K. Lassiter was a gem, and the annual address by Rev. Dr. A. D. McClure, of Wilmington, was one of the best ever delivered in Oxford. The songs by the children were also greatly enjoyed.

The occasion was livened up with fine music from the Third Regiment Band of Raleigh.

It required 48 pigs, or 1,561 pounds of barbecue to feed the great throng of people.

Quite a number of the visitors did not leave Oxford until the shades of evening, and they had not gone far into the country before a heavy storm burst upon this section, tearing trees up by the roots, breaking electric light wires and rendering Oxford as dark as pitch.

MINERAL LANDS

Property at Knap of Reeds Transferred to Pennsylvania Company

Mr. J. B. Powell, Register of Deeds last week transferred to Messrs. John N. Logan and Jeremiah Rife, of Pennsylvania several certain tracts of mineral land. It is understood that the company will open an office in Oxford or Durham at an early date and begin operations.

Billy Mitchell, Grady Harris and Dr. Tom Booth are at Nagg's Head.

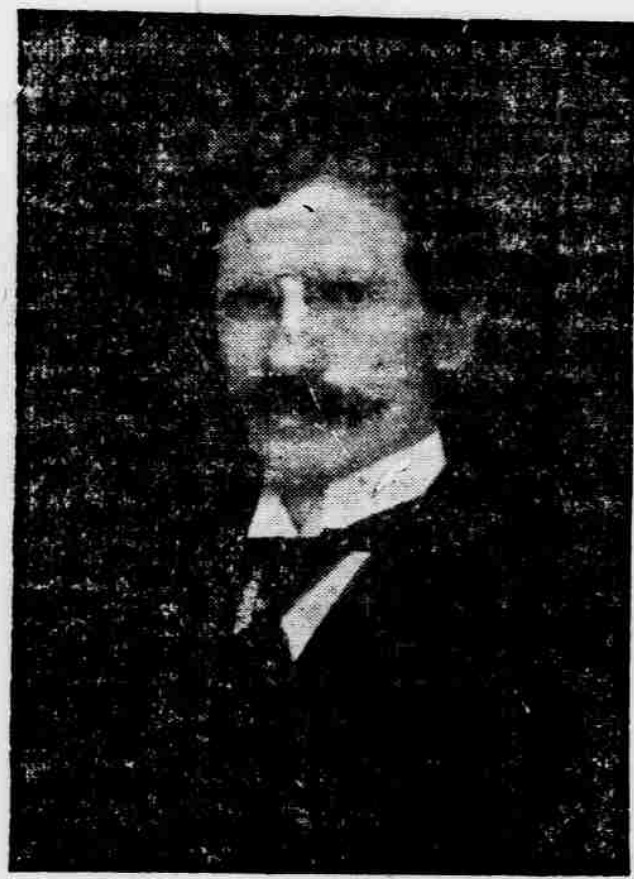
CARRANZA ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY

It Was He Who Ordered General Trevino to Fire On the American Troops at Carrizal Last Week

General Royster Will Remain in State

GOES TO RALEIGH TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE

Several months ago General B. S. Royster, brigadier-commander of the North Carolina National Guard, in accordance with the advice of his physicians, informed the Governor that he feared his physical condition was not such as to permit him to further



GEN. B. S. ROYSTER

command the brigade. At the time General Royster announced to the Governor the necessity of his retirement he recommended General Lawrence Young as his successor. On Monday morning following the call of President Wilson, bright and early, General Royster tendered his services to the State and the Nation unreservedly, and in this hour of National peril he feels most keenly the disappointment of being compelled to surrender the first honor. General Royster must admit that General Young is much younger and physically fit to endure the hardships incident to warfare. By tendering his services to the State and the Nation General Royster becomes Adjutant-General of the North Carolina National Guard, and in the event of a prolonged struggle he will of necessity be compelled to cross the border. His duties as adjutant-general will call him to Raleigh and the concentration camps very often, but we are not to lose him from Oxford entirely.

Exchange Duties

In announcing the change Governor Craig said:

"Several months ago Gen. B. S. Royster, brigadier commander, in accordance with the advice of his physicians, informed the Governor that he feared his physical condition was not such as to permit him to further

ABANDONED CAR

On The National Highway Near Providence

Some four or five weeks ago an automobile with a broken axle was parked at Olive Grove church, on the National Highway, near Providence.

There is very strong intimation that the car contained a lot of liquor when the accident occurred. One or two inquiries have reached Sheriff Hobgood regarding the abandoned car. On Friday last the Sheriff received a telephone message from Petersburg, asking his permission to remove the car. It is understood that the Sheriff told the Petersburg man that he had nothing to do with it just at present, but we are of the opinion that the Sheriff winked the other eye when talking through the phone; or, at any rate, he is very apt to find out the particulars when the car is removed from the present place.

Planning Year's Work

The Home Economic Department of the Woman's Club will meet at the home of Mrs. John Webb Wednesday afternoon at five o'clock. All members are urged to be present as Mrs. Brooks, the chairman is anxious to organize this department and make plans for the year's work. All ladies interested in this work are invited to come and join.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT RELIES WITH DEMAND FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF MEN CAPTURED

Carranza is Asked to State at Once His Intentions Through Proper Channels—He Will Not Be Allowed to Shrink His Responsibility—If War Must Come Carranza Must Come Out in the Open and Not Hide Behind a Subordinate Commander—Text of Lost Mexican Note is Repeated and Its Contents Branded as a "Formal Avowal of Deliberately Hostile Action" Against Troops.

(SUMMARY)

WASHINGTON—A demand for the immediate release of the American troopers taken prisoners at Carrizal, coupled with a stern notification that the United States expects an early statement of the purposes of the Carranza government was telegraphed to Mexico City Sunday by Secretary Lansing.

The note discloses that the State Department received a communication from the defacto government stating that the Carrizal fight was the direct result of orders to attack American soldiers moving otherwise than toward the border personally issued by Gen. Carranza to Gen. Trevino and by the latter communicated to Gen. Pershing.

In reply Secretary Lansing requires that the defacto government transmit a definite statement "as to the course of action it has determined upon," through the usual diplomatic channels "and not through subordinate military officers."

The Mexican communication is construed, Secretary Lansing states, "as a formal avowal of deliberately hostile action against the forces of the United States now in Mexico, and of the purpose of attack without provocation whenever they move from their present position" despite the friendly mission on which they are engaged and which is re-affirmed in the American rejoinder.

General Carranza is required to place himself on record formally, and the plain intimation lies behind the restrained language of Mr. Lansing's communication that force will be met with force. Apparently, however, the Washington government is determined that the defacto government shall not evade responsibility before the world if war is forced upon the United States.

American Note to Mexico

The text of the note to the Mexican defacto government, transmitted today to Jas. Linn Rogers, special representative of the American government in Mexico City says:

"Mr. Arredondo Saturday delivered to this government the following communication:

"I am directed by my government to inform your excellency with reference to the Carrizal incident, that the chief executive through the Mexican War Department, gave orders to Gen. Jacinto B. Trevino, not to permit American forces from Gen. Pershing's column to advance further south, nor to move either east or west from the points where they are located, and to oppose new incursions of American soldiers into Mexican territory. These orders were brought by Gen. Trevino to the attention of Gen. Pershing, who acknowledged the receipt of the communication relative thereto. On the 22nd instant as your excellency knows, an American force moving eastward quite far from its base, notwithstanding the above orders, and was engaged by Mexican troops at Carrizal, state of Chihuahua. As a result of the encounter, several men on both sides were killed and wounded and 17 American soldiers were made prisoners."

"You are hereby instructed to hand to the Minister of Foreign Relations of the de facto government the following:

"The Government of the United States can put no other construction upon the communication handed to the Secretary of State of the United States on twenty-fourth of June, by

(Continued On Page Four)

Mayor Thad G. Stem Joins the Nat'l Colors

OXFORD'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE GOES TO THE STAFF OF THE THIRD REGIMENT

At the call of President Wilson, Captain Thad G. Stem, mayor of Oxford, tendered his services to Colonel Mincer, ranking officer of the Third Regiment, North Carolina National Guard. By the appointment, Captain Stem goes to the staff as inspector of



CAPT. THAD G. STEM

small arms practice with the rank of captain and the emoluments of major.

The military record of Captain Stem, now on file in the Adjutant General's office is as follows:

Enlisted in the Granville Grays February 18, 1908; promoted to corporal February 27, 1908. Promoted to sergeant July 19, 1908. Promoted to first lieutenant September 27, 1909. Promoted to Captain May 11, 1910. Retired from service on account of business February 2, 1914. Tendered his service to Col. Minor June 20, 1916. Received his commission as inspector of small arms practice, with the rank of captain, June 23, 1916.

COMMEMORATING PATRON SAINT

Services to be Held at Stovall Thursday Morning and Evening

Thursday being St. Peter's Day, services will be held in St. Peter's Episcopal church, Stovall, commemorating the memory of the patron saint of the church. The Holy Communion will be celebrated at 11 a. m. At 8:30 in the evening the vested choir of St. Stephen's Parish Oxford will sing and a special sermon "The Life and Influence of St. Peter" will be delivered by Rev. Mr. Horsfield of Oxford. The public is most cordially invited to worship at these services.

TWO GOOD MEN

And They Live in Person County

We were very much pleased to meet in Oxford last Saturday Rev. J. A. Beam, who prays and preaches and acts as the superintendent of public schools in Person county. We told Mr. Beam just how much we regarded Dr. Tucker, the Granville-Person Senatorial nominee, and asked him if he thought we overrated the gentleman.

"Impossible to overrate Dr. Tucker," replied the reverend gentleman, "I have known him for many years and I regard him as being one of the best men I ever knew, and with all a smart man, capable and true."

Dr. Tucker spent St. John's Day in Oxford, the guest of Senator Titus Currin. Unlike Mr. Ex-Justice Hughes, his face is unadorned with alfalfa. You would take him to be about 35 years old and full of life, but he is 48, full of wisdom and wears a pleasant smile all the time.

Sargent Baker

Applying the efficiency test to a new recruit in the Granville Grays the other day, we asked him who is Secretary of War?

"See Sargent Baker, he is secretary and puts all the names down in a book," came the quick response.

ENTERTAIN SOLDIERS

FAREWELL POEM RECITED BY MISS ELIZABETH WORTHAM

Smoker Given By the Citizens Held in the Armory Friday Night and the Ladies of Oxford Entertain Soldiers on the Broad Porches and Lawn of Col. and Mrs. Ballou Monday Night.

The Granville Grays will leave Oxford next Saturday for the concentration camp with every assurance of the esteem and well wishes of the patriotic ladies and citizens of Oxford. Not since the outbreak of the War between the States has patriotism flown quite so freely in Oxford as it has during the past week.

The citizens of Oxford tendered the Granville Grays a smoker in the Armory Friday night. Mr. A. H. Powell was master of ceremonies, and among the speakers of the evening were Gen. Royster, Mayor Stem, Col. H. G. Cooper, Major Will Landis, Col. Ballou, B. K. Lassiter, Ben W. Parham, Capt. E. E. Fuller and possibly others. There was every assurance given the soldiers that the loved ones left behind would be guarded with zealous care by the "home guard" and that they would carry with them the well wishes and esteem of the people of Oxford.

The Ladies Entertain

The expansive porches and broad lawn of Col. and Mrs. Ballou was an enchanting scene Monday night, the occasion being a farewell entertainment given by the patriotic ladies of Oxford in honor of the soldiers. General Royster was master of ceremonies, and again the soldiers were made to feel that they are the objects of profound solicitude. Mrs. W. H. White, a pillar of the Confederate monument, and who on two previous occasions bade the Granville Grays farewell, made appropriate remarks, and there were hundreds of other patriotic ladies of Oxford present to bid the soldier Godspeed. Miss Elizabeth Wortham gracefully recited an original poem, found elsewhere in this issue of the Public Ledger, entitled, "A Call to the Granville Grays."

During the evening the ladies served cream and cake in the Armory.

FAMILY REUNION

Children Gather at the Ancestral Home on the Roanoke

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. W. Horner attended last week a delightful family reunion at "Berry Hill," the home of Mrs. Horner's father, Mr. William Henry Burwell. The old homestead, a large colonial house built in 1809 and located on the Roanoke River in Mecklenburg county, Virginia, has been the scene of many a happy family reunion. Mr. Burwell, the head of the house is now in his eighty-fifth year and enjoys good health. He had with him on this occasion his twelve children, eleven in-laws and twenty-nine of his grand children, being the entire family except five grand children, as follows: Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Burwell and three children of Warrenton, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Boyd and seven children, of Warrenton, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. Jno. C. Burwell and their children of Mayesville, Ky.; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Burwell, Jr., and three children of Mecklenburg county, Va.; Mrs. Willie Burwell and three children of Warrenton, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. G. Allen and two children of New York; Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Powell and two children, of Henderson, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Boyd and three children, of Warrenton; Mr. and Mrs. William Baskerville and three children of Baskerville, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. Edmond White of Warrenton; Mr. and Mrs. James W. Horner of Oxford; and Misses Lucy and Edith Burwell.

The sumptuous meals served attested to the fine housekeeping of Mrs. Burwell.

Fine Bill at the Orpheum

Beginning Thursday night, and continuing, the bill at the Orpheum Theatre abounds in classic pictures. Blanch Sweet in "Ragamuffin"; Dustin Farum in "The Call of the Cumberlands"; Pauline Frederick in "The Spider"; Theodore Roberts in "Puddin'-Head Wilson" and Fannie Ward in "Tennessee's Pardner," are some of the celebrities billed for this and future dates. See announcement on page four of this paper.