

POSTMASTER J. S. BASNIGHT'S RESIGNATION IS REQUESTED

Charges Have Recently Been Preferred Against Him

HE DECLINES TO COMPLY WITH ANY SUCH REQUESTS

An Investigation Will Be Started At Once—Much Interest In Matter

For the past two or three weeks rumors have been going the rounds in New Bern that there would probably be a change at an early date in postmasters at the local postoffice and these rumors were partially substantiated Friday afternoon when Postmaster J. S. Basnight, who was appointed in June, 1910, was asked to resign.

For some time there has been dissatisfaction among the force in the local office and this grew stronger a few weeks ago when George Howard, who has been in the office only a short time, was appointed to the position of dispatching clerk to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Clarence Crupon.

R. E. Smith, who is at present the night clerk, thought that he should have been appointed to this position on account of the fact that he has been in the service much longer than Mr. Howard and would therefore be the one to stand in line for promotion. The matter was taken up by Mr. Smith with the Postoffice Department and Congressman John M. Faison, of this district, who was also acquainted with the fact.

In addition to this matter, other charges were made against Postmaster Basnight and these resulted in a decision on the part of Congressman Faison and other officials to look over the record of Postmaster Basnight since being in office. After this had been done Congressman Faison came to a decision to give Postmaster Basnight an opportunity of quietly resigning without having any investigation made and just to let the matter go along quietly.

Coming to New Bern Friday morning Congressman Faison had a consultation with one of New Bern's most prominent business men, and who is a staunch Democrat, and the latter agreed to call upon Postmaster Basnight and state the case to him. This gentleman called on Postmaster Basnight Friday afternoon in behalf of Congressman Faison and asked him to resign, telling him at the time just exactly how matters stood.

This, Postmaster Basnight emphatically declined to do. Following the interview with Postmaster Basnight a message was sent to Congressman Faison in which the outcome of the interview was given. Now, it is understood that an investigation of the charges against Postmaster Basnight will be started and if these are substantiated it will in all probability mean that the present holder of the office, and also his assistant, will be removed.

There is a great deal of speculation as to who will be appointed to the position of Postmaster and Assistant Postmaster in the case the present incumbent and his assistant are taken out of the office. There are many who are positive that they can name the two gentlemen who will be chosen in case the office is made vacant while others are undecided.

Mr. Jesse S. Basnight, who is a Republican, was appointed Postmaster at the New Bern Office in June, 1910, and his term will expire in June, 1914.

AFTER THE LUMBER TRUST.

Government Files Suit In The Supreme Court.

Washington, Oct. 16.—The government filed its brief in the lumber trust case today in the Supreme Court. It was prepared by G. Carroll Todd, assistant to the attorney general, and marks another stage in the action under the Sherman anti-trust law against a number of associations of retail lumber dealers, throughout Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland and the District of Columbia.

The associations are appealing from the southern district court of New York which held the retailers to be violators of the anti-trust law and enjoined the further distribution of black lists against boycotted wholesalers who sell directly to consumers.

WILL GIVE BARREL OF FLOUR AWAY.

E. B. Hackburn has offered a barrel of flour to the lady who has the best exhibit of bread at the approaching Fair. The committee in charge of the exhibits in the culinary department request all bakers who intend making exhibits to get them in readiness at once.

SPEND NIGHT IN PAMLICO SOUND

New Bernians Have Thrilling Experience While Enroute From Norfolk.

WERE IN A MALL BOAT

Vessel Carried Cargo Of Groceries And Oil For Local Merchants.

Lost in Pamlico sound in a frail gasoline boat, with not the least idea of how far they were out of their course and with the wind blowing a gale was the experience which befell Captain John Dowdy and David Morris of this city a few days ago and it is safe to say that both of these gentlemen will not soon forget their harrowing experience.

On Tuesday of last week Captain Dowdy and Mr. Morris left Norfolk with the gasoline boat Mary Bell enroute to New Bern. The vessel was heavily loaded with groceries and oil consigned to merchants at this port. The weather was fine and all went well until Thursday when, in coming through Pamlico sound Captain Dowdy in some manner ran out of his course and found that he was heading for some unknown point.

The wind was blowing hard and to the two men on the boat it seemed as though a storm were approaching. However, this impending disturbance of the elements did not materialize. All night long the boat floated, anchor not caring to make any attempt to go ahead after he had lost sight of the beacon lights.

Soon after the break of day on Friday morning a fisherman's boat was sighted and the occupant of this told the two mariners that they were only about ten miles from the mouth of Neuse river.

The engines of the boat were put in action at once and the vessel and her crew arrived here on Friday afternoon. Pamlico sound is a dangerous place for even a large boat to get out of its course in. If a violent storm had arisen there is little doubt but that the small craft and its occupants would have been lost.

URGES FARMERS TO WORK ON ROADS

PRESIDENT OF STATE UNION OF AGRICULTURISTS ISSUES PROCLAMATION.

November 5 and 6 has been set aside as "Good Roads Days" in North Carolina by Governor Craig, and on that day citizens of the State who feel so inclined will shoulder a shovel and go out to assist in building new roads and improving the old ones.

The following proclamation, in part, has been sent to the Craven county Farmers' Union by Dr. H. Q. Alexander, the president of the State Union:

"Whereas His Excellency, Locke Craig, Governor of North Carolina, has issued his proclamation setting apart the 5th and 6th days of November, 1913, as good roads days and appointing these days as holidays and days of festival throughout the State, to celebrate the dawn of a new day in North Carolina; a day in which the march of progress toward a higher and better civilization is made easier by good roads with modern schools as signboards guiding the people, onward and upward, and,

"Whereas, His Excellency, the Governor, has called upon the president of the Farmers' Union to issue his proclamation to the organized farmers of North Carolina to enlist in this great movement and the development of both country and town.

"Now, therefore, as president of the Farmers' Union, I hereby call upon all the local unions in the State to assemble at their regular meeting places on Friday afternoon or night October 31, and there organize and arrange to work every able-bodied man of the community on the roads of the community, on Wednesday, the 5th and Thursday the 6th days of November. Let all farmers gladly embrace this opportunity of uniting with all other classes of our citizenship, and, shovel in hand, realize that it is one of the very few instances in life where brawn will hold its own with brain."

WILL PREACH FAREWELL SERMON TONIGHT.

Captain J. M. Satterfield, commander of the local branch of the Salvation Army, who is soon to leave to take up this work in another State, will preach his farewell sermon at the Christian church on Hancock street tonight and the public is extended an invitation to attend. At this service Captain Satterfield will tell of the work which he has done since coming to New Bern.

WILL GET FAIR TRIAL IN CRAVEN COUNTY

Elizabeth City Editor Engages Local Counsel To Defend Him at Next Term Of Federal Court In This City

W. O. Saunders, the Elizabeth City editor who is to be tried in the United States Court in New Bern on Tuesday, October 28, charged with having deposited obscene and indecent



EDITOR W. O. SAUNDERS OF ELIZABETH CITY, N. C. literature in the United States mails, was in the city last night. Editor

Saunders doesn't seem to be the hideous personality one might mistake him to be from all the ominous things set out in the Government's indictment.

Saunders is a mild-mannered, cheerful, companionable fellow, not quite 30 years old. He is six feet tall and weighs 225 pounds. He is a fighter and therein perhaps, lies the trouble. He fights for anything he believes to be right; and although he may sometimes, or often, be in the wrong he is no half-hearted fighter. If he thinks Bill Jones is a liar, and thinks the public ought to know it, he says so and he'll meet Bill Jones in a back lot or go to the Supreme Court with him to prove it. And Saunders must be right a good part of the time or his enemies would have put him out of business before now. Thousands of dollars and a dozen lawyers have been employed in efforts to jail him. He was defendant in three criminal libel prosecutions in three different counties this summer and won every case.

The case in New Bern next week was tried in Elizabeth City last week and resulted in a mistrial. The jury stood nine to three for his acquittal.

Just why Saunders' prosecutors should chase him all around the State with prosecutions forcing unreasonable and unnecessary expenses upon him, looks a little queer to folks on the outside; but Saunders can come to New Bern unafraid; he'll get a fair trial here.

Make JOURNAL Office YOUR Headquarters When attending the Great Eastern Carolina FAIR

MEXICAN CRISIS ONLY TEMPORARILY DELAYED

Strongly Believed Position Of Other Nations May Finally Force Huerta Regime Back to Conciliatory Attitude

Mexico City, Oct. 16.—That the crisis in the relations between Mexico and the United States, which was almost reached yesterday, is only temporarily delayed, is the general feeling here tonight among Mexicans and foreigners. When and how the next development will be reached is a question agitating all alike.

While the American Charge, Nelson O'Shaghuessy, professes to expect no reply whatever to the Washington memorandum, and the Foreign Office says there will be none for the time being, it is still regarded as certain that the nature of the American Government's notification regarding future recognition will necessitate action on the part of the Mexican authorities.

It is not expected that the elections will be postponed, although it is admitted this is a possibility. To many it would be no surprise should Mexico return to a conciliatory attitude. The impression which is gaining ground that other Nations are inclined to fall in line with the Washington Administration in the matter of future policy toward Mexico, it is argued, may tend to cause the Mexican officials to seek some ground upon which they can with dignity meet Washington half way toward an adjustment of the strained relations.

At the same time it is acknowledged that the accomplishment of this would be difficult, since the only recourse is the holding of the elections or the retention of the presidency by General Huerta, either of which would be equally distasteful to the United States. It is regarded as extremely improbable that General Huerta will release the Deputies and restore them to their functions which appears to be the only alternative.

The Deputies are still in the penitentiary and processes in the civil courts are being prejudiced against many of them? They are allowed to receive aid from friends, although thus far they have not been permitted to communicate with the outside world.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNER-SHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC.,

of New Bern Semi-Weekly Journal published Tuesday and Friday at New Bern, N. C., required by the act of August 24, 1912.

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Average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the six months preceding the date of this statement.

H. K. LAND.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of October, 1913.

STORE ROBBED BY BOLD THIEF

Midnight Marauder Enters Establishment On South Front Street.

Watches and Money

Police Have A Clue And Are Working On The Case.

During the wee sma hours yesterday morning some bold thief gained an entrance into the store conducted by J. H. Hardy at the corner of South Front and Middle streets and succeeded in getting away with several valuable watches and a small amount of money. The police are at work on the case and have a clue which they think will help them in apprehending the guilty party.

The section in which the store is located is frequented by negroes and at all times of the night there is much passing in front of the place and it is frequently the case that groups of men loiter around the street until very late at night. This in a measure accounts for the fact that Mr. Hardy and his family, who have apartments over the store, did not hear the intruder when he broke a glass from one of the front windows and gained an entrance.

Mrs. Hardy heard a noise down in the store along about 1 o'clock, but thought that it was made by rats or possibly a cat which is left in the place at night, and paid but little attention to it. Upon opening his place of business yesterday morning Mr. Hardy found that one of the front windows had been broken and upon making an examination found that the cash register was missing and that a number of valuable watches were also not to be found.

The cash register was found sitting on the floor in the front part of the store but its contents were missing. The thief had evidently tried to get it through the opening in the window but had failed in doing this. Mr. Hardy has the number of the watches and can readily identify them.

Since the police have waged such a fight on the vagrants of the city, there have been comparatively few depredations of this variety and the authorities are doubly anxious to apprehend the party who broke into Mr. Hardy's store.

LENOIR CONVICTS PHOTOGRAPHED

SEVENTEEN WRONGDOERS POSE FOR THE CAMERA MAN AT KINSTON.

Kinston, Oct. 18.—Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock grouped on the green at the court house with the building as a background, 17 convicts sentenced at the term of superior court now undergoing, were photographed at the instance of the county authorities. The group was an interesting study for a number of people who witnessed the picture-making. All of the

IMPORTANT MEETING OF SCHOOL COMMITTEEMEN

Decide To Purchase Three Large Wagons To Transport Pupils To And From New School In The Seventh Township

A very important meeting of the school committee of Township Number Seven was held in this city yesterday at the office of S. M. Brinson, county superintendent of public instruction.

The citizens of that township have recently voted for a central school and work on this is now in progress. When this central school is completed which will be about November 15, children from all sections of the township will go there to be instructed instead of going to a number of schools located at different points of the township.

Naturally it will be necessary for those in charge of the school to furnish the pupils with some method of transportation to and from the school and their homes. At the meeting yesterday the committeemen decided to purchase three large double horse wagons which

ELLIS CONFESSES KILLING HIS WIFE

"WAS THE GRANDEST LITTLE WOMAN IN THE WORLD" HE DECLARES.

Chicago, Oct. 18.—William C. Ellis, the Cincinnati leather merchant who was found wounded in a hotel room here yesterday near the body of his wife, confessed to a coroner's jury today that he killed the woman. He was held to the grand jury charged with murder.

After a conference with members of his wife's family, Ellis abandoned his assertion, made at first to the police that the tragedy was the result of a suicide pact. He assumed the entire blame for the killing and devoted his statement to obliterating the impression, given at first, that jealousy was the motive of the crime.

Suffering from a bullet wound in his chest and from cuts on his wrists and throat, self-inflicted after killing his wife, Ellis listened almost all day to the testimony in the coroner's court. His confession was made in few words:

"I will state that I shot my wife," he said. "I suppose my mind must have been affected. I was worried over business troubles and the state of my health. I want to say that my wife was the grandest little woman in the world and the most virtuous. There was no trouble between us. She couldn't do anything wrong. She was in bed when I shot her. I did not know what I was going to do. I did not have any intention of doing this when I came to Chicago. I shot her first and gashed her afterwards with a knife."

Ellis' confession came soon after the testimony of Coroner's Physician Springer that the woman's throat was cut after she was dead from bullet wounds. The Cincinnati man seemed to have regained possession of himself when he rose to make his confession and his voice strengthened as he re-nounced his previous statements reflecting upon his wife's character. He said he fired four shots into the woman's body and then gashed her throat. He then shot himself and cut his own throat and wrists. Mrs. Ellis' body will be sent to Cincinnati. Ellis is detained in the House of Correction hospital.

No, Cordelia, the chap with a cork limb doesn't necessarily belong to the floating population.

CONVICTS WERE COLORED MEN AND OF A VARIETY OF CLASSES.

Some smiled, others were melancholy, and a few entirely indifferent. The bystanders discussed their individual choices of the best and the worst of them; and one fellow who aroused a deal of sympathy was a typical black who will do 30 days for assault with a deadly weapon and about 60 more because he is unable to pay the costs. He appeared unable to comprehend the procedure and his simplicity and expressionless face won for him the opular verdict that he was mentally irresponsible. The prisoners were taken to the county camp after being photographed. The picture will be a large one for purposes of identification in the event any of the men escape.

THE EASTERN CAROLINA FAIR
NEW BERN
OCTOBER 28, 29, 30 AND 31
GREAT PRIZES
LARGEST FAIR IN EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA