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## HAS OXFORD GROWN ANY IN THE LAST FORTY YEARS?

You Would Think So If You Heard Messrs. R. W. Lassiter and J. G. Hall Discuss the Problems Of that Period.

Mr. Robert W. Lassiter incidentally remarked in his speech at the Chamber of Commerce banquet the other night that he was mayor of Oxford forty years ago, but only had come at that hour to dwell upon the most vital problems of that history-making epoch. Meeting Mr. Lassiter and Mr. John G. Hall on the street a few days later, we asked Mr. Lassiter to tell us something of what took place forty years ago.

"Oh, well," said Mr. Lassiter, "when I was mayor of Oxford forty years ago there was only one murder and two lynchings during my administration covering a period of twelve months. I was elected by the handsome majority of one vote; the town budget was \$100 per year, and when my administration had spent an additional \$25 for street improvements we were accused of being extravagant."

Mr. John Hall, who was a town commissioner for nine years, serving one year during the Lassiter administration, spoke up: "Much liquor and money were used in those days to carry the election," said Mr. Hall. "I remember that there was one large black man that had a tremendous influence with the voters of his race and it was necessary to keep him away from the polls. With that end in view the friends of good government provided him with sufficient whiskey the day before election to put him to sleep for two or three days. The colored man slept through the election, and when he recovered and learned that his party had been defeated, he was taken sick and died some time later with a broken heart."

"Do you remember the stepping stones in front of Hall's drug store?" asked Mr. Hall, addressing Mr. Lassiter.

"Yes, I remember them very well. The board ordered them taken up and placed elsewhere to spite Hall and Landis. The stepping stones led to Hall's and Landis' stores from across the street and were regarded by the opposition political party as being discriminatory."

Both Mr. Lassiter and Mr. Hall worked overtime to bring the Seaboard Railway to Oxford, and after Mr. Hall had served on the board nine years and saw the Seaboard train standing at the station he resigned from the board.

The entrance of the Seaboard Railway into Oxford is regarded as being of more importance than any one thing accomplished here in the last forty years.

## MR. DANIEL'S SUCCESSOR

### New Secretary Of Navy Served As Private In Marines

Edwin Denby, whose appointment as secretary of the navy, enlisted as a private in the United States Marine Corps at the outbreak of the European war, and was sent to Paris Island, S. C., the recruit training camp for the eastern section of the country. Completing the regular "boot" training given all marines, he was transferred to the non-commissioned officers' school where he won corporal's chevrons. He proved an efficient drill master and rose to the rank of sergeant and finally was commissioned second lieutenant.

Mr. Denby was then made morale officer, where he performed what was perhaps his most important service.

For months he delivered a daily lecture to new recruits immediately after they took the oath of allegiance, telling them the history of the Marine Corps and inspiring them with his remarkable appeal for patriotism and loyalty. Lieutenant Denby's "lecture" will be remembered by thousands of marines as one of the most impressive events in their military service.

## FUNERAL RITES ARE SAID FOR MRS. L. J. STEED

The funeral of Mrs. L. J. Steed was held from the residence on Rectory Street Wednesday morning at ten o'clock, conducted by Dr. J. D. Harte, pastor of Oxford Baptist Church, of which the deceased was a devout member. The interment was at Elmwood Cemetery. The pallbearers were: Active—M. F. Hill, Mr. Alderman, Mr. Allen, J. F. Meadows, W. A. McFarland, L. F. Perkins, E. E. Fuller, A. P. Hoggood.

Honorary—R. L. Brown, M. P. Chamberlee, C. D. Ray, I. W. Mangum, H. M. Shaw, S. W. Parker, Sid Usry, L. N. Howard, T. L. Booth, G. S. Watkins.

The high esteem in which Mrs. Steed was held here and elsewhere was reflected in the pretty floral tribute.

## The Divorce Bill

Two hours of discussion resulted Wednesday in the Senate passing by a vote of 25 to 18 the bill reducing the ground for absolute divorce from ten to five years separation. The bill was introduced in the House by Miss Exum Clement and passed by that body. It will pass the third reading today and become a law.

Your battery should have water about every two weeks. Stop at Willard Service Station.

## HARDING COMPLETES TASK OF FILLING HIS CABINET WITH BEST MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Will Hays Goes In Expected Column As Postmaster General While Senator A. B. Fall Draws Job As Secretary Of Interior; J. J. Davis, of Pennsylvania, Lands As Secretary Of Labor and John W. Weeks Becomes Head Of War Department; Appointment Of Edwin Denby As Secretary Of Navy Only Surprise In Batch—The South Left Out. (St. Augustine Special)

President-elect Harding has reached a tentative decision on every place in his cabinet, and unless there are last-minute changes the official circle of the next administration will be composed of these men:

**Secretary Of State:** Charles Evans Hughes, of New York City. Jurist—Born Glenn Falls, N. Y. Age 58 years. University training. Practiced and taught law, New York, 1884-1900. Conducted Insurance Investigation, New York Legislature, 1905-06. Governor of New York, 1907-08 and 1910-12. Associate Justice, United States Supreme Court, 1910-16. Republican nominee for President, 1916.

**Secretary Of The Treasury:** Andrew William Mellon, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Banker—Born Pittsburgh, Pa. Age 65 years. University education. Entered banking business 1874. President Mellon National Bank, 1902 to present. Active in industrial and financial developments in Western Pennsylvania.

**Secretary Of War:** John Wingate Weeks, of West Newton, Massachusetts. Banker—Born Lancaster, N. H. Age 60 years. Graduate U. S. Naval Academy, 1881. U. S. midshipman. 1881-83. Member of firm of bankers and brokers, Boston, 1882-1912. Member of Congress, 1905-13. United States Senator, 1913-1919.

**Attorney General:** Harry M. Daugherty, of Columbus Ohio. Lawyer—Born Washington Courthouse, Ohio. Age 61 years. University education. Practiced law, Washington Courthouse 1881-88. Elected State legislature in 1888, serving 5 years.

**Postmaster General:** Will H. Hays, of Sullivan, Indiana. Lawyer—Born Sullivan, Ind. Age 41 years. Graduate Wabash College. Prominent in county, State and National Republican politics during last 20 years. Member law firm Hays & Hays. Bank director. Chairman Republican National Committee since 1916. Mason. Presbyterian.

**Secretary Of The Navy:** Edwin Denby, of Detroit, Michigan. Lawyer—Born Evansville, Ind. Age 51 years. Educated in public schools and graduate in law of University of Michigan. A former member of Congress, who has served as an enlisted man in both the Navy and Marine corps.

**Secretary Of The Interior:** Albert Bacon Fall, of Three Rivers, New Mexico. United States Senator—Born Frankfort, Ky. Age 59 years. Educated in country schools. Worked as farmer, rancher, miner, lawyer. United States Senator since 1912, present term expiring in 1923.

**Secretary Of Agriculture:** Henry Cantwell Wallace, of Des Moines, Iowa. Editor and Publisher—Born Rock Island, Ill. Age 54 years. Collegiate education. Farmer and live stock breeder in Iowa, 1887-91. Editor-manager and publisher of farm publications, 1893 to present.

**Secretary Of Commerce:** Herbert Clark Hoover, of Stanford University, California. Mining engineer. Born West Branch, Iowa. Age 46 years. University training. Wide experience in geological and mining enterprises, U. S. and abroad. Chairman American Relief Committee, London 1914-15. Relief in Belgium, 1915-18. U. S. Food Administrator, 1917-19. East relief, 1920-21.

**Secretary Of Labor:** James John Davis, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Labor leader—Born Tredegar, Wales. Age 47 years. Went to Pittsburgh with parents at age of 4 years. At 11 began work in steel mills becoming a puddler. Always has been active in union affairs.

## RUFFIN ESTATE VALUED AT HALF MILLION DOLLARS

Winston-Salem, Feb. 24.—W. C. Ruffin, the wealthy cotton manufacturer, who died here last week, left an estate of \$500,000. The estate is to be equally divided between his wife and four children. A large part is to be held in trust by executors and invested for benefit of the heirs.

## THE RETURN OF MR. DANIELS TO CIVIL LIFE

Secretary and Mrs. Josephus Daniels will be extended an official welcome home on Sunday, March 6, when the people of Raleigh and Wake county gather in the city auditorium for the purpose of putting over what will probably be the greatest community concert yet staged in the capital city.

TODAY IS WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY. The Post-Office is closed. Get your stamps at Pittman's, the Leading Drug Store in Town. It.

## EX-SLAVE IS ON HIS WAY TO GRANVILLE TO FIND RELATIVES

It Is Reported That He Has the Letters "L. S." Branded On His Chest (Special to The Public Ledger)

Richmond, Va., Feb. 24.—Search was made here this week for a negro, formerly a Brazilian slave, who disappeared shortly after his arrival in this city. It is reported he has the letters "L. S." branded on his chest and wears around his neck a medal inscribed with the name of his former owner, Raymond Hunt, of England. He was recently brought to this country.

It was learned today in the negro settlement on Seventeenth Street that the negro claims he has relatives in Granville county, N. C., and a subscription was taken up to defray his traveling expenses to Clarksville.

## LOVE-MAKING AND GOSSIP BY TELEPHONE IS COSTLY

Lovers Frequently Indulge In a Whispered and Kissing Conversation For Hours.

If all the electric current that is burned up here every day in aimless telephone conversations were to be otherwise applied it probably would propel a dozen sewing machines in an overalls factory.

For reasons which no one has ever been able to explain, the telephone seems to encourage idle chatter. Subscribers to partyline service especially find that the utility of Mr. Bell's extraordinary device is reduced greatly because of the habit of other subscribers to gossip by wire for hour after hour. Love-making by telephone is also a new thing under the sun, and it is a practice that profoundly disturbs busy people who have other and more pressing things to look after.

If you have never heard a pair of young lovers hold a whispered and kissing conversation, such as is carried on by wire in Oxford daily, you are indeed fortunate, for such a one is most nauseating. When they get at it they whisper and kiss for hours at a time and only a sense of hunger seems to arouse them.

It is a fact that an Oxford business man the other day tried five times to get a party on the wire, and each time he was told that the line was busy, and when the trouble was traced to its foundation head, a sixteen year old boy in South Oxford was talking to a fifteen year old girl at the other end of the wire in North Oxford.

The telephone company is certainly justified in asking for an extra charge for long-winded wire talks. Such an order would improve the telephone service, as it would make everybody talk more to the point by making it a little less cheap.

## LORD MAYOR OF HURRICANE SPENDS DAY IN OXFORD

The Popular Young Ruler Is Very Dignified.

Hon. R. L. Pratt, Lord Mayor of the Hurricane by inheritance, spent yesterday in Oxford, and dined at the Crown Cafe in a princely style. The handsome young ruler is dignified, but he possesses a warm heart and is very cordial.

"I am very proud to be identified with the Hurricane," said Lord Mayor Pratt; "there are no better people under the sun—true and loyal to a fault. There was a time when the moonshiner did a thriving business in the Hurricane, but the liquor was sold in Oxford, Creedmoor, Henderson and Durham. Very little of the liquor manufactured in the Hurricane was consumed by the home people. I am glad to see that the moral tone of the people of the Hurricane is such as to drive the disturbing element beyond our borders."

## EX-SOLDIERS, NOTICE

If you are an overseas army veteran and want a uniform gas mask and helmet as service souvenirs, just write the War Department for them and don't pay anybody to make out application for you. Swindlers are offering to prepare such applications at \$5 a head, the Department warns, and defrauding the ex-soldiers out just that much, because there's no red tape about the business and "it is well for all soldiers to know that no money is to be paid for the uniforms they are entitled to draw."

## GOV. MORRISON IS TO GET CADILLAC

Will Be Most Costly Job Put Out by the Cadillac Company. (Charlotte Observer)

Governor Cameron Morrison will soon have as his official car, a Cadillac Imperial Sedan, purchased by the state for his use. The order was received here last week and immediately filed and ordered through post-haste by J. Ray Barkalow of the Charlotte branch.

## Basket Ball!

Friday night 8 o'clock. All Stars vs. Wakeforest. Adm. 25c.

## GRANVILLE COUNTY WILL HAVE ROAD COMMISSION COMPOSED OF THREE MEN

Dr. E. T. White, Col. W. B. Ballou and J. Ennis Davis Are Named In the Bill Introduced In the Legislature As the First Road Commissioners Of Granville County.

The people of Granville county will be glad to know that we are to have a road commission composed of the three best men in the county. Hon. B. W. Parham, the representative from Granville, has introduced the bill, naming as our first Road Commission three gentlemen, J. Ennis Davis being the Chairman of the present Board of County Commissioners:

COL. W. B. BALLOU  
DR. E. T. WHITE  
J. ENNIS DAVIS

The above named gentlemen will have charge of all the road work in the county. They will be most valuable in securing State and Federal aid and seeing that it is properly expended along with the county funds for road purposes. No county in the State can boast of a better Road Commission than Granville county.

The Road Commission will relieve the county board of much time and worry. They have enough to do in attending to the business of the county without being bothered with the roads, and they express themselves as being highly pleased with the establishment of a Road Commission. They realize that with a million dollars of State, Federal and county funds to be spent in Granville county within the next few years a high-grade Road Commission is absolutely essential.

## OXFORD COLLEGE NOTES

As the Spring term advances life in the College grows more and more interesting. Many things are being planned in the manner of receptions, plays, recitals and operettas.

On next Saturday evening Miss Ella Smith will entertain in honor of the track team of Wake Forest, for which she is sponsor.

The faculty have inaugurated their afternoon teas, to be given the second Wednesdays of each month, beginning March 9th. All friends of the College will be made welcome.

Much interest at present is centered in the Senior play, and rehearsals are now in full swing. The play is Captain January, dramatized and arranged by Mrs. Woodall. An interesting feature of this event will be the installation of the beautiful drop curtain; the gift of the Senior class to the College. The scene of the curtain is the "Old Swimming Pool" from Riley's poem.

Mrs. Woodall has given this play a number of times in different cities in the South, and from what we hear of it, a rare treat is in store for us.

## CLOSE FOR THE SEASON FRIDAY, MARCH 18TH

At a called meeting of the Oxford Tobacco Board of Trade February 18th, it was decided to close this season on March 18th.

Oxford Tob. Bd. of Trade.

J. C. HOWARD, Sec-Treas.

## OXFORD TEAM WINS FROM WAKE FOREST FRESHMEN

Oxford won from Wake Forest freshmen in an exciting game of basket ball on last Thursday night by 29 points, the score being 44 to 15.

Parham and Livengood playing best for Oxford while Brewton played best for Wake Forest.

Oxford	Wake Forest
Parham	R. F. McLean
Livengood	L. F. Mullen
Bradsher	C. Brewton
Hall	R. G. Sanders
Currin	L. G. Harris

Feferree—Stem.  
Goals for Oxford—Parham 8; Livengood 9; Bradsher 2; Currin 2. Goals for Wake Forest—McLean 1; Brewton 4; Sanders 1. Fouls—Livengood 2, out 5; Harris 2, out 4.

## TAXPAYERS

Will please take notice that all property upon which the taxes are not paid will be advertised after MARCH 15TH.

Also the property upon which the assessments are on for street paving. February 25th 1921.

R. B. HINES, Town Tax Collector.

An impressive plea for \$20,000,000 for higher education is made by trainloads of advocates from various sections of the state appearing before the legislative committee in Raleigh.

## MRS. BROOKS SUGGESTS THAT TWO LADIES BE ADDED TO THE SCHOOL BOARD

Editor Public Ledger:

Please allow me, through the columns of your paper, to offer several suggestions as to the needs of our Graded School.

First, I would suggest that we need a live, wide-awake, Parent-Teacher Association, not a Parents' Association, not a Teachers' Association, but a Parent-Teacher organization, or rather, a Parent-Teacher-Trustee organization, in which all members shall lay aside petty prejudices and self-interest, and cooperate for the good of our children and the community at large.

Second, I would suggest that two ladies be added to our school board. In this, I do not mean to reflect on our present trustees, for they are all, I am sure, splendid men, but often situations arise in our schools which would tax to the utmost the resourcefulness of both men and women. There are in Oxford as many capable women as in other towns where they are serving in this capacity.

My third suggestion is that the ruling be adopted which prevails in some other places, to the effect that no person having a near relative holding any position in the schools shall be retained as a member of the board. The fairness in this may readily be seen, for while we usually have good teachers, it sometimes happens in all schools that very fine instructors do not "fit in." In our school life, as in every thing else, there are cases of "the square peg and the round hole." Should it happen that these teachers were related to one or more members of the board, complications would set in; the hands of the most efficient, most conscientious superintendent would be tied; for what man would feel justified in going between the members of the board that had given him his position, and in telling them that their sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts or cousins were displeasing the majority of the people?

Such a state of affairs would be an injustice to the teachers themselves, an injustice to the pupils, and a most grievous injustice to the people in general, for in a school of the people, for the people, and supported by the people, should not the wishes of the people be considered?

These are merely suggestions, however, and will, of course, be taken for what they are worth.

Very respectfully,  
ELLEN H. M. BROOKS.

## OXFORD BOY WILL LEAD SONS OF CONFEDERATES

Geo. T. Rawlins, Former Commandant Of Washington Camp, To Head District Of Columbia Division...

The people of Oxford remember with pleasure Mr. George T. Rawlins, son of the late E. T. Rawlins, and nephew of Major Will Landis, and are highly pleased to see him called to high honors. Speaking of his recent elevation the Washington Star says:

"George T. Rawlins, formerly commandant of Washington Camp No. 305, Sons of Confederate Veterans, has been appointed commander of the District of Columbia Division, S. C. V., by Nathan Bedford Forrest, commander-in-chief of the general organization and grandson of the Confederate general."

"Mr. Rawlins has been associated with the local camp for a number of years and served successively as adjutant, first lieutenant, acting commandant, and finally commandant. He is a graduate of Georgetown University Law School and a member of the local bar, and is identified with the Washington Commander, No. 1, Knights Templar, and Almas Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. During the world war he served in the United States Navy, and last summer was one of the crew of the U. S. S. Frederick, which took the naval athletes to the Olympic games held in Antwerp."

## FARMERS GIVEN OPPORTUNITY BY HOUSE TO POOL THEIR PRODUCTS

With the California law as a model, the House Tuesday morning passed a cooperative marketing law that will enable the farmers to pool their product for any period from ten seconds to ten years. By contract a marketing association will be given full authority to sell as agent all manner and condition of produce.

## OXFORD TO HAVE AN EXCLUSIVE SHOE STORE

Mr. M. N. Wolf, proprietor of the Hub store, has leased the adjoining room, formerly occupied by the Delco Light Company, and will open an exclusive shoe store for the whole family at an early date. The fixtures are now being installed and Mr. Wolf hopes to have everything in readiness for Easter inspection.

Mr. Wolf has returned from the centers in New England, where he was successful in procuring a full line of standard advertised footwear.

President Wilson is expected to recommend to Congress that authority be granted for the United States to accept German bonds to be applied against the debt Belgium owes America.

## QUIT YOUR KICKING AND GET INTO LINE

(Reprinted by courtesy of Mr. L. V. Nicholas, President L. V. Nicholas Oil Co.)

I was asked the other day if our slogan, "Business Is Good, Thank You," was not a mistake in these so-called hard times, and I replied that I did not think so—that business will always be good for the man who keeps cheerful and smiling and who takes pride and pleasure in doing the best he can.

There is no argument to the fact that bills are not being paid as promptly as customary; that the banks are not loaning money as freely as we would like to see it loaned; that the farmer is not getting as much money for his crop as either he or we think he should. It is true that automobiles are not selling as readily as they were and it is true that prices in many lines have tumbled, but that is what we all had to expect anyhow, and there is no reason why any of us should go into mourning and act as if business had gone to the dogs and the country into the hands of a receiver.

For the Love of Mike, let us begin to act the part of men and not long-tailed rats. Let us be doubly thankful for the business we are doing. Let us not forget that the war was won; that prices of necessity had to come back to normal. Let us get down on our knees and thank God prices are doing the very thing we all knew they had to and the very thing we all hoped they would do. When we average up the last few years we have got to admit we have all made more money than we ever expected to make, and when we consider conditions in this country we have to admit that the little old U. S. A. is better off than any other country in the world today.

Let us "hold up our heads, wipe off our chins, and grin."

It is my personal opinion we have had things made so easy for us that we are developing into a bunch of babies who have forgotten how to take punishment. What we need is friendly, courageous optimism, and once we develop it, believe me when I say, we will discover very much to our surprise that ALL "Business is good, thank you."

## FIVE MILLION GERMANS TO LEAVE FATHERLAND

Students of economic subjects assert that at least 5,000,000 Germans are preparing to leave the Fatherland for the United States, Mexico and South American States as soon as they are able to raise passage money, or obtain admission in the case of the United States.

A majority of the would be emigrants have expressed a preference to go to South America.

Official and unofficial quarters at Berlin have displayed considerable uneasiness over the class of men who are now emigrating or preparing to emigrate. The head of the government immigration office said:

"The most able-bodied, enterprising, stalwart sons of Germany are leaving. The very poor, the Communists, the radicals, the Bolsheviks, generally are remaining with us. It is the family of some substance which is moving out."

## BICKETT THROUGH WITH POLITICS FOR AWHILE

Former Governor Says When He "Died He Died All Over" Like The Pig.

Ex-Governor T. W. Bickett is quoted as saying that he never will be a candidate for office again.

"I'm like the classic pig; when I lived, I lived in clover, but when I died, I died all over."

"The only time when I will be a candidate for office again," the Governor said, "will be when I am drafted into the service of my party."

## GAS COMPANY NOT ASKING FOR HIGHER RATES

Mr. Murfitt, traveling auditor of the Southern Gas and Improvement Company, states that his company is not asking for a higher rate.

The meeting to be held in the office to the State Corporation Commission on Tuesday, March 29, said Mr. Murfitt, is for the purpose of establishing a fixed rate so that the Gas companies will be in a position to make contracts for materials.

## WOMAN CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR

Mrs. Moore's Red Head and Scrapping Spirit Make Salisbury Race Look Lively.

(News and Observer)

"My hat's in the ring, and now I'm going to start something!" emphatically declared Mrs. James P. Moore of Salisbury, who has just set her home-town on its ear by announcing her candidacy for Mayor, and who is now visiting at the home of Mrs. J. R. Chamberlain in Raleigh. Mrs. Moore will enter the Democratic primaries in April and is the first woman in North Carolina to go into a race for mayor; Mrs. C. C. Hook, of Charlotte, having been invited to do so last year, and having declined.

Red-headed, alert, keen, with an overflowing sense of humor, and a sparkle and snap in her eye, she evidently means business and it looks to be a safe bet that she will give the other candidates in Salisbury a good, stiff run for their money.