

DOVER ROAD PROJECT NOW BEING AIRED AGAIN

Efforts Being Made To End Unemployment Here

IDLE MEN ASKED TO REPORT

Employment Bureau Is Anxious To Get In Touch With All Who Have No Job. WILL FIND WORK. Plenty Jobs Are Open. Many Can Be Taken Care of At Once, It Is Said.

Every effort is being made by the local employment committee, assisted by the U. S. and State Free Employment office, to provide work for the men of New Bern who are now idle, as the result of last week's fire.

The committee in charge of this phase of relief work is anxious to get in touch with every idle man in the city. The following statement was given out for publication today:

It is urgently requested that all unemployed labor in New Bern or this vicinity apply at the U. S. and State Free Employment Office at the West Street Graded School on next Monday morning.

Carpenter and common labor are especially needed. Every man who wants to work can be furnished positions immediately.

All white men, unemployed, are requested to apply at the U. S. and State Employment Office at once. The telephone number is 179.

All employers in need of common or skilled labor are requested to communicate with the Employment Office at once.

It is pointed out that there are hundreds of men in the city who have nothing to do and who have no means of support. Those in charge of the employment situation here feel that if these men will only register their names, it will be only a matter of a few days before jobs will be found for them. The committee has on hand jobs for quite a few men.

The difficulty encountered thus far has been in getting the idle men to make their wants known. This has been due largely to the fact that they do not wish to leave their families until satisfactory housing arrangements have been made. However, if they will leave their names at the employment office they will be cared for.

The Housing question will be settled tonight when the committee meets next week, and it is now believed that a large number of those who now have no place to go, will be in houses of their own, temporarily, within a very short time.

BURKHEAD CASE IS NOW NEARING CLOSE

OXFORD, Miss., Dec. 9.—Defense in the trial of the damage suit filed by Miss Francis Burkhead against Governor Lee M. Russell, rested its case in federal district court here just before noon today. The attorneys for the plaintiff asked time to consult with their witnesses for rebuttal testimony and court recessed until 2 o'clock.

Women powder their noses in public so why can't men shave on the street cars as they ride to work?



NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 9, 1922 PRICE: FIVE CENTS

Stacey W. Wade Repudiates Statement Made By Scott

NEW REPRIEVE BEEN GRANTED TO JOE DIXON

Local Negro, Convicted of Burglary, Gets Another Reprieve at Raleigh

Joe Dixon, negro, convicted in superior court in New Bern of first degree burglary, has been granted another reprieve, according to an item appearing in the Raleigh News and Observer today. The item reads as follows:

Sixty days were added by Governor Morrison yesterday to the reprieve of Joe Dixon, sentenced to electrocution in the State prison for first degree burglary in Craven county, and his execution postponed twice, is set for February 12. He was originally sentenced to die on May 16, and has been reprieved three times. Had not the governor intervened he would have been put to death next Monday.

Paroles were issued by the Governor in the case of C. E. Matthews, of Harnett county, serving a sentence of two years in the State prison for assault with a deadly weapon and Albert F. Smyre, of Catawba, serving a year on the roads of that county for driving an automobile while under the influence of liquor.

Requests by Judge Frank A. Daniels, who tried the case, prompted the Governor to extend the time of Joe Dixon, and voluminous appeals on the part of the other recipients of Executive clemency are on file. In the case of Matthews the trial judge declared that he believes now that the prisoner did not use a deadly weapon and in view of the fact that he has already served seven months, has a wife and five children, and served in the army during the war, the Governor paroled him.

Ready for Christmas Trade J. O. Baxter, jeweler, has just received large shipments which have practically completed his stock for the Christmas trade. Every department of the store is now replete with countless appropriate gift suggestions. In addition, the store is ready to fill orders from any catalogue, thereby making it unnecessary to send out mail orders for anything that the buying public of New Bern and vicinity might need in the way of Christmas jewelry, etc.

Will Pay Out \$15,000 Beginning next Monday, December 11, the 1923 Christmas Savings Club will open at the National Bank of New Bern. Over \$15,000 for last year's Savings Club, which has just come to a close, will be paid out next week.

It is expected that a large number of local citizens will join the club during the coming year.

Ghent Prayer Service. The Ghent prayer service will be held at the home of Mrs. Henry Willis, 504 Spencer avenue, Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock. Rev. Boykin will be leader.

Wade Is Shocked As Result Of Publicity Given To The Report Sent Out By Scott

Telegram Sent Mayor Clark This Morning.—Correction Is Also Given To The Press From Raleigh.

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 9, 1922.

Hon. Edward Clark, Mayor of New Bern, N. C.

Shocked at regrettable publicity given trifling circumstance by Scott. Entirely unofficial and unsanctioned. Due to my absence for a week. Am issuing explanatory correction.

STACEY W. WADE.

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 9.—The report of Deputy Insurance Commissioner W. A. Scott, criticising the New Bern Fire Department and asserting explosives were found in negro houses during the fire there last week, today was repudiated by Commissioner Stacey W. Wade.

The Commissioner returned from New York, where he had been for several days and immediately held a conference with his officials of the department. The statement, giving the contents of Scott's report was never "submitted to the acting chief of the department" and was issued from the office by another official without his knowledge or consent, said Mr. Wade.

"I consider it extremely unfortunate that what, in the excitement of the impending catastrophe, might have been a momentary lack of precaution, should have been distorted into a charge of criminal negligence on the part of the firemen," he continued.

"I know the firemen of North Carolina too well and especially the firemen of the City of New Bern to believe they could be guilty of such a charge. The wonder is that in the midst of North Carolina's great conflagration, fed by a mighty gale, they did not find themselves helpless and give up in despair. New Bern is one of the oldest towns in the State, many of the majority of the houses, being of the most inflammable material, and with its wood-working plants, nesting among them, it is a miraculous thing that the firemen were able to confine the destruction to such a small area.

"The representatives of the Department were dispatched with positive instructions to be of whatever aid they could in restoring order, preventing the spread of fire and rendering whatever assistance they could to the unfortunate people, and not for the purpose of fastening the responsibility of the great calamity upon anyone.

"It is improbable that these directions were misunderstood and I can hardly believe that any statements, however indiscreet, could have been intended to reflect upon a body of firemen whose loyalty and bravery may be matched but not surpassed anywhere in the state," he said.

Dear Chief, It gives me great pleasure to enclose herewith Cashier's check for \$100 to be used as you see fit in relieving those in distress in your city. The money is from the members of this Department and the citizens of Black Mountain. We have very few people here at this season of the year, and for that reason it is hard to raise money in small towns, nevertheless, we feel for you and your people and wish that we were closer and could be of some assistance.

With my kind personal regards, I am, R. E. Currier Chief. Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 8, 1922. (Tobacco Grower's Association)

Dear Mr. Jacobs: I enclose check for \$15 for your relief fund. I wish I could make the check many times this amount. I sympathize deeply with your stricken city and her sufferers. I congratulate you and others upon the prompt, efficient and unselfish manner in which the difficult and distressing situation has been handled.

My dear old New Bern rise Phoenix-like from her ashes and her calamity prove a blessing in disguise. Absence from home prevented a prompt response from me. Command me if I can be of further service in any way. Very truly yours, J. Y. Joyner

The following has been contributed to the relief of the fire sufferers (Continued on page three).

ABERNETHY TO AID TRUCKERS IN WAYNE CO.

Wires Chamber of Commerce That He Is Sending Interstate Commerce Man

GOLDSBORO, N. C., Dec. 9.—Congressman Charles Abernethy yesterday telegraphed W. C. Denmark, secretary of the chamber of commerce to wire him at once the names of the interested truckers of Wayne county who will give the Interstate Commerce Commission information; and that a representative of the commission would be sent here early this week.

Mr. Denmark said at a late hour last night he would wire the names tomorrow. Mr. Denmark was last night in conference with H. M. Cox of Mt. Olive and a meeting of shipper will be held there some time next week.

Mr. Abernethy's telegram follows in detail: "Mr. W. C. Denmark, Sec. Chamber Commerce, Goldsboro. "Please wire at once names of interested truckers in Wayne county who will give information to Interstate Commerce Commission about movement of truck by A. C. L. to points North. A representative of the Interstate Commerce Commission will visit that territory early next week for the purpose of investigating transportation conditions for movement of truck to northern markets."

Mr. Denmark and others consider this the opportune time to lay hold of the trucking business in earnest. In the past, Mr. Denmark says, all the trouble has been with transportation and with inability to get through refrigerator cars, and express trains to the northern markets.

CLEMENCEAU HOPES U. S. WILL AID EUROPE PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 9.—Georges Clemenceau, speaking today in the city where American's Declaration of Independence was signed, urged that America come back to Europe and help spread independence to other sections of the world.

WINSTON-SALEM FUND CONTINUES TO GROW WINSTON-SALEM, Dec. 9.—The Sentiment's New Bern relief fund had passed the \$3500 mark at noon today. In addition to cash donations quite a lot of clothing had been forwarded. A number of Sunday Schools and church will aid the fund tomorrow.

WOMAN TAX DODGER DRAWS \$100 DAILY New York, Dec. 9.—The first state income tax violation case of Greater New York to come before the courts turned out Tuesday to be a woman with a daily income of \$100.

He was Mrs. Jennie M. Robinson, 29, a dress designer. Her counsel said her failure to file her tax return for 1920 was unintentional.

Preaching at Bridgeton Rev. Guy Hamilton will preach at Bridgeton tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Christian Endeavor Meeting The Christian Endeavor Society of the Broad Street Christian Church, will meet Sunday evening at 8:15. All members are urged to be on time. Visitors cordially invited.

Open Christmas Savings Club The Peoples' Bank today is advertising the opening of their Christmas Savings Club. This plan affords an excellent system of saving. In an advertisement, appearing elsewhere in today's issue, the Peoples' Bank is calling attention to their plan.

Weather Forecast WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.—Weather forecasts for Eastern North Carolina for tonight and Sunday are Rain tonight and Sunday. Colder tonight.

COMMISSIONERS NOW SEEKING TO BREAK CONTRACT FOR WORK

Will Meet With Contractors Next Week In Effort To Halt All Construction Work on the Road Project.

MUCH EXPENSE IS INVOLVED, IT IS SAID Commissioners Are of the Opinion That It Would Be Better To Take the Loss Now Than To Continue the Work.

Probably never before have a group of county commissioners been confronted with the serious problem with which the present board of Craven county is wrestling.

It's a problem, by the way, which is going to cause Craven County to lose a big sum of money, no matter which course the commissioners decide to pursue.

It has to do with the proposed cancellation of contracts for constructing the Dover road and it's an interesting story, the facts of which were revealed to The Sun-Journal last night and are now presented for the first time to the people of the county.

Contracts are Valid The contracts for the Dover road project were made by the old board of commissioners about three months ago at one of the warmest meetings ever held by the board. Advocates and opponents to the proposed road were present in large numbers and presented their views. The final action, as taken by the board, was to vote in favor of having the Dover road constructed.

Chief among the leaders in the fight against the road was Commissioner Kafer, who did everything in his power to prevent the contracts from being let. He was in the minority, however, and his hands were tied.

At a later meeting in order to sew everything up good and tight and prevent the new board from doing the work that had been done, the commissioners let the contracts for the road work. These contracts are perfectly valid in every way.

Work Has Been Started Since that meeting, preparations have been made for starting the road work. S. E. Tilton was employed as engineer to have charge of the grading work. His salary was fixed at \$300 a month and he is under contract for it.

Other contracts also were let. The principal parties involved are E. H. Meadows, the Eagle Engineering Company and W. W. Millett, Mr. Meadows agreed to furnish the rock. He sub-contracted the work to Mr. Millett. The Eagle Company was to have charge of the actual construction work.

Big Loss Is Coming And then the old board of commissioners went out and the new board took the oath of office. The Dover road was one of the first projects taken up by the body. The Sun-Journal was one of the first projects taken up by the board. The Sun-Journal has it on good authority that Kafer, Ormond and Warren are in favor of breaking the contracts and stopping all work on the road. Griffin and Grantham, it is stated, are not in sympathy with this course of action; not that they are particularly eager about having the road built, but because they do not feel that it would be treating the contractors right.

Either way you figure it, the county is going to stand a big loss; whether it be halted where it is now. Here are figures which are vouched for. Probably the commissioners will deny them, but that doesn't alter the fact that they are correct.

Should Craven County agree to halt the work on the Dover road and should the commissioners decide to break the contracts, the county will lose in excess of \$100,000 and not receive a penny in return. There's a statement which probably will cause the average tax-payer to sit up and take notice. As we have said, however, the figures were obtained on the best of authority and upon information which is absolutely reliable.

The Other Side of the Case Having considered that side of the question, let us now turn and ascertain what would happen if the commissioners decided to go on with the work. The road is supposed to cost \$300,000 when completed. It's going to cost far more than that; probably close to \$400,000. What's more, the construction work is a feat which will require considerable engineering skill. The contract made with respect to hauling the rock for the road provides that the county accept at least 1500 tons of rock a month. If the road builders do not use that quantity of rock, they'll have to pay the contractor the difference between 1500 and the amount they use.

There is going to be a period of several months during which fill-in-work will have to be done and during which the county would not be able to use a pound of rock. But while the fill-in work is in progress, needless to say, the county would have to be paying for the rock that it wasn't getting and was not using.

So there's the situation in a nutshell. Whichever way they turn, the county commissioners face a grave problem. They have been holding several meetings of late in the nature of caucuses to decide what course of action to pursue. Last night's meeting was held in George Willis' office at which time it was definitely decided to cancel the contracts at the meeting to be held next week at the court house.

ALLEGED BOMBERS BEEN RELEASED ROY MOUNT, N. C., Dec. 9.—The cases against C. E. Pyle, Jr., Curtis Bradshaw and P. J. Cridlin, who were arrested weeks ago on charges of having been responsible for bomb explosions at the home of D. T. Taylor on the night of October 14, were dismissed when the three men appeared in municipal court for preliminary hearing today. At the hearing, the prosecution stated that warrants for the arrest of the three men had been issued upon evidence given by two white youths later repudiated their statements, declaring that the evidence given by them was false. In the face of this development, the state took a nol prosequere with leave to drop the charges against the three men, who had been under bond since their arrest.

N.-S. IS GIVING ALL AID HERE President of Railroad Sends Letter of Sympathy To Local Citizens A letter of sympathy over New Bern's fire loss, was received by Mayor Clark and H. M. Jacobs today from G. A. Loyall, president of the Norfolk-Southern Railroad. It reads as follows: I am in receipt of your favor of the 6th inst., and am very glad to know that our people have been co-operating with you in the distress following the very disastrous fire. I wish to take this occasion to express my sympathy with you. I spent last Sunday in New Bern and saw the result of the fire. As indicated in my telegram in reply to yours, satisfactory arrangements have been made with Mr. Turnbull which should insure to New Bern the resumption of operation of the mill, which industry is such a valuable asset to your city. Please be assured of our cooperation. G. R. Loyall.

BURNS PROVE FATAL TO MOULTRIE BABY Moultrie, Ga., Dec. 9.—Florette, 4 daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Tucker, of Moultrie, who was burned a few days ago when her clothing ignited from an open grate, died on Monday, last.

— Read — Sunday's New Bernian For Detailed Account and Complete History of New Bern's Recent Tremendous Fire Wrapped and Mailed For Ten Cents a Copy