

PUBLIC LEDGER



State Library (X)

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OXFORD, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY, 21, 1917

NUMBER 15.

WHO WILL BE OUR NEXT MAYOR?

SO FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

At the Election to be Held Tuesday, May 1st, Six Councilmen Will Also be Chosen.

So far there have been no public announcements by aspirants for the position of Mayor of Oxford, although several candidates have been mentioned by rumor. The campaign is expected to warm up in the next few weeks, the actual election being only a little more than two months away. The fact that acting Mayor Mitchell has filled the office with such marked ability, he is besieged daily to stand for election. It is the consensus of opinion that Mr. Mitchell will occupy the chair for the next two years if he consents to make the run.

Other names that one frequently hears in connection with the mayoralty are Hon. Ben W. Parham and Mr. John W. Hester. If Mayor Mitchell decides not to make the race it is very likely that either Mr. Parham or Mr. Hester will be our next Mayor. It is understood that in the event Capt. Thad G. Stem, Mayor-elect of Oxford, should return from the Mexican border before the date of the nomination convention he will not stand for re-election.

In the face of the fact that the present city fathers constitute the most progressive Board that ever served the town of Oxford, there is no election is sure if they say the word. As might be expected, there are few who do not stand for progress, such as present administration vouchsafed to us, but the great majority are with them soul and body. We will be greatly surprised if the present Board is not overwhelmingly endorsed at the nominating convention by the business men and property owners of Oxford.

MAJOR J. A. SHOTWELL SICK

Had Severe Attack Sunday Afternoon.

Major J. A. Shotwell, the able assistant of Judge Cam Hunt, Clerk of the Court, was taken violently sick Sunday afternoon at his home on Smith Hill.

Major Shotwell was in the back yard gathering up an arm full of wood when taken with acute indigestion. He lingered close to death's door for forty-eight hours, but we are glad to report that his condition is somewhat improved this Tuesday morning.

MISS LOLA LONG IN OXFORD.

Will Deliver Address at Lyon Memorial This Tuesday Afternoon.

Miss Lola Long, State Philathea President, of Greensboro, was the guest of her friend and co-worker, Miss Hettie Lyon, a couple of days last week. These two faithful workers left for Warrenton Friday to visit Philathea classes and to take part in a program arranged for Sunday. They returned to Oxford Monday and Miss Long will address the Oxford Methodist Philathea at Lyon Memorial Building this Tuesday afternoon at three o'clock.

Miss Long will probably be the guest of Miss Lyon for two or three days this week.

BANDIT ESCAPES.

Villa Said to Have Embarked For Japan.

The El Paso correspondent of the Associated Press sent out the following last Sunday: "Francisco Villa, whose movements have been a mystery to his enemies, as well as to the mass of his followers, has made his way to Japan, according to W. L. Crawford, a well-known cattle man of Dallas Texas, and former Texas ranger, who says his informant is one Villa's most trusted agents, and a man personally known to him to be reliable."

Announcement.

I hereby announce my candidacy for the position of postmaster of Oxford, and I will thank my friends for their support in the preferential primary. If elected I will serve to the best of my ability. feb21tf

K. L. STREET.

Announcement.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the position of postmaster at Oxford and will thank my friends for their support in the preferential primary. If chosen, I will give my entire time to the office. feb21tx

W. S. STARK.

Returns to Oxford.

Mr. J. Crawford Cooper, of Fayetteville, returned to Oxford, accompanied by Mrs. Cooper, to make their home here. Mr. Cooper has accepted a position of manager and secretary and treasurer of Taylor Canada Buggy Company, with whom he was associated several years ago.

STARK-WILSON WEDDING.

Pretty High Noon Wedding at the Residence of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stark.

The marriage of Miss Irvin Stark and Mr. Goodridge Alexander Wilson, was solemnized at the home of the brides parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stark, on College Street Monday at high noon.

The ceremony was performed by Dr. F. H. T. Horsefield, Rector of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. The home was artistically decorated for the occasion, palms, ferns and pine being used. A color scheme of green and white was used in the parlors, sitting room and halls. Mrs. S. K. Phillips rendered the wedding music. The marriage took place in the parlor. The bride entered on the arm of her father who gave her away. The groom entered with his best man Mr. Julian Wilson, of Richmond, Va. The bride was attired in a dark blue tailored going-away gown, with accessories to match, and carried a bouquet of Bride roses and fern.

The many handsome and useful gifts displayed attested to the high esteem in which this popular young couple are held.

Among the out-of-town guests here for the wedding were: Dr. C. G. Hill and Miss Glaysd Hill, of Baltimore; Mrs. Edwin Stark and Miss Lyda Bell Stark, of Asbury Park, N. J.; Mr. and Mr. Goodridge Wilson, Miss Grace and C. Wilson, Mrs. Arch Gregory, Mr. and Mrs. J. Gregory Morton, Dr. and Mrs. W. L. Taylor, of Stovall; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Baumain, Mr. Ried Wilson, of Raleigh; Miss Agnes Wilson, of Mocksville; Mr. and Mrs. R. S. McCoin, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Landis, Miss Nannie Landis and Mrs. Thomas Jones of Henderson; Prof. and Mrs. Edward Allen and Miss Louise Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Ivey Allen, Misses Elizabeth Allen and Florence Edgerton, of Louisville.

After a wedding trip, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson will be at home 66 College Street.

THE INDEPENDENT VOTE.

Have Balance of Power, But Can't Decide How to Use It.

Washington, Feb. 17—Four of the five so-called independent Representatives-elected who may have had the balance of power in the organization of the next House, conferred here tonight to make plans for co-operation, but failed to agree to act as a unit on any proposal.

The personal of the new House is expected to include 215 Republicans and 215 Democrats and five independents. Two hundred and eighteen votes are required to elect a Speaker.

FARMERS AND LEGISLATION

Our Representative Rings True to Their Best Interests.

It is often heard said that if the farmers were in the legislative halls legislation beneficial to the rural section and promotive of good citizenship in general would stand a better chance of enactment into law. This may be true at times and at times it may not. Be this as it may. According to reports reaching here from Raleigh Granville's Representative stands true to the best interests of farmers as well as all other good citizens interested in securing laws that will be helpful in developing farming and other interests in this section.

HICKS-PATTERSON.

Granville County Groom Takes Bride From Smithfield—Bride Formerly Lived at Oxford.

(Smithfield Herald.)

Thursday afternoon Mr. Gilliam Hicks, of Granville county, and Miss Rosa Patterson of this city, were married. The ceremony was performed by Rev. H. F. Brinson, pastor of the Baptist Church, at the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Patterson, on Oakland Heights.

The wedding was simple in every detail, only the immediate families and a few intimate friends being present. The bride only recently moved with her parents to Smithfield from Dexter, Granville County, but she was already well and effectively known here, having been educated at the Turlington graded school and having frequently visited the family of her brother, Mr. L. G. Patterson. By her unselfish disposition and by her attractive personality she has won a host of friends, who wish for the bride and groom a long and happy life.

Mr. and Mrs. Hicks will reside in Smithfield.

The Womens Missionary Society and the Maria Brown Missionary Society of the M. E. Church will observe February 21 as a day of prayer for all Home Missions. The ladies of all denominations are cordially invited to meet with us in the Lyon Memorial building at 3:30 in the afternoon for this purpose. W. M. S.

OVERT ACT HOURLY EXPECTED

OFFENCES COMMITTED BY GERMAN Y PILING UP.

Policy of the Washington Government Steadfast—Points Upon Which War With Germany May Hinge.

Seventy-two American sailors illegally held prisoners in Germany.

One thousand American refugees detained in Turkey and all communication with United States diplomatic representatives cut off.

Expected illegal torpedoing of an American ship.

Feared loss of American lives in illegal torpedoing of neutral or Entente ships.

President Wilson Saturday took the first step toward securing complete congressional sanction and support for any action he may deem necessary in the German crisis. Making a personal visit to the capitol the President notified senate leaders, that he proposed to lay before Congress within two weeks a demand for legislation authority which will enable him to meet any turn of international affair in his discretion. He will ask that the authority be made complete in order that he may proceed with his foreign policy freely after the present Congress expires on March 4.

TROOPS TO BE MUSTERED OUT

BAKER ORDERS GUARDSMEN TO HOME STATES FOR DEMOBILIZATION.

This Means that the Granville Grays, Fifty Odd Men Strong, will Reach Oxford By the Middle of March.

Secretary of War Barker brought the National Guard participation in the Mexican campaign formally to an end Saturday when he ordered the remainder of the militia commands now on the border to be sent home and mustered out of the Federal service. This order affects approximately 50,000 men, 25,000 others having received a similar order nearly a month ago. After the formal announcement had been made Secretary Barker said:

"I cannot be explicit about how and when the troops will get back to their homes for mustering out. It is a question of transportation facilities and the best use of them. They are not ideal and the work of bringing the guardsmen home cannot be accomplished in a hurry. I believe that the movement of the remaining troops can be instituted during the first week in March. The work of transporting them to their home and mustering them out with all the details it requires I hope to have accomplished by the first of April."

A hardy reception awaits the return of the Granville Grays.

SHERLOCK HOLMES.

Sir Conan Doyle's Masterpiece Coming to the Orpheum.

William Gillette, as Sherlock Homes, will be the leadig feature at the Orpheum Thursday night. Lured to an air tight gas chamber, Holmes quietly effects his escape and locks the emperor of the crooks himself in the death house which he had prepared for the detectives. This is but one of the many tense moments in a picture surcharged with heart-pounding, breath-catching suspense, and throughout which there runs a story of love as appealing as it is strange and fascinating.

Life of Our Savior.

The event of Jesus' life from the manger to the ascension, make the most stirring story of all time to all the races of mankind. The Pathe Company, to fill a long-felt want, organized a company of the best actors and produced "The Life of our Savior," an accurate, superbly dramatic visualization of Jesus journey on earth. The complication of the chronology of Jesus is truly an achievement worthy of the highest praise as it truthfully and geographically portrays with grace and dignity His sufferings and final achievement.

This remarkable production in natural colors will be shown at the Orpheum Monday, March 5th.

The Baptist Philatheas will entertain in the Britt Building Thursday afternoon and night. Public cordially invited.

SPECIAL TAX NOTICE

If you wish to pay your State and County Taxes for 1916 at the office and without cost, you will please do so at once. The books must go out and collections forced within the next few days. If your property gets advertised don't blame me. I'm forced to collect now. Statements furnished upon request. S. C. HOBGOOD, Sheriff.

ROYSSTER-ROBERSON.

Richmond Minister Claims Oxford Bride.

A beautiful wedding was solemnized Monday at noon at the home of Mrs. L. P. Royster, when her daughter, Miss Irving was united in the bond of wedlock to Rev. Zebulon Vance Roberson, of Richmond, Va.

The bride a lovely blonde, was very becomingly attired in white robe of Duchess satin, embroidered in pearls and veil, caught becomingly with orange blossoms. She carried a shower bouquet of bride roses and wore a pearl brooch, the gift of the groom.

Rev. J. D. Harte, pastor of the Oxford Baptist Church officiated. The bride was given in marriage by her brother, Mr. Lucius Pittard Royster. Miss Julia Royster, sister of the bride was her only attendant and was attired in white net, Georgette crepe picture hat and carried Killarney roses. The ring bearer, little Chandler Hill McIver, carried the ring in a white rose. Miss Lucy Landis, received the guests at the door. Miss Mary Webb rendered the wedding music.

The bride is a graduate of Peace Institute where she made many friends. Among the out of town guests were: Mrs. R. C. Roberson, Greensboro; Mrs. Glenn Roberson, Townsville; Miss Sara McGee, Mr. Chas. King, Raleigh; Mrs. L. S. Royster, Clarksville; Mr. Thos. Royster, Columbia, S. C.; Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Powell, Farmville, Va.; Mrs. Jas Osborne, Florence, S. C.

Mr. Roberson, the groom, graduated with high honors from the Durham high school and later graduated from Davidson College. He is at present in the Presbyterian seminary, and will graduate this spring. He is now engaged as pastor of two Richmond, Va., churches.

Mr. and Mrs. Roberson will be at home 610 Hawthorne Ave. Ginter Park, Richmond, Va.

RETURNS FROM NEW ORLEANS.

Business Is Fine in the South, Says Mr. Garman.

No man in Oxford has a keener eye for business than Mr. C. S. Garman, manager of the Garman Wheel Company, and his extended trips to all parts of the South places him in close touch with conditions.

"My opinion of the good times in the South were confirmed by Walter Parker, manager of the New Orleans Association of Commerce," said Mr. Garman, "when he stated that everybody is in fine shape and every class of industries thriving—the sugarman, the lumberman, and above all the cotton farmer. The South liquidated its cotton around fifteen cent on the average, and all the fluctuations of recent months did not effect the Southern farmers in the slightest. I might mention the fact that negro cotton planters are buying automobiles—real automobiles—the machines that cost \$3,500 or so, and paying for them out of their profits on cotton, which some of them marketed at the rate of \$100 per bale. This is not only true as regards Louisiana, but many of the Southern States are equally as prosperous, and it occurs to me that there should not be any room for pessimism nearer at home."

Oxford Triangle Debaters Selected.

A few days ago in the High School Auditorium the Preliminary contest was held to select the four students who are to represent the Oxford Schools in the State wide debate to be held on March 30th.

The question, Resolved: That the Federal Government should own and operate the Railways, was discussed for the first debate. The pupils had been put upon their own resources and Robert Parham for the Affirmative, George Hunt and William Webb for the Negative. This is the first time that a girl has been on the Triangle for Oxford. The four chosen this year give promise of making a fine record for the school. Henderson will be one school of the Triangle. Warrenton was put in this one but has since found that it will be impossible to enter. This leaves only two schools in. The Committee at Chapel Hill will look after the matter.

Greek Art.

Prof. W. M. Bernard, of the University of North Carolina, will lecture on the subject of Greek Art this Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the Graded School Auditorium. The public is cordially invited.

Aid Society.

The Ladies' Aid Society of the Baptist church will hold an apron bazaar at the Oxford Library on March 15th.

Dictates of Fashion.

The new smart spring suits and spring coats at Landis & Easton's are attracting the attention of the ladies. See announcement on the fifth page of this paper.

SENTENCED TO ELECTRIC CHAIR

THE GOVERNOR ALONE CAN SAVE THE LIFE OF LEE EDWARDS.

The Slayer of Seeker at the Fair Grounds Last October Goes to the State's Prison for Five Years.

Lee Edwards who was tried Wednesday of last week in the Granville Superior court for the murder of his wife, Mattie Edwards on the morning of February the 6th was found guilty of murder in the first degree by the jury about three o'clock Thursday afternoon, and just before the court adjourned Friday for dinner Judge Kerr read the death sentence to the prisoner, who heard this most solemn judgement without a flinch. The date of the execution was set for May 18th.

Before passing sentence, Judge Kerr had the prisoner to stand up and said:

Lee Edwards, have you anything to say why the death sentence should not be pronounced against you? At this point the defendant stood up and asserted his innocence and prayed the mercy of the court. It was not however, in the power of the court to show mercy. The Governor alone can stay the execution.

The evidence in this case was entirely circumstantial, but on the other hand it pointed conclusively to the guilt of the prisoner. He had left his house only a short time before it was discovered to be on fire, and when the fire had died down the body of his wife was found in the bed with her skull crushed, and a bullet imbedded in the bone just over the eye. Another chain of circumstances was produced by the State to prove motive which showed that the prisoner had been carrying on quite an extended correspondence with another woman—Lizzie Allen. The last of these letters dated January 25th, probably the most damaging part of the evidence against the prisoner. In it the woman wrote Edwards that they ought not to go away so soon because people might talk, but that she hoped to be with him permanently by the first of March. This, with the doctor's testimony that the skull was crushed before the body was burned, seemed to satisfy the jury that the murder was a premeditated one.

The State's case was presented by solicitor S. M. Gatis, and the defendant was represented by B. W. Parham, J. A. Taylor and F. W. Hancock, Jr.

McGee Gets Five Years. The case of the State against Frank McGee, for the murder of one Lew Seeker was taken up Thursday afternoon and after the evidence was all in, the prisoner through his counsel submitted to a verdict of manslaughter which was accepted by the counsel for the State. The court after hearing short speeches from both sides, sentenced the prisoner to a term of five years in the State penitentiary.

The killing took place out at the County Fair Grounds last fall, the dead man being the manager of the shows in which the prisoner was taking part. McGee had been having trouble with his wife and upon being remonstrated with by the forman turned upon the latter and shot him. Mr. Seeker lived some six weeks after the shooting, but finally died from the wounds in a Durham Hospital. Counsel for the State, S. M. Gatis and Gen B. S. Royster; for the defendant, A. A. Hicks and John W. Hester.

Other Cases State v Graham Wilkerson, assaulted with deadly weapon. Judgement suspended upon the payment of cost.

State v Charlie Marrow, Abandonment; plead guilty; judgement suspended upon the payment of costs, and \$20 paid to the prosecuting witness, and \$18 per month hereafter for the support of children.

Civil Docket Only one case on the civil docket was taken up during the week, that of Henry Morten v Z. E. Lyon. This was an action for break of contract. The jury being unable to agree, a mistrial was ordered. The plaintiff was represented by B. S. Royster.

HOBGOOD SCHOOL

Will Celebrate Washington's Birthday.

Miss Bettie Sherman, writes, the Public Ledger as follows: "The Literary Society of Hobgood School met on Friday afternoon, February 9th, for a story telling hour and we had a splendid time. We will meet again Friday, February 23rd, to celebrate Washington's birthday and National Week of Song. You will please announce in the Public Ledger that the public is cordially invited and we anticipate a good crowd and a fine time."

Early Showing of Spring Goods. The Long Company announce on the back page of this paper an advanced showing of spring goods.