

# OXFORD PUBLIC LEDGER

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## A GLOOMY SUBJECT THAT MUST BE IMPRESSED

Some of the Customs That Should Not Prevail.

### Delayed Funerals.

The policy of several of the leading religious denominations is to so plan their church work that their preachers can not only do the preaching but may be near enough to people of their congregations to be on hand for marriages and weddings and other such things. In many places the town or city congregation that could not have a preacher nearby to preach a funeral or perform a burial service would be considered behind the times, says the Smithfield Herald.

It always looks better and is better to have a preacher around when sickness and death comes. But the old custom of having funerals preached several weeks or even months after the death of a person seems to be passing away. In fact this custom was never popular as many had doubts as to the propriety of it. It looked unreasonable to tear again the wounds made by the death of a friend or relative. Some preachers have even refused to preach such funerals. When it can be done it seems more appropriate to get the preacher to the burial and let him do his part there. While the influenza was raging it was often hard to secure preachers for funerals. Where they could not be had at the time of the burial in most cases it seems more appropriate to leave the funeral off entirely.

### Sitting Up With the Dead

Without doubt the time to render the best help to people is while they are living. When sickness comes we should do all we can for the comfort and ease and the life of those who are unable to help themselves. But after death comes there is a difference of opinion as to what should be expected. In this section of the country it is customary to sit up with the dead. This is deemed necessary, no matter how fatigued or worn out the people may be. Sometimes there are two nights of sitting up with somebody. In other parts of the country sitting up with the dead is considered entirely unnecessary. A body placed in a closed room is considered well cared for. Even here it is noticeable that people sitting up with dead bodies often show but little respect for the dead. Young people in such cases sometimes say that to keep awake they have to keep lively. It is predicted that the custom of sitting up with the dead may be dropped in this section as has been done elsewhere.

### New Grave By the Roadside.

We passed the home and near it saw the new grave in the field by the roadside. We knew why it was there. A loved one had departed and the family desired to keep the body nearby. This was love and a noble feeling but was it wise? If the other members of the family could live forever and if the land remained to the same owners on and on it might be all right but this is not the case. Old Father Time is slaying one and all. People go and homes change hands. Others get possession who care nothing for the grave in the field by the roadside. After a while it will either grow up in briars and bushes or it will be discarded altogether and farming will be done over it. Then what is the wise thing to do? Every neighborhood should have a graveyard. Once a year or oftener the people should meet and work out the graveyard. It will be possible to keep up so many graveyards. People cannot expect to have from one to three or four graveyards on each farm. When the Scotch people settled in America they not only started up churches and schools, but they laid out cemeteries and buried their dead in them. This would be a good example for us all to follow.

## THE FARMERS ARE ENJOINED TO PLAY A SAFE GAME

Tobacco May Be High Next Fall and It May Not.

We are interested in the brief statement of the clearing house of Turner Bros. Company elsewhere in this paper. It is addressed to the farmers, and the inference is that corn is the gold of the realm. They know whereof they speak:

"The freight trains can hardly bring in now, corn, oats and hay fast enough to supply the trade. High prices of tobacco and the influenza last fall largely account for the shortage in the county, nevertheless we hear very little talk about the corn crop for this year, but we hear much talk about a big tobacco crop."

## ORDERS ISSUED BY GEN. MARCH TO SEND 120TH TO CHARLOTTE TO PARADE

Parades to Be Made During Demobilization Process Period and Not to Delay the Mustering Out of the Men—Regiment to Be Sent to Charlotte and Returned to Camp to Be Discharged, the Government Cheerfully Bearing the Expense.

A Washington special to the Charlotte Observer says that it is definitely settled that Col. Minor's 120th regiment will parade in Charlotte.

General March told the Charlotte committee that he would order the 120th to parade in Charlotte. The regiment is expected at Charleston about April 12. It is possible the parade may be arranged for the 15th. The war department's idea is to have the parade while the process of demobilization at camp is underway, and return to camp for mustering out.

No delay in demobilization would be entailed and the expense would be nominal and one which the government cheerfully assumes.

## FOE'S ARMIES NOW ABOUT 15 PER CENT OF OLD WAR UNITS

Aggregates Forces of Central Powers 1,125,000, Compared to 7,630,000 In November—Allies 13,663,000 Then.

(Washington Special.)

Statistics made public by general March show that the armies of the central powers as now organized constitute about 15 per cent of their strength when the armistice was signed. The central powers now have 1,125,000 men as against the combined strength in November last of 7,630,000 men. The Allied armies in November totalled 13,663,000, of which 25 per cent have been demobilized.

The German army, estimated officially at 4,500,000 on November 11, has been reduced to 820,000; the Bulgarian army has dropped from 500,000 to 129,000; the Austrian army from 2,230,000 to about 60,000; and the Turkish from 400,000 to less than 20,000.

## FINE SCHOOL AT CORNWALL

Interesting Program Arranged For Next Saturday Evening.

Friends of Cornwall school are looking forward with pleasure to the entertainment Saturday evening, April 12, at 8 o'clock. Quite a number of Miss Nellie Wood's town friends will be present if the weather permits. A most interesting program has been arranged for the occasion, and ice cream, cake, candy and drinks will be served, and the public is invited.

## THIS IS CLEAN-UP WEEK.

Do Your Bit to Help Make Oxford Clean, Healthful and Beautiful

This week has been set aside by Mayor Mitchell as Clean-Up Week in Oxford. The Mayor says:

"Let every one see that his or her premises are absolutely clean and sanitary and that all rubbish is removed. Place your trash boxes on the street—the carts for this week will go on lot to get trash where it is possible to turn—on the day set apart for your part of the town."

The wagons started out on the big job bright and early Monday morning. Get your trash ready right now so as not to hinder the great work.

## CAPT. HUTCHINS ON THE JOB.

Captures Still In Southeastern Part Of Granville.

Four hundred gallons of beer and a still plant were destroyed by revenue officers Sunday afternoon about six miles north of Youngsville in Granville county. The plant was found about 500 yards from the home of Med Davis a negro and was ready for operation when the officers arrived. The still had not been placed in the furnace. E. G. Richardson, N. E. Ranes, N. A. Watson, of Red Springs, J. A. Hutchins, of Oxford, Deputy Collectors; J. P. Stell, deputy marshal, and W. A. Watkins, posseman, made the raid.

## CORPORATION TAX.

Mr. Thomas D. Weaver, Jr., of the Internal Revenue Service, Raleigh, will be in Oxford April 21st and 22d inclusive for the purpose of assisting corporations in preparing their income and excess profit tax returns. Any one desiring his assistance will find him at the county court house on those days.

## THERE IS A GANG OF BAD BOYS IN OXFORD

While the Citizens Are Asleep They Prowl About Town and Do All Kinds of Devilment.

If you should find your outhouses turned over or the door of your dwelling removed when you get up tomorrow morning you need not be surprised.

There is a gang of "gosling" boys in Oxford that are up to all kinds of deviltry. Recently they took the twin elephant sign in front of J. D. Brooks' store and deposited it on the lawn at Oxford College. A night or two later they pushed an old automobile through the streets and left it on the lawn at Oxford College, and then on Wednesday night last they took the large Public Ledger sign from in front of the office and took it over to Oxford College and stood it up against a tree.

Who are these little monkeys and why do they act so foolish?

They are the sons of parents who care nothing about them. They are made to feel at the evening hour that their presence around the fire-side is not wanted. Being kicked out into the street, as it were, they prowl around like wild beasts. It is the same gang no doubt that recently drew indecent pictures on tombstones in Elmwood Cemetery and smashed the windows in unoccupied buildings. It is said that they tried a few nights ago to lasso the bronze soldier on the monument at the head of Main street with a view of pulling it down.

Since the parents of these children care nothing about them and the night policeman is unable to catch them, there is nothing to do but let them continue to terrorize the town and grow in numbers.

## INFLUENZA LEFT MANY DEFECTIVES IN THE STATE

Majority of Those Suffering From Influenza Not Completely Restored.

Influenza was the direct cause of 3,686 deaths in North Carolina during October, November and December 1919, according to the reports received by the state board of health and up to March 1919, the number of deaths from the disease exceeded 11,000. This loss of life, together with the suffering and financial cost, is a burden that it will take the state many years to overcome. The most serious result of the epidemic, in the opinion of the state board of health, is the after-effects, which will cripple a majority of the men and women who suffered from the disease. Injuries to either the lungs, the kidneys, or the heart are a common result of influenza and if persons having these defects are not treated early the defects will become more pronounced and lead to handicaps and, in a great many instances, to invalidism and early death.

## APRIL TERM OF COURT.

Hon. C. C. Lyon, Judge Presiding. The two weeks' term of Granville county Superior court convened Monday morning, Judge Lyon, of Pender, presiding. The able solicitor, Hon. S. M. Gattis, of Orange, arrived early and the court got down to business.

In his charge to the grand jury, Judge Lyon cut out all the frills and emphasized the Law in unmistakable language.

The following is the grand jury: M. D. Oakley, foreman; B. G. Bragg, J. A. Adcock, Ira Beck, J. T. Gooch, C. D. Curran, J. W. Pittard, E. B. Tunstall, W. H. Blackwell, J. M. Daniel, J. W. Gooch, W. K. Matthews, N. C. Bradsher, G. B. Gordon, J. C. Tippet, F. T. Pittard, J. E. Dixon, J. Wiley Davis.

## DR. DEW, NOTED EVANGELIST, WILL CONDUCT SERVICES HERE

The Protracted Meeting Will Be Held At the Oxford Baptist Church.

Dr. J. D. Harte, pastor of the Oxford Baptist church, announced Sunday that Dr. J. H. Dew, one of the strongest and best evangelists in the South, is coming to his church May 20th to conduct revival services.

In announcing the approaching revival, Dr. Harte stated that Oxford is a good moral town as compared to other places, but there are hundreds of people here, he said, who are not members of any church.

## NEW WAREHOUSE FOR OXFORD

To Be Built By Stem Capitalists In Oxford This Summer.

Persistent rumor has it that three prominent men of Stem have purchased a site on Hillsboro street for a large tobacco warehouse and that the same will be built this summer. Full particulars are not obtainable at this writing.

## CARD FROM MR. DOVE, OUR COUNTY AGENT

Arrangements Are Being Made to Offer a Number of Prizes—Nitrate Will Arrive This Week.

Owing to the lateness in the season for the making of arrangements for the club work among the boys of the county, it will be almost impossible for me to visit before the planting season is on, of the sections of the county to get in touch with all who may desire to enlist, and since it is desired to extend to all in the county the advantage offered in farm extension in crop contests, I shall be pleased to meet at our office here in Oxford and take up with them our plans in regard to these clubs.

### Encourage the Boys.

To encourage our boys, especially arrangements are being made to offer a number of prizes in cash and other crops grown by them this year. So, parents, come and bring your boys. It will help you, it will help us; it will help all. Today please.

### Nitrate To Arrive.

All those having orders for government nitrate are urged to be in readiness for the receipt of same when it arrives. It has been shipped and we are expecting it here not later than Saturday, April 12.

JOHN L. DOVE, County Agent.

## MR. B. M. CALDWELL DEAD.

Was Interested In the Affairs of Granville County and Was Highly Esteemed.

Mr. A. H. Powell received a wire Monday from Winter Park, Fla., stating that Mr. B. M. Caldwell is dead and that burial will take place in Wheeling, West Virginia, Wednesday.

Mr. Caldwell had been a resident of Granville county for a number of years. He was the first president of the Granville County Fair Association and was deeply interested in the affairs of the county. It was his great desire to see the farmers and the business men avail themselves of the vast resources at hand. No man in our midst was more beloved by all the people. At "Carolina Lodge," his home near Gela, he frequently entertained his friends lavishly. The deceased is survived by a noble son, Mr. Halstead Caldwell, who resides at "Carolina Lodge" when business permits him to spend some time in Granville.

## ALL OF THE HEROES ARE NOT IN FRANCE

Two Oxford Boys Rash Through Flame And Rescue Children.

The fire bell sounded last Saturday a few minutes before the noon hour, and off rushed Master Henry Hunt, son of Mr. W. H. Hunt, and Master Cam Easton, son of Mr. Cam Easton.

Smoke was pouring through every crevice of the two-story wooden structure down in "Cam Town" when they reached the scene.

The building was occupied by three or four families of colored people and all of the occupants were away save two or three helpless children.

The two brave little boys, with no one to advise them, entered the building while the firebrands were falling thick and fast around them, took the children in their arms and carried them to safety.

The roof of the building fell in soon after the two brave lads of eight or ten summers finished their rescue work.

The building was only partly saved by the timely arrival and hard work of the fire department.

## THE CALL IS MOST URGENT

Granville County and the Armenian Relief Fund.

To the people of Granville Co.: I have today mailed a cashier's check for one thousand dollars to Dr. Joyner, state chairman of the Armenian-Syrian Relief Association. One hundred and sixty five dollars have been forwarded through other agencies for which, however, we receive credit on our allotment of four thousand dollars. Our treasurer, Mr. E. B. Howard, assistant cashier of the Bank of Granville, holds a number of signed pledge cards we would be glad to have cashed now. Please call in at the bank and pay these. He who gives quickly gives twice.

The school districts and the Sunday schools and churches of the county are in the midst of their collections, and as far as heard from, they are very liberal. There have never been presented to the world a more urgent and insistent call.

F. P. HOBGOOD, County Chmn.

## THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HOLD TWO DAYS' SESSION

Delegations From All Over the County Here In the Intetest of Better Roads In Their Section.

There must have been at least 100 men standing around the court house Monday eager to get before the County Board to tell them something about the roads in their section. They had heard much about state and federal aid and they were here to let the commissioners know that a good chunk of the funds could be spent to advantage on the roads that pass their doors. Roads, bridges, etc., engaged the attention of the board throughout Monday.

Today the board will select two of the best qualified men in the county to aid in the work of revaluation of the property as provided under the law passed by the last session of the general assembly.

On the table before the commissioners was a letter from Governor Bickett, with the following injunction:

"On the first Monday in April you are called upon to discharge the most important duty that has developed upon you in many years, that is to appoint two men to act as assistants to the county supervisor in carrying out the Revaluation Act of the General Assembly of 1919. This act means more for the moral and material advancement of North Carolina than any act that has been passed within my recollection. But the act will utterly fail to accomplish the wise and just purpose intended unless men of splendid intelligence and lofty integrity, and great firmness of character are selected to carry out the law. Therefore I urge you before making your appointments to take pains to ascertain whether or not the parties under consideration have the qualities above named."

## COUNTY ATTORNEY HICKS EXPLAINS THE ROAD LAW

All Able-Bodied Male Persons of Certain Age Must Work the Roads Unless Excused by County Boards.

It is so long before the laws of the last Legislature can be published and there are so many questions being asked about the road law, that I wish to call the attention of the public to just a few items in regard to the road law, as there are very few changes in the law as it existed before the Legislature met. And I add some points of law which I think are necessary on account of those who come into our county from other counties who bring with them the laws of other counties and states, which are not the laws of this county.

In order to be free from working the public roads the person of road age must pay to the board of supervisors on or before the first day of April of each year \$6.00, or he must pay \$3.00 for the first half of the year on or before the first of April and \$3.00 for the last half of the year on or before the first of October.

A statute requiring the working of the public roads by free labor is not unconstitutional, as double taxation.

The conscription of labor to work the public roads is not a tax at all, but the exaction of a public duty. State vs. Wheeler 141st N. C., page 773.

All able-bodied male persons between the ages of 18 and 45 are required to work the roads unless excused by the county commissioners for physical disabilities.

A male person between the ages of 18 and 45 years of age who resides in this state and pursues a vocation for his income of an indefinite period, he is liable to road duty although he is a citizen of another State to which he intends to return when he finished his present employment. State vs. Johnston, 118th N. C. 1188.

From time immemorial it has been the law that people who refused to appear and work the road when summoned to do so were indictable, and many cases have been to our courts and the law has invariably been upheld by the decisions of our courts.

A. A. HICKS.

## PROGRAM AT THE ORPHEUM THEATRE FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday—"Madame Spinx".

Wednesday—Dustin Farnum, in "The Virginian".

Thursday—Douglas Fairbanks, in "Mr. Fix-It".

Friday—Ruth Roland, in "Hands Up"; Charlie Chaplin, in "Shoulder Arms".

Saturday—Pearl White, in "The Lightning Raider"; Charlie Chaplin, in "Shoulder Arms".

## OXFORD BARACAS TO ORGANIZE BASEBALL TEAM

Plenty of Good Material To Select From.

The Baraca classes of the several Oxford churches last Sunday appointed committees to meet and confer with a view of organizing a baseball team here composed exclusively of Baraca members.

Judge Devin, who was present at the Oxford Baptist Baraca class, heartily endorsed the movement. He stated that much pleasure and benefit can be derived from the game during the summer months.

It is understood that a dozen or more of the home boys who broke the Hindenburg line, are expert baseball players. They will reach here in a couple of weeks. If the Baraca boys are successful in organizing a good strong team we may expect to see some good ball on the local field this summer.

## HUNGRY BLOODHOUNDS CAME NEAR EATING HUMAN FLESH

They Jump At the Overhanging Abdomen of a Fat Man.

Ten days or two weeks ago a couple of ferocious bloodhounds were brought from Raleigh to trace a negro thief. It is a well known fact that the longer a bloodhound abstains from food the keener is his scent. They came to Oxford as hungry as a bear and ready for work.

While waiting down on Hillsboro street to get things in readiness to place the dogs on the trail of the thief, a crowd gathered, and while they were discussing the qualities of the dogs in general, a big fat man, his overhanging abdomen shaking like a bowl of jelly, came upon the scene and remarked in the presence of the dogs that he could not see any difference between them and the ordinary old hound dog.

Whether for ulterior motives or not, the bloodhounds sprang at the big fat man, but owing to the shortness of a chain in the hands of an attendant, the dogs did not reach him.

When the fat man recovered his breath he said: "You darn fool dogs, I can prove an alibi; I did not take the plant bed cloth, and now I know for a certainty that you are no more than a common hound dog, ready to lie at the last provocation."

## NINETY-FIVE YEARS OLD AND STILL ACTIVE

Mr. Graham Royster Vouches For This Story.

Mr. Graham Royster, the splendid citizen of Northern Granville, was in Oxford last week, the guest of Mr. John Webb overnight. Talking about longevity and activity, Mr. Royster says that there is an old colored man in his section of the county nearly 100 years old according to tradition, but to be on the safe side he places the old man's age at 95 years.

This old man is very active, says Mr. Royster. He takes two horses to the field with him, but plows only one at a time.

"Uncle Stephen, why don't you hitch both horses to the plow," he was asked.

I tell you, Boss man, it is just like I told you, if I hitch both horses to the plow they wear out and get slow, but if I let one rest a while and then make a change dis old nigger can keep gwine all day long."

## LOCATION OF OUR TROOPS

Some Are In Siberia And Insular Possessions.

Washington, April 6.—A total number of officers and men in the army on March 25, was 2,131,503, the War Department stated. This is a decrease of 42 per cent from the strength when the armistice was signed.

The locations of the troops is given as follows: Europe, 1,409,789; Siberia, 8,893; at sea, 63,760; United States, 603,178; insular possessions 45,883.

## Cohn & Son's Sale Still Going On

Cohn & Son's sale opened Friday, big business. Stores were crowded with people, who were aware of the fact that the goods they advertise are all strictly up-to-date and genuine bargains new lots of spring and summer goods have come to light all over their stores, and that will help to make a continuance of the sale a welcome occasion. You can save money by buying at Cohn & Son's sale. They have earned the reputation and for years have widely been known as the economy stores for all the people. Even if you were there at the opening of their sale, it will pay you to go there again this week and next, for many new bargains will be placed on sale every day. Read Cohn & Son's advertisement on the last page of this paper. (adv.)