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MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE OF GRANVILLE CO. PRISONER

Gets Out of Jail and Locks the Doors Behind Him.

A few weeks ago Tom Poteat, a white man about 27 years of age, was confined in the county jail here charged with the theft of a pair of shoes. It is said that he is a deserter from the United States army, but the report is unofficial so far as we know.

He was a meek and docile prisoner, and if he had any troubles he kept them to himself, and always smiled when he spoke. There always seemed to be an air of mystery surrounding the prisoner, and some of the inmates of the jail said that he was a "wizard," and a wizard he has proven to be.

On his round Tuesday night about ten o'clock, Capt. Reid, of the Oxford police force, heard the prisoners in the jail shout: "Come quick, man broke jail." Capt. Reid got into communication as soon as possible with Sheriff Hunt and Deputy C. W. Davis, who hustled to the jail and found that Poteat had escaped and all of the doors behind him locked.

In making his escape, Poteat unlocked the door of his cell and removed the cross-bar. He locked the cell door behind him and dug a hole in the wall, through which he entered the yard and climbed over the high fence by the use of some lumber in the yard.

There is only one solution to the mystery, namely, Poteat must have had a key that fitted the locks, but how and where he got the key is a mystery.

We call to mind that a prisoner some years ago escaped from the jail at Fayetteville and locked all the doors behind him. He left a note on his bunk exhorting the Sheriff and jailor. We think that Poteat should have done the same.

MCADOO AND WOOD MAY BE THE MEN

Who Will Run For President in 1920—Others Who Are Mentioned As Presidential Possibilities Are Taft, Hughes and Hoover.

David Lawrence, well known Washington newspaper correspondent, has recently made a trip throughout the country to observe the political situation. He gives some of his observations in a copyrighted article to the press, in which he says:

"Judged entirely by the amount of enthusiasm displayed by the average man encountered on my recent travels across country and by talks with leaders of both parties in State and national affairs, it would seem that at the present time—and that of course has nothing to do with 20 months hence—Major General Leonard Wood is talked of in more parts of the country for the Republican nomination and William Gibbs McAdoo is mentioned more often for the Democratic nomination than any of the others. In the back-ground are such men as General Pershing, William Howard Taft, Charles E. Hughes, and Herbert Hoover with their strength somewhat in the order named."

PLANS FOR ACTION IF HUNS DO REFUSE

Washington Seriously Considering Course That Would Be Pursued.

Washington May 22.—Repeated statements by German officials of various ranks that Germany cannot consent to accept the peace treaty in the form presented have led officials in Washington to give serious consideration to the course to be pursued in the event of the failure of the Paris conference to bring about a restoration of peace in the near future. While announcement has come from Paris that the Supreme Council has framed plans for dealing in a military way with the situation in the event of the refusal of the Germans to sign the treaty, it is assumed here that before resort was had to the use of troops an effort would be made to bring the Germans to terms through economic pressure.

Officials here believe this would result in the speedy collapse of the present German government. A change in government, however, would necessarily delay for some months, however, the signature of the peace treaty and its submission to the United States Senate.

Enthusiasm of the Methodists.

Every paper you pick up you see mention of the Methodists going over the top in the Centenary drive. This is not the first big job that the Methodists put "over the top." They are the people that put old John Barleycorn to sleep.

TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

President Wilson in his message cabled from Paris and read to Congress Tuesday—

Urges revision of war taxes, particularly to abolish the manufacturers and retail sales excises.

Announces definitely that the railroad systems and telegraph and telephone lines will be returned to private ownership.

Outlines a general program respecting labor, calling attention to the "need" for genuine "democratization of industry."

Recommends that the tariff laws be supplied with teeth to protect American industry against foreign attacks.

Avoids discussion of domestic legislation, at length, because of his long absence from Washington.

Recommends repeal of the war-time prohibition law, so far as it applies to wine and beer, only.

Speaks for legislation to facilitate American enterprise through the expansion of shipping.

Says it would be premature to discuss the peace conference or the league of nations.

Urges enactment of the woman suffrage constitutional amendment.

Backs Secretary Lane's program for land for returning soldiers.

AMERICAN LOSSES IN THE WORLD WAR

Seventy-Seven Men of the Thirtieth Were Taken Prisoners.

Revised figures made public by the War Department show that the total casualties of the American Expeditionary forces during the war was 286,644. Battle deaths numbered 48,909 and the total of wounded was placed at 237,135, with the explanation that this represented a duplication of about 7,000 by reason of the fact that many men were wounded more than once.

The figures for the 27th, a New York division, and the 30th, made up of Tennessee, South Carolina and North Carolina troops, are interesting. The 27th sustained 1,791 battle deaths, and the 30th 1,652. The 27th had 9,427 wounded, and the 30th 9,429. The total deaths and wounded in battle were: For the 27th, 11,218 and for the 30th, 11,081, with 77 taken prisoners.

Total casualties of some of the other divisions were:

2nd	25,076
1st	23,345
3rd	18,154
28th	16,277
42nd	15,168
26th	15,168
4th	14,183
32nd	13,884
77th	11,956
5th	8,883

The 81st, of which many North Carolinians were members had 250 battle deaths, 801 wounded and 51 taken prisoners.

THE DOG TAGS READY FOR THE COUNTIES

Many a Fellow Will Murder His Dog Rather Than Pay the Tax.

The Raleigh News and Observer says that Commissioner W. A. Graham of the department of agriculture has his dog tags now and is ready to make terms with the counties. The tags are of aluminum with number, county, date of expiration all on the bits of metal. A ring that goes into the dog collar is attached in lots of 3,000 these tags sell for 3 cents. They are less than an inch square and are put on so as to be diamond in shape. The ornament is all right.

Commissioner Graham expects many a fellow to murder his dog rather than pay the tax, but if the burden is paid it is probable that 150,000 dogs will render unto Caesar the things that Frank Ray tried to render. The tags are to be sent out to the counties shortly.

CHURCH MASS MEETING.

"The Modern Home" Will Be Dr. Dew's Subject.

All the men, women, boys and girls are cordially invited to attend the big mass meeting at the Oxford Baptist church next Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock. You will know more about love, home and country after you hear Dr. Dew on "The Modern Home."

MR. J. ENNIS DAVIS.

The People of the County Love This Good Man.

The more the people of Granville county know of Mr. J. Ennis Davis, chairman of the board of county commissioners, the more they like him. He is generally regarded as the best chairman the county has had in many years—considerate, safe and sound to the core. The A. and M. College did a fine piece of work when they polished him up and sent him back to his native county a finished product.

Mr. Davis is a young man, but hold on girls, he is married. He is building one of the handsomest homes in the county over in Brassfield—all modern improvements—electric lights, hot and cold water, etc. We wish that every man, woman and child in the county knew Mr. Davis intimately.

THE OXFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS CLOSE MAY 30TH

Commencement Exercises June 2nd, and 3rd.

On Monday night, June 2nd, the thirteen members of the graduating class of the high school will present the class exercises. This will consist in short sketches and plays which bring out the class history, prophecy will, and other features in a very unusual and decidedly unique manner. This work has been under the direction of the very able English teacher, Miss Helen Salls. It is to be regretted that she will not be in the high school another year.

The thirteen members of the class have completed the full eleven grades of work and will enter any standard college without condition. This is the first class to remain for the eleven grades. A list of the class follows:

Graduating Class.

Girls—Ruth Parham, Eunice Parham, Louise Curran, Lelia Curran, Sudie Crews, Johnnie Peed, Elizabeth O'Brian, Bettie Lee Watkins, Zela Newton.

Boys—Sam Hall, Ernest Hunt, Junius Cooper, Roy Upchurch.

The Oration.

On Tuesday night Mr. Tasker Polk of Warrenton, N. C., will deliver the address to the graduating class. Mr. Polk is a strong speaker who will come with a message for all the people. He is known throughout the section as a great orator who entertains and uplifts his audiences.

Immediately after the address the diplomas will be awarded to the graduates by Mr. John Webb, chairman of the school board.

The public is urged to be present on both of these nights of the commencement.

A BRAVE OXFORD SOLDIER

First Lieutenant James A. Ellington Worthy of Highest Praise.

In the list of citations issued from the headquarters of the Thirtieth Division, Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C., April 11, is the following in reference to Lt. James A. Ellington, an Oxford soldier:

"During the operations near Bellicourt, 29th September, 1918, this officer was wounded early in the action by a piece of shell, and though suffering from his wound he refused to go to the rear for treatment or stop his advance to secure first aid treatment, leading his platoon with courage and disregard of danger, which were an inspiration to all who observed him. His conduct is worthy of the highest praise."

MAYOR STEM WILL SPEAK AT CREEDMOOR TONIGHT

Mr. Andrew Jamison, chairman of the Salvation Army drive for \$2,000 in Granville county, announces that Mayor Thad G. Stem will speak in Creedmoor tonight at 8:30 o'clock. A large delegation will go from Oxford.

Mr. Jamison reports that only about one-half of the county's quota has been subscribed. He desires that all committees will turn in reports as soon as possible so as to be able to wind up the campaign next Sunday.

OXFORD COLLEGE WILL CLOSE EARLY IN JUNE

Commencement exercises will be held at Oxford College from June 4th to June 6th, two weeks later to make up the time lost by suspension from influenza in October. Rev. Luther Little, D. D., of Charlotte, is to preach the baccalaureate sermon on June 4th. Dr. J. B. Weatherspoon, of Winston-Salem, is to deliver the annual address before the literary societies on June 6th.

The class day exercises will be held on June 5th and the graduating exercises on June 6th. The annual concert will be held on the evening of June 5th.

GERMANY GIVEN SEVEN DAYS GRACE TO FINISH STUDY OF PEACE TREATY

Time Originally Set Would Have Expired at Noon Thursday.

(Press Report.)

A period of seven days of grace has been extended to Germany by the representatives of the allied and associated governments in which the German peace plenipotentiaries may conclude their study of the peace treaty and formulate such replies to the various clauses as they desire.

STEM NEWS NOTES.

(W. R. MANGUM.)

—Mr. W. H. Hall, Route 1, lost a fine milk cow a few days ago.

—We are glad to note that Mr. Ajax Walters, who has been seriously ill, is some better and is able to sit up a part of the time.

—Miss Ettie Washington, of Tally Ho, spent Sunday with relatives in Oxford and attended services at the Baptist church Sunday night.

—Mr. W. E. Morgan, Route 3, has recently purchased a nice acre farm near Angiers, for \$10,500. It is highly improved and has just had a \$5,000 residence completed.

—Stem Methodist church was allotted \$1,500.00 in the Centenary movement which was several hundred dollars oversubscribed in the drive made by the members from this point last Sunday.

—Messrs. W. E. Meadows and Hermon Overby and Misses Thelma and Jessie Overby, of Oxford Route 6, motored over to Buffalo Springs last Sunday and report a very pleasant trip.

—Elder and Mrs. F. D. Gold, of Wilson, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Gooch. Elder Gold preached in Gooch's hall, Stem Wednesday night this week being the first time he has been here in several years. He is now in his 87th year.

—Squire W. S. Gooch returned last week from several days visit to Washington, D. C., having visited the White House, capitol and other places of interest. He was charmed with the capital city.

—Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Mayes, received a few days ago a certificate of decoration conferred on their son, Capt. John B. Mayes, Jr., by order of President Wilson for distinguished service. It was signed by the commander in chief, John B. Pershing and reads as follows: "Capt. John B. Mayes, Jr., 120th Infantry, distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy of the U. S. at Bellicourt, France, on the 29th of September, 1918, and in recognition of his gallant conduct I have awarded him in the name of the President the Distinguished Service Cross." He was also recently granted a furlough of 15 days and went to London where he was decorated by the king of England. He was almost idolized by the men under him and on the occasion of his decoration by Gen. Pershing many of them walked 12 miles to witness the ceremony.

GOV. BICCKETT APPEALS TO THE TAX ASSESSORS

The Tax Books Must Tell the Whole Truth.

In an address at Asheville this week before the county and district tax supervisors of Western North Carolina, Governor Bickett made an appeal that they comply to the most minute detail with the new tax system. The Governor went into the history of the new tax law and gave the reasons for its enactment. He stated that the real purpose of the new law is to have the tax books tell the entire truth instead of having only a part of the truth.

DR. DEW DRAWS LARGE CROWD TO BAPTIST CHURCH

Presents the Practical Application of God's Word With Telling Effect.

A revival at the Oxford Baptist church gains momentum as the days pass. The large congregation at 4 o'clock in the afternoon and at 8 o'clock at night are thoroughly interesting in the sincerity and earnestness of Dr. Dew. The needy sinner grasps at every utterance that falls from his lips. That his two weeks stay at the Baptist church will be of great benefit to the whole community there can be no doubt.

At a revival in one of the Southern cities, Dr. Dew's untiring zeal for the salvation of the lost brought three hundred repentant sinners to Christ.

Reported Missing In Action.

The current casualty list contains the following: "Returned to duty, previously reported missing in action Private Louis D. Parham, Route 7, Oxford, N. C."

BIG ISSUES BEFORE 66TH CONGRESS NOW SITTING

Laws to curb Bolshevism.

Legislation demanded by labor.

Decision as to the future of the merchant marine.

Legislation to aid business in getting back to a peace basis.

Legislation necessary for the enforcement of the prohibition law.

Legislation in regards to the future control of the railroad systems.

Settlement of compensation to be paid the telephone and telegraph companies for the use of their lines during the emergency.

Adoption of an army and a navy program on a peace basis, and appropriation of the money necessary to carry them into effect.

AN INTERESTING GENTLEMAN

Capt. Wiggins Says That Young Boys Make Best Soldiers.

One of the most interesting old gentlemen about town is Capt. T. M. Wiggins, who is spending some time with his daughter, Mrs. D. W. Bryant. He was a student at Chapel Hill when the War between the States was declared; enlisted at the age of 16 years, fought for four years and was at Appamattox when Lee surrendered.

Asked if he did not think that a boy was too young to go to war at the age of 16 years, Capt. Wiggins said that he had several boys in his command who were one year younger than himself and that there were two in his company that were only 14 when they enlisted. They were all good soldiers, said Capt. Wiggins.

"From close personal observation," said Capt. Wiggins, "I am convinced that boys under 18 years of age were the best fighters. They were always eager to get into the hottest of the fight, and I have never seen one of them fail to do his whole duty while under fire. My experience is that boys prefer an open battle and they go at it just like shooting rabbits."

OXFORD SOLDIER WINS IN LE MANS CONTEST

Wins Medal in Rifle Championship of America.

The Associated Press announces the names and scores of the winners of the silver and bronze medals in the rifle championship of the American Expeditionary Force on the D'Avours range at Le Mans, France.

All the medals awarded in the rifle contest will be presented to the winners next Saturday, and it is understood that General Pershing will be present at the presentation ceremonies.

The following are the winners of the silver medals with their name addresses and scores:

Sergeant Dewitt T. Smith, 66th Engineers, Lenoir, N. C., 531.
Sergeant Otis M. Franklin, 7th Engineers, Platte, N. C., 527.
Sergeant Abrose W. Colonigner, 8th Infantry, Bessemer City, N. C., 524.

PRIVATE JARVIS F. FLOYD, 322 Infantry, Oxford, N. C., 520.

Sergeant Richard C. Woodruff, 324th Infantry, Aiken, N. C., 509.

Corporal Fred L. Perry, 321st Infantry, 323 South First St., Raleigh, N. C., 505.

Sergeant John C. Covington, 321st Infantry, Wadesboro, N. C., 504.

Wagoner Clinton V. Marlow, 26th Infantry, Elk Park, N. C., 503.

MR. P. B. FARMER INFLICTS WOUND ON HIS THROAT

Has Been In Bad Health For Several Months.

Mr. P. B. Farmer, a highly respected farmer, who lives one mile east of Oxford, on Route 5, inflicted a gash on his throat early Thursday morning which may prove fatal. He has been in bad health for several months, and dispendency led to the rash act.

While suffering mentally he set fire to his barn and other outbuildings before the members of the family were aware of his utter derangement. While the barn was being consumed by fire, he applied the torch to the dwelling without material damage. In the scuffle that ensued he inflicted a gash on his throat and other parts of his body, it is said.

Mr. Farmer came to Oxford five years ago and purchased a forty-acre farm of the Horner estate. He worked hard and succeeded in making it one of the best small farms in the county.

The entire community deeply sympathizes with the family in the hour of their sad affliction.

NORTH CAROLINA FAILS TO FURNISH A SINGLE CONVERT TO SUFFRAGE

Two Tar Heel Members, Kitchin and Small, Take the Floor In Opposition.

Washington, May 21.—North Carolina did not furnish a single convert for woman suffrage when the house today, for the second time in two years, voted 304 to 89 to submit to the states the Susan B. Anthony amendment to the constitution.

Two members, Representatives Kitchin and Small, took the floor in opposition, the former attacking the Republicans for not putting suffrage across when they were formerly in power.

GRANVILLE COUNTY SOIL

Mr. E. B. Howard Buys The Niles Club House.

The splendid tract of land of the late J. A. Niles, near Fairport, nine miles southeast of Oxford was subdivided and sold at auction last Tuesday. There was about 400 acres in the original survey, divided as follows:

Tract 1.—Containing 118 acres, brought \$39 per acre; bought by L. F. Perkinson, of Oxford for speculation.

Tract 2.—Containing 121 acres, brought \$35 per acre.

Tract 3.—Containing 149 acres, brought \$30.50 per acre.

Tract 4.—On which is situated the club house of the late J. A. Niles, containing 40 acres, was purchased by Mr. E. B. Howard at \$26 per acre.

Tract 5.—Containing 58 acres, brought \$16.25 per acre.

Colored people bid on each of the above farms and bought two out of the five.

DEATH OF ESTEEMED LADY

Miss Bettie Robards Passed Away At Fayetteville.

Miss Bettie Robards, sister of the late Henry J. Robards, died in Fayetteville Tuesday. Her remains reached Oxford Wednesday evening and were taken to the Presbyterian church, where funeral services were held Thursday morning, conducted by Dr. White, pastor of the Henderson Presbyterian church, who was assisted by Dr. J. D. Harte.

Miss Robards was 75 years of age. She was a most devout Christian and by faith a Presbyterian. She was highly esteemed for her Christian graces.

The deceased is survived by an aged sister, Miss Sue Robards, who is deeply grieved at the loss of one so near and so dear.

The remains were laid to rest in Elmwood Cemetery. The pallbearers as announced were:

Active—Messrs. John Webb, Dr. E. T. White, Col. H. G. Cooper, Will Landis, John R. Hall, John A. Williams.

Honorary—R. T. Smith, Luther Stark, J. M. Baird, C. D. Hunt, Dr. G. S. Watkins, Dr. S. H. Cannady, S. W. Parker, Andrew Jamison, J. G. Hall, D. A. Coble, Allie Morris, W. I. Howell, B. S. Royster, Jr.

The floral offering was profuse and beautiful. As a token of esteem the local chapter of the Daughters of the local Confederacy, of which the deceased was a member, laid a large red and white wreath of roses, the emblem of the Daughters, on the casket.

CREEDMOOR ITEMS.

—In the Centenary drive started Sunday to raise pledges of \$35,000,000 by the Southern Methodist Episcopal church, the church in Creedmoor over pledged her allotment by nearly \$300.00.

—The city fathers have purchased a number of new cells and Creedmoor can soon boast of an up-to-date city prison. The cells will be located in the rear of Mayor Hart's office and will be convenient and secure.

—The times-News is reliably informed that the Creedmoor tobacco market will be revived this fall and that the prospects for a full corps of buyers is good.

GOOD ROAD TO BE BUILT IN NORTHERN GRANVILLE

Contract Let to J. T. Battershill, of Virgilina.

The county commissioners met on Tuesday last to consider bids to build a road from Virgilina to Grassy Creek, a distance of nine miles. The contract was let to Mr. J. T. Battershill of Virgilina, at so much the cubic yard.

The people in that section have wanted the road for a long time and they have agreed to defray a portion of the expense.