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NEWS IN SHORT FORM SINCE OUR LAST ISSUE.

Seven candidates for the office of Sheriff on the republican ticket are announced in Stokes county.

Lenior county reports on hundred and eighty-six real estate transfers during the months of November.

Senator Simmons has made a protest to the regional committee of Atlanta against the order to close business places at 4 o'clock until the situation becomes critical.

It has been authoritatively learned that American troops cannot participate in the allied drive into Germany in the event the Germans refuse to sign the protocol.

The United States has 25,000 men and two cruisers within easy striking distance of Mexico should hostilities follow the threatened severance of diplomatic relations, it was learned at the war and navy departments.

Giving his interpretation of the Federal prohibition law, Judge Henry G. Connor, in Federal court at Raleigh the past week handed down a decision to the effect that the buyer is fully as much to blame for violating the law as is the seller of the intoxicating beverage.

The state board of agriculture last week elected T. B. Parekr superintendent of warehouses for North Carolina, under what is known as the warehouse law. During the session the board also appropriated \$5,000 to the western lime grinding plant.

Senator Simmons has taken up with the director of operations of the U. S. Shipping board emergency fleet corporation, the matter of the allocation of two suitable steamers to the Clyde Steamship company for service between New York and Wilmington.

In preparation for the great religious conference which is to draw together the religious leaders of North Carolina of the various Protestant denominations in Raleigh on December 15, 16 and 17, invitations are being sent out to outstanding church leaders in every section of the State.

The Professional and Business Women of Raleigh an organization that is fast coming into prominence, with Miss Minnie Bagwell at its head, is planning, when the question of finances can be arranged, to erect a modern apartment house in that city for the convenience of its members and others coming into the city.

The week just ended has witnessed such an amazing stirring among the politicians that the 1920 presidential and congressional campaign may now be said to be well under way. Reports from its special political correspondents to the Washington Star show that in practically every state outside the "solid south" politics has come suddenly to the front as a leading topic of discussion.

Henry Clay Frick, multi-millionaire, iron master and collector of art, who died in New York last week left all but \$25,000,000 of his vast estate to public, charitable and educational institutions, according to the terms of his will, made public last week. The value of the public bequests, after \$25,000,000 is set aside for his widow, son and daughter, is \$117,000,000, exclusive of 151 acres of Pittsburgh real estate left for a public park.

BURLESON IN HIS ANNUAL REPORT SHOWS SUPPLUS

Aggregate Surplus of \$35,000,000 for Seven Years Against Deficit of \$59,000,000.

Washington, Dec. 6.—A surplus of \$2,342,851 in postoffice operations for the fiscal year 1919 was announced in the annual report of Postmaster General Burleson. The figures are subject to some adjustment which would increase the surplus, Mr. Burleson said, adding that this was the sixth time in the seven years of the present postoffice administration that revenues had exceeded expenditures.

An aggregate surplus of more than \$35,000,000 as compared to an aggregate deficit of more than \$59,000,000 for the preceding seven year period is shown in an appended table.

COURTING DEATH

A Gasoline Can in One Hand and a Lighted Cigar in the Other

The Bulletin says that the habit of many automobile owners and operators of filling the gasoline tank while the motor is running is a most dangerous one and there should be most rigid regulations forbidding it. The Kansas State Fire Marshal reports many fires which originate in this manner, saying "We doubt if many people realize just how dangerous the operation is. For the individual who has never had the matter brought to his attention, there may be an excuse, but with the garage man who knows the danger of the practice, there is none. A lighted cigar or cigarette is also a highly dangerous proposition to have near the tank while it is being filled, and yet there are thousands who take the chance daily."

PRESIDENT WILSON ABLE TO ATTEND TO BUSINESS.

The announcement that President Wilson is mentally capable of attending to the affairs of the nation should set at rest the flock of rumors going the rounds since the breaking down of the President. Those in Washington who knew the real condition of Mr. Wilson issued vigorous denials to the rumors but somehow they would not down. The Mexican situation brought about a recurrence of the reports concerning the President's condition and the Republican members of the foreign relations committee professed to believe that there was an element of truth in the report, at least they decided to send a committee to confer with the President and find out if he is really capable of handling the affairs of his office. On this committee was one

HOLIDAY RAILWAY TRAVEL TO BE DIFFICULT AND UNSATISFACTORY.

Hines Gives Warning to the Public That Persons Forced to Take Journeys After Tomorrow Should Consult Railroad Agents as to Available Trains Before Arranging Their Plans—Coal Shortage Makes Curtailment Necessary.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Warning to the public that railway travel will be "difficult and unsatisfactory" until the coal strike emergency has passed and should be avoided wherever possible was issued by Director General Hines of the railway Administration. Many trains are to be taken off to conserve coal, parlor car service is to be sharply curtailed and persons forced to undertake journeys should consult railroad agents as to available trains before arranging their plans, the statement said.

MILITARY COURTMARTIALS

Thirty-five Soldiers of United States Army Executed Since 1917.

Major General Enoch Crowder, judge-advocate general of the United States Army, in his annual report says:

During the last fiscal year 16,547 persons were tried before general courtmartial, and 85 percent were convicted. The report made public for the first time an official summary of the capital cases occurring in the army since April 6, 1917, the beginning of the war period. Death penalties were adjudged in 145 cases from that date to June 30, 1919, and execution was consummated in 35 cases—ten in France and 25 in the United States. Murder was charged in two of these cases, murder and mutiny in 19, assault in eleven and murder in three.

"In no case," according to the report, "was a capital sentence for a purely military offense carried into execution."

THE GOVERNMENT DROPS THE SUGAR PROBLEM.

Will Prosecute Dealers Caught Profiteering

The Government's sugar equalization board is to be dissolved December 31 and the official attempt to control the sugar situation will then come to an end. Matters could scarcely get much worse, and the public will have to take the risk.

There is not very much encouragement in the government's promise of protection to the extent of entering upon "a vigorous prosecution" of dealers caught profiteering. It will be the duty of district attorneys to suppress profiteering under the Lever act.

In future there will be no attempt to set a price on sugar or to control its distribution, and every sale will be treated on its own merits.

The Department appears inclined to prepare the people for future rises in sugar, one reason advanced being that for the Cuban supply, American buyers will run up against European competition.

USERS OF ELECTRIC POWER, LIGHT AND HEAT.

The Fuel Administration has classed the Carolina Power and Light Company as a steam driven plant and directs that all users of electric current, power and heat observe the rules.

In this connection the Public Ledger is requested to state that the Carolina Power and Light Company built a large dam down on the South Carolina border during the past summer. As soon as the pond fills up the current will be generated by water power. Copious rains, it is said, would fill the pond in ten days or two weeks.

Demented Soldier.

The Red Cross and the public general are requested to look out for Private Chester A. Heal, a demented soldier who escaped from the public health service at Cape May, N. J., and is supposed to be headed in this direction. Notify the local Red Cross if found.

of the bitterest critics of the President, Senator Fall, and the enemies of the President felt sure that if there were signs of mental weakness on his part that Senator Fall would be the man to discover it. The committee went to see the President and spent three-quarters of an hour discussing the Mexican situation. After the conference when the critics of the administration flocked around Fall expecting to hear him say that the President was not able to handle the problem, they were doubtless surprised to learn that he was perfectly able to deal with any question that might come up for his consideration. The statement, coming as it did, from Senator Fall is, all the more significant. In fact, the New Mexico senator surprised the country by making complimentary statements concerning the President's condition and his knowledge of the Mexican situation.

THE COUNTY BARN ARE NEARING COMPLETION

Situated One Mile South of Oxford Along the Southern Railway tracks

The four acres of land the county recently acquired from Mr. Lassiter, situated one mile south of Oxford, along the Southern Railway tracks, is being fitted up for county purposes under the supervision of Mr. Sam Wheeler, foreman of county bridges.

The first thing that Mr. Wheeler did was to grade the land and mass the lumber for the buildings. A small rat-proof building for grain and a building for hay have been completed and the building for the horses is nearing completion. There will be a building for tools and vehicles, a small work-shop and two or three small buildings for employees. There will be eight buildings in all, neatly grouped around a common center, and when completed it will take on the appearance of a small village.

A spring branch, which has its rise on the Lassiter estate and flows through the county property, will furnish an abundance of fresh water for the stock at all seasons of the year.

Three roads lead to the county barns. Mr. Lassiter kindly gave the county a right-of-way across his property to intersect on the west with the National Highway and on the east with the Oxford-Creedmoor road, affording an outlet to the southern and western part of the county.

The county commissioners are to be congratulated on acquiring such an admirable location for the barns.

URGING FARMERS TO SELL THEIR TOBACCO BEFORE XMAS

The Average on the Oxford Market Is About Seventy Cents.

Prices are still "booming" on the local market and lots of the offerings went over a dollar a pound. The warehousemen are urging the growers to sell the balance of their holdings as soon as possible now. They can see no good reason for holding when tobacco is averaging about seventy cents a pound. The warehousemen do not believe the prices will advance when the breaks begin to be very light and it is believed that during the next two weeks the crop now in the hands of the growers will practically all be sold.

The Kentucky market opens on Tuesday and the prediction is made that those markets will be the center of attraction for the tobacco trade for the next sixty days. The opinion seems to be that the burley growers will sell fast this time, and with the prospect of prices being good it will take millions upon millions of dollars to handle the big Kentucky crop. The opening of these markets, however, is not expected to effect this market, as the type of tobacco is so different and the demand for brights was never so strong as it is today.

The market closing for the Christmas holiday period has not been announced yet, but it is expected that this announcement will be forthcoming in a few days. If the growers show an inclination to sell out by Christmas the Tobacco Board of Trade will no doubt be willing to co-operate with them by having sales held until a few days before the holidays; if the growers hold back the Tobacco Board of Trade may decide to close soon, as the buyers do not like to keep open their plants when only a few thousand pounds come in each day.

THE AMENDED FEDERAL FUEL CONTROL RULES.

Mayor Stem has posted a copy of the amended Federal Fuel Control rules on the front window at Pittman's drug store, where interested parties can see them.

The rules are so simple and direct no one could possibly fail to understand the meaning of the law.

Fine Horses and Mules

See the announcement of Lyon-Winston on the 5th page of this paper. A Car load of fine horses and mules and many other things just received.

AGREEMENT IS REACHED BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND MINERS' OFFICIALS

Compromise Proposal for Ending Strike to be Submitted to Miners' Committee Today—Acceptance Foreseen.

(Washington Special)

Attorney General Palmer issues the following statement:

"A conference was held at the department of justice, in Washington, on Saturday at which were present the attorney general, Mr. Tumulty, secretary to the President, John L. Lewis, acting president, and William Green, secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America, with a view to reaching an understanding between the government and the miners which would result in a settlement of the coal strike."

"At this conference there was submitted a definite, concrete proposition from the President looking to a speedy termination of the strike situation on an adjustment of the entire controversy. The officers of the United Mine Workers in response to suggestions of President, agreed to and have called a meeting of the general scale committee, the representatives of all the district organizations and the international executive board of the United Mine Workers, to be held in Indianapolis on Tuesday, December 9th, at 2 o'clock p. m., at which time the President's proposal will be considered and its acceptance by the miners by Mr. Lewis and Mr. Green. The attorney general will be in Indianapolis on Tuesday."

A LONG STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Miss Ione Yancey Elected Assistant Superintendent of Sunday School—Baraca Notes.

The Oxford Baptist Sunday School is one of the most flourishing institutions of its kind in the State. It has grown during the past year under the superintendency of Mrs. W. A. McFarland, who on last Sunday was reelected for the ensuing year. Miss Ione Yancey, a very capable young lady and a good worker, and Mr. Marsh Ray were unanimously elected assistants to the superintendent.

The election of Miss Yancey to the second place in one of the best Sunday schools in the State is regarded by the membership of the church as a step in the right direction.

The Oxford Baptist Baraca Class on Sunday last nominated and elected officers for the six months beginning January 1st. For many years in the past it has had as its teachers such men as Judge Devin, Gen. Royster, Mr. B. W. Parham and other learned men, but the policy now is to elect a new teacher every six months. For the next six months the class will be taught by Mr. J. M. Fagan, one of the bright and shining lights of the class.

The class officials for the next term were elected as follows:

President—L. F. Perkinson.
Vice-Pres.—J. W. Mangum.
Teacher—J. M. Fagan.
Assistant—C. O. Mainor.
Sec-Treas.—Vernon Taylor.
Press Reporter—C. E. Coble.

"TEN NIGHTS IN A BAR ROOM"

To Be Presented at Cornwall School By Local Talent.

"Ten Nights in a Bar Room" will be presented to the public at Cornwall School Saturday night, December 13th. Doors open at 7:30; play begins at eight o'clock sharp and the admission is 50 cents.

Cast of Characters.

Joe Morgan, the drunkard—John Vaughn.
Sample Swichell, a live Yankee—Frances Mitchell.
Simon Slade, the landlord—Allie David Eakes.
Mr. Romaine, the philanthropist—John Pittard.
Harry Green, the gambler—John S. Watkins.
Willie Hammond, the pride of the village—Tyree Currin.
Frank Slade, the horrible example—Lonnie Wright.
Mrs. Morgan, the drunkard's wife—Nell Woods.
Mary Morgan, the drunkard's child—Carrie Currin.
Methitab Cartwright, a yankee girl—Belle Wright.
Mrs. Slade, the landlord's wife—Grace Wright.
Maid—Mittie Belle Hart.

REFRESHMENTS AND MUSIC

Ladies of the Oxford Baptist Church Will Hold Bazaar

The ladies of the Oxford Baptist church will have a bazaar Friday afternoon, December 12th, from 3 to 5 o'clock at the home of Mrs. J. D. Harte. A silver offering will be received at the door. Refreshments will be served and a fine musical program will be rendered. Come and buy your Christmas gifts.

MRS. SAM WATKINS,

A WORD ABOUT THE TAX MONEY OF GRANVILLE.

How It Is Spent and For What Purpose.

The General Assembly in North Carolina decreased the State taxes for state purposes to 11 2-3 cents. The total tax rate in Granville county for all purposes in 1919 is \$1.60 on the hundred and is divided as follows:

State	11 2-3
School	72
Roads	53 1-3
County	19
Pensions	4

Total on the \$100.....\$1.60

So we see that about 33 1-3 per cent of the amount of taxes paid by us comes back to us to maintain the roads we now have and to extend them to sections which have heretofore been neglected. Of the amount 45 per cent comes back to educate the children of the county, 7 per cent goes for state purposes, 2 per cent comes back as pensions for our Confederate veterans and their widows, and 11 per cent goes to pay the expenses of running the county government. The last item is made up of salaries of the county officers, and the expense of part maintenance of the health department. The foregoing explains where the money goes. Every citizen is entitled to know that the taxes are properly expended.

In conclusion we desire to say that the increase in the taxes of 1919 over 1918 has no connection whatever with the revaluation work which is now being carried on in the county. When this work is completed, we feel certain that the tax rate will be cut from \$1.60 on the hundred to not more than 40 cents on the hundred, so that nobody will be hurt, as it is not the purpose of the revaluation act to collect more taxes in 1920 but its main purpose is to equalize taxation so that every citizen will carry his proportionate part of the tax burden. The result will be that in 1920 there will be thousands of taxpayers who will pay less taxes than they did in 1920 there will be thousands of taxpayers who will pay less taxes than they did in 1919. At the same time there will be a few hundred who will pay more taxes in 1920 than they have ever paid before, simply because they will, for the first time in their lives, begin to pay their proportionate part of the taxes. The revaluation act is not going to hurt anybody. It will only place the burden of taxation on the shoulders of the people in the proportion that they are able to pay.

PROSPERITY REFLECTED IN GRANVILLE COUNTY BANKS

Total Resources of Four Oxford Banks More Than \$5,000,000

Deposits in the four Oxford banks are larger than ever before in their history. The combined resources of the four institutions on November 17 amounted to the huge sum of \$5,129,102.13. One alone has more than two and a quarter millions, and all show a steadily increasing figure on this side of the ledger.

These figures are pointed to by business men here as a correct barometer of the general prosperity and increasing wealth of the people of Oxford and Granville county. An examination of the periodical reports of the condition of these banks at close of business November 17, made according to the requirements of Federal and State laws, shows what is regarded as a most favorable state of affairs in the financial affairs of this section.

This prosperity is pointed to as a result of the prevailing high prices now paid for tobacco. It is noted, also that more farmers than ever before are depositing in the banks the money they received for their products, and that the savings department are swollen to a considerable larger figure than has ever been the case before. One of the local banks has more than a quarter of a million dollars in its savings department on November 17.

BE PREPARED WHEN NORMAL CONDITIONS ARRIVE

The Man Who Buys Land to Farm Is Likely to Get Small Returns

The Youth's Companion is generally correct in its estimate. Speaking of high priced land it says: "Since the high prices of farm land that now prevail are caused largely by speculation, the man who buys land to farm is likely to get very small returns on his investment when conditions become normal, and the speculator who deals largely on credit is liable to find himself seriously embarrassed. If you are going to buy a farm be sure that under normal conditions its probable net earnings will justify the price you pay, and do not buy it on a narrow margin in the expectation that you can get the rest of the money by selling the farm."

Barker-Tillotson

Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Tillotson announce the approaching marriage of their daughter Lucy Marie to Mr. Lucius L. Barker at the home of the bride's parents at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of December 18. Relatives and friends are invited.

KICKERS AGAINST REVALUATION ASKED TO AWAIT RESULTS.

Every Man Will Be on an Equal Footing, Declares A. J. Maxwell.

(Raleigh Special)

"All we are asking now is that those men who are kicking against the revaluation act, is that they wait until the job has been completed and see how it will result in putting every man on an equal footing so far as the taxes are concerned," says A. J. Maxwell, of the state tax commission.

"The new system will increase the taxes on some of the larger industrial enterprises if they have been getting a low valuation because of their immense holdings. The industrial appraisers, who are experts in their line, and know the industry which they appraise, are now out in the state and will continue their work through the spring months. One of the reports just turned in shows that a certain kind of the state had been placed on the tax books at 67 per cent of its real value. Just a short distance away, in the same county, the same kind of an industry, which was perhaps five times as large as the other one, was assessed at only 17 per cent of its real value in money.

"If the income tax amendment is adopted it will bring about even more interesting changes in the taxing system, so far as the little fellow is concerned."

DOCTORS ARE EXEMPTED FROM THE FUEL ORDERS.

Men in All Similar Professions Were Allowed to Keep Their Offices Open.

Practically the only change in orders from the Atlanta office of the Regional Fuel committee affecting business in Oxford Saturday was one exempting surgeons, physicians, dentists and men of similar professions from the 4 o'clock closing hour.

There was more or less confusion throughout the business district Saturday as to the requirements for stores remaining open Saturday night. Some of the stores ran with their full lighting equipment ablaze. Other stores cut down their lights to 50 per cent. A few places of business burned only lanterns or candles.

So far as is known there is no designated authority in Oxford for putting the machinery of the orders into action. The agents of the railroads operating into Oxford are the direct representatives of the regional committees. Whether or not they are supposed to put the various orders into operation, has not been announced.

Mr. J. A. Duke, local agent of the Seaboard, and Mr. W. B. Pittard, local agent of the Southern are direct representatives of the regional committee. So far as is known there is no designate authority beyond them here. They are entrusted with the distribution of coal and report direct to the regional committee as to the conditions in their jurisdictions.

SEABOARD LOCAL TRAINS CUT TO SAVE COAL

Passenger Service Greatly Impaired By Late Order—Goes Into Effect at Noon Today.

Practically all the local passenger trains on the Seaboard Air Line railroad will be suspended after 12:01 a. m. Tuesday under orders of the Fuel Administration in an effort to conserve coal in the fact of the famine threatened as a result of the nationwide strike of miners.

Trains No. 13 and 14 on the Seaboard between Richmond and Norlina are discontinued; trains No. 5 and 6 between Richmond and Raleigh are discontinued; trains No. 19 and 20 between Raleigh and Weldon are discontinued; Louisburg branch is cut to one round trip daily to connect with Nos. 11 and 12; Oxford branch train discontinued and train between Henderson and Durham will be extended to Oxford; No. 1 will do work formerly handled by No. 5 from Richmond to Raleigh No. 3 will also do local work between Raleigh and Richmond.

Orphan's Best Friend

The Orphan's Friend Says: "Gen. B. S. Royster, special committee from Oxford Lodge to raise a Thanksgiving donation, reported at the Lodge Monday night that he had donations to the amount of \$1,078.50, and that before he was through the sum would be \$1,100.00. The donation represents Masons, friends and workers at the Orphanage. General Royster has been the special committee from the Lodge for years and each year beats his previous record. He has served notice that he has raised his minimum for next year which will be \$1,500.00 to \$2,000.00. General Royster is one of the best friends the orphanage has ever had—barring none. We know whereof we speak."

Weekly Weather Forecast

Issued by the United States Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C., for the period December 8, to December 13, inclusive. For South Atlantic States: Unsettled during the week with occasional rains and normal temperature.