

# OXFORD PUBLIC LEDGER

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## "THERE IS NOTHING WRONG IN DENMARK"

**MAYOR STEIN PAYS HIS RESPECTS TO JOHN W. HESTER**

A statement as to the Oxford Water Works—There Are No Closed Doors and the Mayor Invites the General Public To Step In and Examine the Furniture.

In replying to Mr. John W. Hester's recent article, relative to the extension and improvement of Oxford's Water System, I desire to say that it is with much reluctance that I find myself forced into a newspaper controversy, a procedure which to me is distasteful. However, the people are entitled to the facts, and they shall have them.

Mr. Hester begins his article, "Of course, some will say this communication is prompted by selfishness, others by a general disposition of the writer to 'but-in.'" Who, other than Mr. Hester himself, has appeared in print, suggesting that his article must of necessity be prompted by such motives. He is his own accuser. He indicts himself in the very first sentence of the first paragraph of his article, and, as I shall show later, finds himself guilty in his closing paragraph. He begins with a guilty conscience and closes with a confession. I have known, for some time that in this matter he was prompted by selfishness, but I would have refrained from public announcement of the same, had not his "disappointment" (when our engineer recommended a source of supply, other than the one Mr. Hester owns and has been trying to get the town to decide upon) caused him to "but-in," which he himself intimates is in keeping with his general disposition. His mania for appearing in public print is a fourth reason, which Mr. Hester might have mentioned, as one of the motives prompting his article.

Mr. Hester's statement that "Until the whole matter of the proposed Water System was closed, except the presentation of the estimated total cost of the subject was handled in executive session behind closed doors," is untrue. I assume that Mr. Hester made this statement through ignorance but the facts could have been ascertained if he had made only a slight effort to get them.

At a public meeting open to all the world, the first step was taken, when the Board of Commissioners of Oxford purchased the Water System from The Oxford Water Company, and passed the first Bond Ordinance. At a public meeting, open to all who desired to come, an engineer was employed to make the necessary surveys, and recommendations to the Board. In order that an opportunity might be afforded the Board to acquire a site, or sites, and the necessary rights-of-way at a reasonable price, it was thought wise not to publish to the world the engineer's recommendations until certain options could be secured. In this there was only one motive, and that was to prevent having to pay exorbitant prices, and to save the taxpayers of Oxford and the consumers of water as much as possible. During that process, time and time again Mr. Hester who wanted to sell the town of Oxford his water rights at Minor's old mill, sought to obtain information as to the probable source of supply the engineer would recommend. He even went to a law firm, composed of men who were well acquainted with Mr. Olsen, the engineer, and sought information through one of the members of that firm. He wrote a letter to the members of the Board of Commissioners, in which he attempted to show them that there were only two fit and available sources on Tar River, one being the Kimball Mill property, (owned by Mr. Hester's client, Tar Valley Mfg. Company), and the other being The Minor Mill property (owned by Mr. Hester) and then he proceeded in this letter to attempt to show the advantages of the Minor Mill site, over the Kimball Mill site. He produced a telegram from the receiver or attorneys for the receiver, of The Tar Valley Mfg. Company, in the nature of a threat that the Town of Oxford would be held liable in damages if water should be diverted at a point above the Kimball Mill site. Other than remaining silent for a while, upon the question of the engineer's recommendations, for the purpose above mentioned, which I believe a vast majority of citizens of Oxford will approve, no single step has been taken except at public meetings open to all who desired to come. When the time arrived to purchase the necessary pipe for the water line from Oxford to Tar River, a notice or advertisement for bids was published in the Oxford Public Ledger, a time certain for opening bids was named, bids were received, and at an open, public meeting the bids were opened, and the contract awarded to The Lynchburg Foundry Company, the lowest bidder. May be Mr. Hester did not see the published notice. I

## TRAIN SERVICE ON SOUTHERN REMAINS SAME AT PRESENT

**Judge Pell Requested Railroad Officials To Furnish Actual Figures.**

The Oxford delegation, headed by W. T. Yancey, who attended the railroad hearing before the Corporation last Tuesday and again yesterday, are of the opinion that the corporation will not permit the Southern Railway Company to discontinue one of the daily trains between Oxford, Durham and Keysville.

**Some Figures.**

The Railroad officials presented an array of revenues which looked powerfully lean. Taking trains Nos. 113 and 114 and 107 and 108 in two weeks periods of May and July, the officials betrayed rather sickly conditions. In 113 and during the week of May 7-13, this train hauled 276 passengers for \$202.32. For the same period 114 hauled 334 passengers for \$205.37. For the same week 107 transported 384 at a cost of \$253.72 and 108 handled 246 travelers for cash fares of \$127.81.

**"Poorly Prepared Case."**

Judge Pell then told the officials that they had come with an awfully poorly prepared case. He was from Missouri and desired to know something. He took his pencil and figured 88 miles four times a day or 352 miles. That done 30 times a month costs about \$5,000, or according to the commissioner, about 50 cents a mile instead of \$2. Then Mr. Taylor put in that he was figuring nothing for taxes, station costs, wages on the track or anything else.

Another hearing will be necessary before Judge Pell announces the decision.

## AT THE TEST FARM

**Dr. W. W. Garner, Of Washington, Guest Or Mr. Moss.**

The Granville County Test Farm was never more interesting than it is at present. On account of the wonderful experiments on the present tobacco crop, Dr. W. W. Garner, heard of the tobacco diversion for the United States Department of Agriculture, brought with him to Oxford Mr. F. S. Knoblock, the government official photographer, to take pictures of some of the remarkable tests.

The numerous plots in a five-acre field reveals to the naked eye what certain chemicals will do. One plot on which no fertilizer was used produced a very small yellow leaf; one plot on which lime was used produced a small and inferior leaf; one plot on which magnesia was used sparingly produced a healthy leaf of good size, and on up to the most vigorous and perfect leaf attained by the use of certain ingredients.

Mr. Moss states that he hopes that a large number of farmers and their families would attend the tobacco farm on Thursday, August 14, and see for themselves what has been accomplished for the benefit of the farmers along scientific lines. One experiment alone, which was developed this season, means a saving of more than a million dollars to the growers of the state next year. It is a simple ingredient to be added to fertilizer.

## IMPRESSIVE MARRIAGE AT THE COURT HOUSE

**List Of Marriage License Issued During July.**

A very impressive twilight wedding was solemnized by Rev. E. M. Snipes, pastor of the Oxford Methodist Church, which took place in the Register of Deeds office last Tuesday evening. The contracting parties were Mr. Edgar H. Lawton, 31, of Hartsville, S. C., to Miss Elizabeth L. Amis, 23, of Virginia, Va.

The bride is a handsome young lady and was neatly gowned. The ceremony, which was very impressive, was performed in the presence of a number of witnesses, Mrs. Snipes being present to see that Pastor Snipes officiated in his usual graceful style.

The other licenses issued during the month were to colored couples as follows:

William Harris 21, of Vance county, to Adie L. Hester, 21, of Granville county; Ernest Clay, 21, of Person county to Unnies Thornton 18, of Granville county; Freddie Rowden, 21, to Clavinie Perry, 18, both of Granville county.

## NEW HAT SHOP

**Will Open About the First Of August.**

Mrs. Bryant, mother of Mrs. Blount Bryan, has purchased the millinery business of Mrs. Graham Roberts, which was located in the new Hall building at the corner of Main and Littlejohn street. The office on Main street, occupied by Dr. Watkins for many years, is now being remodeled and fitted out for Mrs. Bryant, who expects to open business about the first of August with entirely new stock. The store retains the name of "Hat Shop."

## MR. MCGEE WILL TENDER RESIGNATION TO COUNTY BOARD

**THE CLERK OF THE COURT WILL NAME HIS SUCCESSOR**

The Names Of Various Business Men and Farmers Are Suggested For The High Position Of Honor.

Tongues began to wag at both ends this week when it became known that Mr. H. A. McGee, the good and faithful county commissioner, intends to tender his resignation to the Board at the regular meeting of the commissioners next Monday.

"What in the world does it all mean, and does it have any political significance?" was the question most frequently asked.

Mr. McGee is not the kind of a man that would inject politics into the County Board. He has always had the interest of the county at heart, and in his retirement from the Board he feels that the county will profit by the appointment of one of the new candidates on the ticket to fill out his unexpired term. Summing up the situation, Mr. McGee said:

"There will be only two old members of the present Board elected in November. By appointment one of the candidates to the vacancy, said candidate would gain much valuable information at the hands of the old board between now and December 1, at which time the new board takes the oath of office."

Judge D. C. Hunt, Clerk of the Court, is authorized by law to appoint some one to fill the vacancy in the event the Board accepts Mr. McGee's resignation. It is held by some that it would not be necessary to appoint any one to fill the unexpired term of four months, citing the fact that a board of three men can accomplish more in a given time than a board of five members.

All eyes are on Judge Hunt. It is claimed by some that it would be unfair to the candidates to select one of their number to fill the vacancy. Why not pass the temporary honor to some one else is one of the questions that seem to stick in the craw of a few.

## BOOST THE OXFORD TOBACCO MARKET

**Other Towns Are Scattering Propaganda, Why No Oxford.**

The Oxford Tobacco Board of Trade, the merchants and business men of Oxford should get busy and advertise the Oxford Tobacco and Cotton Markets. They should begin at once to impress the people in this trading territory that Oxford is one of the best marketing and trading centers in the State.

Other near-by towns are trying to lead the Granville county people to their doors, and our Tobacco Board of Trade, merchants and business men seem not to realize that such a thing is being done.

The fact that Oxford is a most delightful town and a pleasant place in which to live and do business is not sufficient to keep us on the map. It is up to all of us to make some kind of a demonstration, and now is the time to begin the campaign.

## The Crop Condition In South Granville

(Creedmoor Times-News)

Since the excessive rains have stopped and we are now having some fair weather, the crops are suffering from the effects of the wet season. Especially is this so, in regard to the tobacco crop, which is deteriorating as fast as it was ever witnessed in this section. It is being harvested as fast as possible, but that part of the crop not cut and housed in the next ten days, or less will be lost.

The cotton crop is suffering, but not so badly as the tobacco crop. There has been so much rain that the crop could not be cultivated properly and in many instances it is a mass of grass and it will be impossible to gather anything like a crop. It is conservatively estimated that the cotton crop will fall short of a normal production at least 40 per cent. While the tobacco crop will not be more than 50 percent of a normal crop through this section. It is curing with very good color, but it is light in weight and the turnout in pounds will be short. The corn crop is a very good one.

## Community Sing Sunday Afternoon

**All Are Requested To Join In The Glad Noise At Creedmoor.**

The Public Ledger is requested to announce the regular monthly meeting of the Community Sing, will be held in the Creedmoor High School auditorium Sunday afternoon, August 3, at 2:30 o'clock. The public is cordially invited and all singers of the surrounding communities are requested to come and join in the singing. If you enjoy good singing, come out and you will not be disappointed. A good program of song service will be rendered.

## NEED OF REPORTING ALL COMMUNICABLE DISEASES STRESSED

**There Should Be A High Regard For The Quarantine Laws**

People who violate the quarantine laws, and who fail to report reportable disease can cause no end of trouble according to Dr. Morris, guardian of the public health of Granville County.

Recently, several cases of violation of the quarantine law have been found by the health officer, and in one case an offender was haled into court and fined.

Dr. Morris said: "People who consider such diseases as whooping cough and measles unimportant should consider the fact: There were several deaths among very young children; during the past year, caused by measles and whooping cough, the so-called 'minor diseases,' guarding their children from these diseases."

As stated by Dr. Morris, the law regarding communicable diseases is as follows: All reportable diseases are to be reported to the health department. Where no physician is attending a case, the parents or nurse of the patient should notify the department. When the doctor is in attendance, the report will be made by him. When a quarantine placard is ordered placed on a house in which there is a patient who has some reportable disease, it is not to be removed without the consent of the health officer.

—Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Abbott and children left Thursday for Mrs. Abbott's home at Maxton, while away they will attend the Cottingham reunion at Little Rock, S. C.

—Mrs. Peyton Uzzle of Warrenton is relieving Mrs. H. C. Abbott during her vacation.

## ANNIVERSARY DAY

**Five Thousand Colored People Celebrate The Annual Event Here**

What St. John's Day means to the Oxford Orphanage, Anniversary Day means to the Oxford Colored Orphanage. The colored people to the number of five thousand celebrated the annual event here last Wednesday in good style. The large gathering was composed of the best colored people from Granville and the adjoining counties. Dr. Cheatham superintendent of the Orphanage was delighted with the marked interest manifested in the work of the institution. Dr. E. G. Toney, of Oxford, was the chief speaker of the day.

The people of Oxford extend a hearty welcome to this class of colored people who attend these celebrations. It is a pleasure to look on and see them enjoy the delightful occasion. James Downey, a native of Granville, who owns a ten-horse farm in Person County and has become well-to-do by being polite and attending to his own affairs, was among the throng of visitors. Many of the business men of Oxford who knew him extended the hand of friendship.

The majority of the visitors spent the day at the Orphanage, but two or three of the younger generation came up town and got hold of some mean liquor, and it was necessary to lock them up for a while. There were several arrests for violating the traffic laws of the town, but they were strangers and were let off lightly. Automobiles and heavy trucks made frequent trips from the public square in Oxford to the Orphanage and not a single accident occurred during the day.

## ODD FELLOW'S SINGING CLASS HERE TUESDAY

The Singing Class of the Odd Fellow's Home at Goldsboro, will appear here next Tuesday night at the high school auditorium at eight o'clock. The Class this year has an excellent program, and reports from towns in the State where they have appeared have an outstanding tone of praise. There are twelve members of the class and among them will be found much talent, both vocal and instrumental. The singing class is the pride of the Odd Fellow's of North Carolina, and has been for years past. Everybody is a music lover and therefore you should not miss this treat.

The Class will arrive here Tuesday evening and be the guests of the good people of Oxford until Wednesday afternoon. On Wednesday afternoon owing to a change in schedule they will appear in Franklinton instead of Creedmoor as previously announced. The Class will be in Creedmoor Thursday, Aug. 7.

## GREEN-CONRAD

Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Green, of Shelby announce the marriage of their daughter, Patty May to Mr. Edward Conrad, which was solemnized last Saturday. The bride is a native of Oxford, the family moving to Shelby some years ago. Mr. Conrad is a member of the Edward C. Conrad Realty Co. of Winston-Salem.

## MISS BURNICE WOOD THOMAS RESUMES HER MAIDEN NAME

**Court Annuls Her Marriage To Dr. George Norfleet Thomas.**

Miss Burnice Wood, daughter of Mr. J. Robert Wood, who married Dr. George Norfleet Thomas about five years ago, has been granted an absolute divorce and restored to her maiden name. Miss Wood completed her education after her marriage, and Dr. Thomas took up the study of medicine at Wake Forest College and was graduated two years later with honors, and accepted a position at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia.

Mrs. Thomas, who is now Miss Burnice Wood, has been a member of the Virginia State Normal School at Fredericksburg. In recognition of her worth and the high esteem in which she is held, the Kiwanis Club at Fredericksburg presented to her a silver loving cup of handsome design and proportions, on which is engraved the following inscription:

"Presented By The Kiwanis Club of Fredericksburg, Va. To Miss Burnice Wood, Oxford, Who By Loyal and Unselfish Service During Her School Life Contributed More To the Uplifting of the State Normal School At Fredericksburg, Va. June 12, 1923."

Miss Wood is spending her vacation at the home of her father to the delight of her many friends in Oxford.

## LOCAL ROTARIANS

**They Have Several Things Under Consideration.**

The Oxford Rotary Club held its weekly meeting last night with Chairman Ben Lassiter presiding. Mr. Lassiter has the happy faculty of starting a meeting off in fine spirits and guiding it successfully throughout. There were a number of visitors including Rotarians from Henderson and Fayetteville. Dr. Garner of the United States Department of Agriculture, who is visiting the Tobacco Experiment Station here, was a guest of Eugene Moss at the meeting.

Thornton Yancey and Mike Chamber reported on the trip to Raleigh before the Corporation Commission in the interest of train service on the Southern Railway. They seem to think that the Railway Company has lost its case in the effort to curtail the service between Keesville and Durham.

The Home Chautauqua to be held in Oxford this year was further discussed and a committee appointed to secure a speaker for the occasion. Eugene Moss gave notice of the basket picnic to be held at the Experiment Farm on the 14th of August and invite the club to attend.

## Increase in Amount Of Leaf Tobacco

Washington, July 31.—Leaf tobacco held by manufacturers and dealers on July 1 aggregated 1,843,736,896 pounds compared with 1,736,896 pounds compared with 1,697,844,445 pounds a year ago, the Census Bureau announced.

Chewing smoking snuff and export types totalled 1,327,851,727 pounds compared with 1,196,445,884 pounds a year ago; cigar types totalled 442,696,052 pounds compared with 525,000,271 pounds, and imported types totalled 73,189,077 pounds compared with 76,398,290 pounds.

## JUSTICE J. J. MEDFORD HAS A BUSY DAY

**Sends Lawbreakers To The County Jail.**

Wednesday was a busy day for Justice J. J. Medford. Some of the cases disposed of were as follows:

Harry Smith charged with carrying concealed weapon, on finding probable cause he was bound over to superior court under \$100 bond. He is in jail in default of bond.

James Cheeks was found guilty of driving a car while intoxicated and bound over to superior court under \$100 bond. He has not been able to give bond and is in jail.

Albert Allen charged with running a car without license was dismissed on payment of the cost and for him not to run the car until he secured license.

Ollie Bullock was arrested for being drunk and placed in jail to sober up so he can be given a hearing.

John Rhodes was found guilty of failure to observe the city ordinances and was fined \$5 and the costs.

## THE IRON MINES OF GRANVILLE COUNTY

**One Hundred Thousand Tons On The Lands Or Mrs. Graham Roberts.**

The mining of iron ore near Knapp of Reeds will be resumed as soon as a spur track can be built to connect with the Norfolk and Western railroad near Willardsville station. The president of the mining company, whose office is located in New York, stated, according to responsible information, that he hoped to have everything in readiness to begin taking out ore by November first, next.

According to an unofficial report of the engineers the ground on which the party has been prospecting, covers about seven acres and contains about 1,650,000 tons of iron ore. This estimate is based on a fifty feet depth. The analysis of the ore shows that it contains from 52 to 57 percent iron. Of the above estimate, there are 100,000 tons of high-class iron ore on the lands of Mrs. Graham Roberts, of Oxford; the five acres on the farm of J. A. Veasey is estimated at 1,350,000 tons, and 100,000 tons on the farm of H. R. Dixon.

The company has an option on three thousand in that section of the county with good prospects for ore in Northern Granville.

The officials state that when everything is in operation they hope to mine 800 tons of ore daily.

## NEW YORK STATE TO BE BIG BATTLEGROUND

**The Democrats Will Probably Win.**

New York, July 30.—New York state is to be perhaps the greatest battleground of the coming presidential campaign. With John W. Davis as their standard-bearer, the Democrats realize their best chance of winning the election lies in winning some of the States East of the Mississippi River to add to the electoral votes of the Solid South. The general feeling here at the moment is that the Democratic managers will permit the Republican and the LaFollette followers to fight it out in a great many of the Western states. Of course, the Democrats will not neglect these Western states. Mr. Davis undoubtedly will visit them. But the battle will be concentrated in the East and the bulk of the campaigning be done there.

## Oxford Is Mentioned In A Chicago Paper

(The Publishers' Auxiliary)

The Oxford Public Ledger recently carried an interesting story about Pro Bono Publico, a newspaper printed back in 1874 at "Sassafras Fork, Granville county, North Carolina, by Eugene L. and Frank S. Harris," a copy of which was sent to the editor by a former resident of Sassafras Fork who now lives in Ontario, Canada. This paper was a four-page weekly, 4 1-2 by 6 inches in size, and the entire front page (a facsimile of which was reproduced in the Public Ledger) was devoted to comment on Biela's comet, which was causing considerable comment at that time. The story also tells about the local items in the paper, which give an interesting view of journalism in that state half a century ago.

## BUSINESS IS BETTER

**Textile Plants Disposing Of Accumulated Stocks At Profit.**

(Charlotte Observer)

By the middle of October practically all the textile mills of the piedmont section of the Carolinas will be running full time and on a profitable basis in the opinion of David Clark of Charlotte, editor and publisher of The Southern Textile Bulletin.

Mr. Clark who is recognized as an authority second to none on southern textile conditions, said last night that there has not as yet been any great decrease in the curtailment of output of the textile mills, which has been in effect for some months, though the position of the mills is decidedly better and is "picking up" right along.

## A STAR WITH A HEART

**Madam Olga Petrova Set A Good Example.**

The Associated press states that in deference to the wishes of her husband, Dr. John D. Stewart, of New York Olga Petrova, the great motion picture actress, who has just returned from a tour of Europe, has refused to have her hair bobbed.

—Mrs. H. C. Pinnick entertained on Wednesday afternoon at the Woman's Club House in honor of her daughter, Mrs. Marshall Pinnick. The rooms were attractively decorated for this happy occasion and a delightful course of refreshments was served. Quite a number of friends called to greet this attractive young bride, who is so charming an addition to Oxford Society.

(Continued on Page 4)