

## NEW BERN POSTMASTER "FIRES" NIGHT CLERK

### Culmination Of Squabble Begun Several Weeks Ago

### ACTION WAS UNEXPECTED

### Public Awaiting Subsequent Developments

As the culmination of the squabble which has existed in the New Bern postoffice since charges were, several weeks ago, preferred against Postmaster J. S. Basnight which was followed two weeks ago by charges being preferred against R. E. Smith, night clerk, by Mr. Basnight, Mr. Smith is no longer a member of the force of employees in the office, having been discharged by the postmaster.

There have been so many sensational developments in the postoffice during the past few weeks that the public was not in the least startled when it became known that Mr. Smith had been notified that his services were no longer needed. It was known that charges had been preferred against him and that an investigation of his record would have resulted in his dismissal from the service is merely a matter of speculation. However the public were expecting something and were but little surprised to hear that it had occurred.

Mr. Smith was on probation for a period of six months and the postmaster, finding him, as he says, incompetent and a disorganizing factor in the office, proceeded to dispense with his services. He had the power to take this course and exercised his right in so doing. Mr. Smith worked until midnight on Saturday night and then turned over the keys of the office to the custodian of the building.

For the present, George Howard is acting as night clerk. By a coincidence Howard is, in a degree, responsible for all the trouble in the office. He is a new man in the office and when a few weeks ago he was appointed to fill a vacancy which Mr. Smith thought that he should have had on account of the fact that he had been in the office for a much longer period, he objected and took the matter up with the postoffice department. This resulted in Congressman Jno. M. Faison becoming interested in the matter and upon his attempt to get an inspector to come to New Bern to look over Postmaster Basnight's record and investigate the charges against him. So far this inspector has failed to put in his appearance and there are many who are of the opinion that the charges will remain as they are until Postmaster Basnight's term expires next June.

A Journal reporter yesterday called at the postmaster's office and endeavored to get an interview from him in regard to the Smith case, but the postmaster was not in a talkative mood and gave out no information. As the situation now stands, Postmaster Basnight holds the winning hand in the situation. Charges preferred against him have been allowed to lie dormant and he has succeeded in discharging the man whom he claims was the main disorganizing element in the office. What the future will bring forth cannot be surmised but the public is awaiting the next move with much interest.

### COMMISSIONERS MEET.

### Craven Citizens Protest Against Stock Law.

The regular monthly meeting of the Craven county Board of Commissioners was held in this city yesterday. Among the many other matters brought before the Board was that in which a committee of citizens from Cove City and Fort Barnwell protested against Craven having a stock law. The protests of these gentlemen were heard but no action was taken in the matter.

The keeper of the bridge at Maple Cypress appeared before the Board and asked that his salary be increased from twenty to twenty-five dollars a month. After considering the matter the Board granted his request.

The bonds of the county officers were presented and approved at this meeting.

What the Navy's the matter with you? Is Maryland a man can even eat a barrel of oysters and be happy.

Well, Miss December, there's a fine new dress up there just waiting for a clear eye to show us how lovely it can be of oysters.

## ROBERT HANCOCK DIED SUDDENLY SUNDAY NIGHT

### WAS ONE OF THE MOST REMARKABLE MEN IN THE COUNTY.

There died suddenly in this city Sunday night, one of the most remarkable men Craven county ever produced. This was Robert Hancock. Mr. Hancock's death was entirely unexpected. He retired early and at 11 o'clock relatives found that his spirit had passed into that bourne from which no traveler returns. A physician was hurriedly summoned, but upon his arrival he found that he deceased had been dead for several hours.

Robert Hancock was born on September 29, 1844. Early in life he became affiliated with the Republican party and adhered to its policies all through life. He held many offices during past years, among which were city clerk, deputy sheriff, superintendent of the document room at the House of Representatives at Washington, D. C., collector of customs at this port, assistant postmaster and acting postmaster at this place.

Mr. Hancock has been a member of the Board of Aldermen of New Bern and a member of the State legislature. For some time he was president of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad. He was a member of the New Bern Camp of Confederate Veterans and also member of the local camp of the Woodmen of the World.

Truly his career was a remarkable one. He was well educated and shrewd and his executive ability was beyond question. In his death New Bern loses a valuable citizen. Mr. Hancock is survived by three brothers, R. D. Hancock, of Cleveland; F. W. Hancock, of Oxford, N. C.; and C. K. Hancock, of this city; a daughter-in-law, Mrs. Seymour Hancock; and three grandchildren, Miss Matilda Hancock and Robert and Seymour Hancock.

The funeral will be conducted from the residence this morning at 10:30 by Rev. B. F. Huske and the interment will be made in Cedar Grove cemetery. At the grave the Woodmen of the World will have charge of the service.

### PLANNING FOR MINSTREL.

### Professional Actor Engaged To Assist In Work.

Jack Miller, formerly with the Gus Edwards' original musical comedy, School Days, has been secured by the members of the Stag Club to assist them in staging the minstrel show which they are planning to give for the benefit of the De Graffenried Colony Monument Fund.

Mr. Miller is now engaged in this work, and the minstrel show will be given some time during the present month, probably during the Christmas holidays.

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO MEET.

The Board of Trustees of the New Bern Graded Schools will meet this Tuesday, evening at 7:30 o'clock in the office of Mr. A. D. Ward, in the Elks Building to receive bids for the erection of the new school building. A full attendance is requested.

### CRACKSMEN ROB BANK.

### Secure \$3,000 And Make Successful Get-Away.

Charlotte, N. C., Dec. 1.—Cracksmen last night blew the safe of the Bank of Ellenboro and secured \$3,000 in currency. The loss was covered by burglary insurance.

Nine charges of explosives were applied before the cracksmen succeeded in securing the cash.

It is believed that there were three or four members of the party of robbers, but so far no clue to their identity has been found.

A number of the townspeople were awakened by the explosion. Mr. Green, who lives near the bank, rushed out but was forced back to his home by the robbers.

Bloodhounds were secured and put on the trail, but it was hard to follow. The trail led towards the South Carolina line.

A hundred and ten thousand Chicago women are boycotting eggs in order to break up the Egg Trust, and they deserve to succeed.

Huerta shines like a bad deed in a heavenly world.

It doesn't cost a thing to take some lock in the Christmas spirit.

## TEAMSTERS STRIKE AT INDIANAPOLIS

### Began At Midnight Sunday—3,126 Men Are Involved.

### POLICE HANDLE SITUATION

### Their Demands Include A Wage Scale And Change Of Working Conditions.

Indianapolis, Dec. 1.—The teamsters and chauffeurs' strike today, ordered by unanimous vote of the union, was begun at midnight Sunday. According to Thomas J. Farrell, general organizer, 3,126 men are involved.

With the exception of drivers of hearses, mail and other government wagons and automobiles and express companies wagons and machines and union drivers of milk wagons virtually all the teamsters and chauffeurs will join the strike and the delivery service of the city will be tied up.

"We are here for business," declared Mayor Wallace in an address to the police tonight. "If any of you feel that you can not do your duty and obey orders, now is the time to get out and not try to turn in your badge later. I expect you men to keep the streets clear and prevent rioting."

A special dispensation for milk wagons, driven by union teamsters, was made at the meeting, on suggestion of Thomas F. Farrell, general organizer of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers, Drivers of hearses are exempt from the strike order. Farrell also announced there would be no interference with the mail, or other government wagons or automobiles, or with the wagons or machines of express companies. He said arrangements would be made for delivering supplies to hospitals, so there would be no added suffering among the sick.

Several employers have signed the agreement, but their men will join the strike to make it more effective. The men were ordered not to report at their respective barns tomorrow morning, but to picket the barns.

Employers of teamsters who are members of the National Vehicle Owners' Protective Association have practically decided to abandon all attempts to move their wagons on the first interference. They say they will put their wagons in the barns and send their horses to the county to await developments. Wholesale dealers have notified their customers they will not attempt to make deliveries if there is interference with their vehicles.

The teamsters' demands were drafted last Sunday and submitted to the employers during the week. The demands include a wage scale and changes of working conditions.

The police department, re-organized under the direction of Captain George V. Coffin, acting superintendent of police, has been making preparations to handle the strike. An order was issued Saturday prohibiting congregation of crowds. A system of military patrol has been mapped out for the downtown districts and additional mounted and foot police have been added to the force.

In addition to the extra patrolmen, 250 business men this afternoon were sworn in as a reserve force.

Large squads of patrolmen and mounted police tonight were on duty in the downtown districts and had little trouble in keeping the streets clear.

## FIRES BULLET INTO HIS BRAIN

### Dr. N. H. Street Becomes Dependent And Ends His Life.

### A WELL KNOWN PHYSICIAN

### Rash Act Is Attributed To Continued Ill Health.

Becoming dependent on account of ill health, Dr. N. H. Street, a well known physician of this city, fired a revolver bullet into his brain at his home on Johnson street shortly after 3 o'clock yesterday morning and death ensued a few seconds later.

News of the tragedy spread rapidly yesterday morning and there is general regret. Dr. Street was well known over Craven and adjoining counties and has a host of friends. In recent years his health has not been of the best and this has caused him much worry. Recently he became very despondent and had told friends that he believed his condition would never improve.

Sunday night he retired as usual. He complained of feeling unwell and his wife went into his room a few minutes before 3 o'clock yesterday morning for the purpose of seeing if he was resting easily. At that time he was lying on the bed and was apparently asleep. A few minutes later she heard

the report of a revolver and rushing back into her husband's apartment found him leaning against the side of the bed with a bullet wound in his temple and his life blood slowly flowing out.

Medical aid was summoned but the victim of this sad tragedy was beyond the power of mortal aid. Dr. Street was fifty-six years of age and was a native of this city. Early in life he studied medicine and after obtaining a physician's license practised at Trenton for several years. Later he came to New Bern and has remained here since that time.

Up to the time that his health became bad, Dr. Street took an active part in everything tending to the advancement and betterment of the city and his influence was greatly felt. Surviving him are his wife who was before her marriage, a Miss Korngay, of Kenansville, his daughter, Mrs. Ralph Hunter Smith of this city; a son, N. H. Street, Jr., of this city; a half-sister, Mrs. W. J. Jones, of Goldsboro; two sisters, Mrs. W. O. Monroe, of Goldsboro and Mrs. A. A. Ippock, of this city; and a half brother, F. S. Ernul, of this city.

The funeral was conducted from the home at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, by Rev. J. B. Hurley, and the interment was made in Cedar Grove cemetery.

## AN OPPORTUNITY FOR FARMERS

### County Farm Demonstrator Urges Them to Go to A. and M. College.

### TUITION WILL BE FREE

### Craven County Has Taken Steps To Better Agricultural Conditions.

Beginning on January 9 and continuing until February 9 there will be a special short term course given the farmers of the State at the North Carolina Agricultural and Mechanical College. Farmers from all over the State will be in attendance and much will be learned by them.

J. W. Sears, Craven County's farm demonstrator has addressed the following letter to the farmers of this county who want to make good:

"There has never been a time, when agricultural interest was so high as now. Therefore, we all should take advantage of every opportunity to learn more about agriculture than ever before. I would like to know how many farmers will attend a month's course at the A. & M. College at Raleigh this winter.

"Tuition will be free and your board and lodging will be small compared with what you will get out of the course. The course is a special one, given to farmers on scientific but practicable methods of farming, and will begin January 9th. It will help you and your neighbors if you will put it in practice when you get back home.

"Craven county has taken a great step towards better agricultural conditions, so let's keep up the good spirit, by a large attendance at Raleigh this winter.

"Go there and see your State College if you have never seen it, and also the State Capitol, for it will do you good. But if you cannot attend the course at A. & M., we will like for you to attend the short course here at Vanceboro, beginning on the third Monday of January, and lasting for five days.

"If any one will go to the A. & M., I will gladly write Dr. Hill and make all necessary arrangements for you. And those who expect to attend the Farm Life School send in their application to Dr. J. E. Turlington—J. W. Sears, County Demonstrator, Vanceboro, N. C."

This is an opportunity of which the farmers of the county have long been awaiting and it is believed that this section will be well represented.

## DORA MUFF FOUND GUILTY OF MURDERING HER SWEETHEART.

Luray, La., Dec. 3.—Dora Muff, 18 years old, was found guilty of manslaughter and her stepfather, J. S. Duvall, was convicted of first-degree murder without capital punishment here today. They were charged with the killing of J. M. Delhaye, Miss Muff's sweetheart.

Allie Duvall, the girl's half brother, was acquitted.

When the verdict was announced by a jury that had been in session most of the night the slender, nervous Muff girl, who had sought to take all responsibility for the killing, broke down.

Delhaye was slain with a charge from a shotgun as he walked on the street here. Near by was a carriage with Miss Muff and the two Duvalls in it. The girl leaped to the dying Delhaye's side, shot him twice with a pistol and asserted she had killed him. It was with this statement that she sought to shield her kinship, hoping to be freed on "unwritten law" plea.

## ANOTHER SENSATION IN THE POSTOFFICE

### Rumored That Discharged Clerk Will Be Reinstated

### POSTMASTER KEEPS SILENT

### Says The Public Can Get No Information From Him

It seems that sensations in the local postoffice will never cease. At midnight last Saturday Postmaster J. S. Basnight, who is himself awaiting an investigation of charges preferred against him, took advantage of the opportunity afforded him by, as he thought, the postal regulations to discharge night clerk R. E. Smith who was on six months probation and incidentally who is the man who instigated the charges against the Postmaster.

Last night there was a well founded rumor on the streets that the postmaster had received a communication from the department, ordering him to reinstate Mr. Smith. As soon as this rumor reached the Journal a reporter was sent out to investigate. The postmaster was not in his office at the time but was found on the street. When questioned in regard to the authenticity of the rumor he replied that he was not giving out any information, and that if anything relative to the matter was learned that it would be from other sources.

Mr. Basnight has, all along, adhered to the rule to keep his mouth shut in regard to the postoffice squabble when talking to newspaper men and he continues to stick to this plan. However, it was evident that the postmaster was perturbed, and the opinion is that he has been ordered to reinstate Smith.

After attempting to get an interview with the postmaster the reporter saw Mr. Smith at his home on Pollock street. Mr. Smith had heard that the postmaster had received the message above referred to but had received no notice from him to report for duty.

George Howard, who has been selected to fill the vacancy caused by the dismissal of Mr. Smith, was at his post of duty last night and took care of the incoming mails.

If the postmaster received a message to reinstate Mr. Smith, it is more than probable that this will be done to day and the public is awaiting developments with keen interest.

Press dispatches received here last night were to the effect that Senator F. M. Simmons had become interested in the New Bern postoffice muddle and intended to clear it up if possible. Yesterday he visited the Postoffice Department and before leaving was assured that an inspector would, this week, be sent to New Bern to investigate the charges which have been instituted against Postmaster J. S. Basnight.

### NEW BERN TO GET SHARE

### Fifteen Thousand Dollars For National Cemetery Road.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 2.—Department estimates on which are to be based the appropriations by Congress for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1915, carry more than three-quarters of a million dollars of items local to North Carolina, most of which, however, are for completing projects already under way or for maintenance of public improvements already completed. The following items include the pay rolls for the government in the State, or other fixed expenses. The amounts for special purposes in North Carolina asked from Congress are as follows:

Gastonia, continuing public building, \$5,000; Greenville, completing building, \$29,000; Hickory, completing building, \$19,000; Rocky Mount, continuing building, \$27,000; Tarboro, continuing building, \$23,000; Harbor of Refuge, Cape Lookout, continuing construction, \$30,000 (\$500,000 used last year); improving harbor at Beaufort, \$5,000; improving Beaufort Inlet, maintenance, \$10,000; improving harbor at Morehead City, \$2,000.

At Bay River, \$1,000; continuing work of constructing locks and dams on the Cape Fear River above Wilmington, \$91,000; below Wilmington, \$135,000; maintenance of improvements of Contentment creek, \$2,000; on

Fishing Creek, \$1,000; Meherring river, \$1,000; Neuse and Trent rivers, \$37,000; New river and waterways to Beaufort, \$28,500; improvements in Northeast, Black and Cape Fear rivers, \$13,000; in Pamlico and Tar, \$18,500; Roanoke river, \$2,000; Scuppernon, \$2,000; Shallott, \$1,000; Smith's creek, \$2,000; Swift Creek, \$500; waterways from Pamlico Sound to Beaufort Inlet, \$4,000; fish cultural station, Edenton, repairs, etc., \$3,500; Marion Biological Station, Beaufort, \$5,000; road to National cemetery at New Bern, \$15,000.

Only three North Carolina Congressmen, Webb, Small and Faison, failed to answer the roll call when the regular session of Congress convened today. Messrs. Small and Faison will probably be here in time to hear the President's message tomorrow. Both Senators are here, and today Senator Overman re-introduced his bill providing for an annual appropriation by the government of half a million dollars, for the building of post roads in each State, provided the States in each case put up an equal amount. If all States took advantage of this it would mean an annual expenditure for post roads of over forty million dollars.

## FEDERAL TROOPS FACE STARVATION

### Compelled To Evacuate Chihuahua City In Order To Live.

### REBELS TO MEXICO CITY

### General Villa And Governor Carranza To Fight Further South.

Juarez, Mex., Dec. 2.—Rather than endure starvation, the Federal troops have evacuated Chihuahua City, according to advices received tonight by General Francisco Villa, the rebel leader. The evacuation leaves the city open to possession by the rebels. The town was invested by Federals weeks ago.

The reports received by Villa state that Salvador Mercado, military governor of the State, with 2,000 troops had left on foot for Ojinaga, on the United States border, near Maria, Texas; that Generals Jose Ynez Salazar and Pasquale Orozco, with more than 1,000 Federals, had retreated to the mountains west of the city, and that hundreds of civilians, including women and children, who were on the verge of starvation had started out to walk to the United States border.

Besides being the capital of the State, Chihuahua, with a population normally of 35,000, is the second city of Northern Mexico. Neither in the Madero revolution nor in the present uprising has Chihuahua been taken from the Federals. Its garrison and the command positions for sharpshooters and machine guns, heretofore has presented a formidable barrier to invaders.

Conditions in the city were said to be such that life there was no longer endurable. The Spanish viaduct which conveyed water from the mountains, was reported to have been destroyed, and the food supply exhausted. General Villa tonight telegraphed General Carranza, at Hermosillo, that the proposed advance of the rebels Southward to Mexico City now would be expedited.

"The report of the capitulation of Chihuahua is authentic," said Villa "it came to me in an official despatch which said the city was evacuated on Sunday.

"It is my purpose now to send a force to intercept Mercado, who is fleeing to Ojinaga, and also to capture Orozco and Salazar.

"Our main body probably will concentrate at Chihuahua, preparatory to the advance Southward. We will be nearing Mexico City within a month.

Vera Cruz, Dec. 2.—Four hundred infantry embarked tonight on the Mexican gunboat Zaragoza. The destination of the soldiers was not revealed, but it is probable they are bound for Tuxpam, in the vicinity of which rebels have recently appeared in increasing numbers.

The remainder of the Federal force recently concentrated here will have to wait for transports, as the Zaragoza is the only vessel at present available for this purpose.

John Lind, President Wilson's representative, who recently went to Tampico, on the battleship Rhode Island, will arrive in Vera Cruz tomorrow morning.

"Huerta thinks he is another Napoleon," said when a man begins dreaming that he is some great person he usually wakes up with a jar.

## ASHEVILLE MEN PLEADED GUILTY

### "The Higher Up" Accept Terms Of Unconditional Surrender.

### ALL AGREE TO BE GOOD

### Three Hundred Gallons Of Whiskey Are Thrown Away.

Asheville, Dec. 3.—The defendants, John H. Lange, Gay Green, James L. Alexander, J. Bayliss Rector, D. McN. MacKay and F. M. McMullen, before Superior Court Judge Frank Carter, sitting as a committing magistrate in the investigation into alleged violations of the prohibition law, have thrown up their hands and the investigation relative to them is ended.

Conference between the defendants and their attorneys and Judge Carter and the prosecution began yesterday afternoon, shortly after court adjourned, and as a result of these conferences Judge Carter announced when court convened this morning that the terms of surrender as dictated by him, without the change of a letter, had been accepted by the defendants and the investigation of their cases is over. The terms follow:

Each of the defendants agree to plead guilty before Judge Junius G. Adams in the police court on two charges of violating the prohibition law, judgments to be entered in one and prayer for judgment to be continued in the other from time to time for the next three years. The judgments dictated by Judge Carter and accepted by the defendants follow:

John H. Lange and Gay Green are to pay a fine of \$4,000, two thirds of which is to be paid by Mr. Lange, and one-third by Mr. Green.

James L. Alexander is to pay a fine of \$2,000.

J. Bayliss Rector is not required to pay any pecuniary fine but judgment is suspended in a case in which he pleads guilty.

D. McN. MacKay, pleads guilty to a charge in which judgment is suspended and forfeits his license, agreeing never to apply for such a license in Asheville again, and in addition surrenders the intoxicants seized several days ago at the Owl drug store and whatever stock he has on hand at his store on Pack square. Similar judgment is entered in the case of F. H. McMullen.

The costs of the entire investigation are charged to Messrs. Lange, Green and Alexander.

According to the terms of this agreement, the defendants must maintain a good record for the next three years or they may be called into court and fined or imprisoned in the discretion of the court on the cases in which pleas of guilty have been entered and judgments suspended for that period of time. Immediately following the announcement of the morning by Judge Carter, the defendants appeared in police court and the entries made according to the terms of the agreement.

## SCORES TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL SUFFERING FROM BURNS AND INJURIES.

Boston, Dec. 3.—Twenty-five men were killed in a fire which swept through the upper floors of the Arcadia Hotel, a lodging house in South End, early today. Others are missing, and scores were taken to hospitals suffering from burns and injuries received in jumping from windows.

Nearly all the bodies were terribly burned and mutilated, making identification impossible. The victims were men in poor circumstances, who had resorted to the place for a night's lodging. Caught in the crowded bunks on the top floor of a five-story brick building and in small rooms on the fourth floor, they were helpless.

When they were aroused, stairways were in flames and there was a mad rush for the fire escapes at the rear. Practically all the men were naked. Many were rescued by firemen and police.

Some escaped by walking a shaky plank stretched to an adjoining building or by jumping across a five-foot alley to a neighboring roof. The property loss is only \$25,000. The fire apparently started in a hallway close to the street floor. The flames swept up the wooden stairways and burned through the roof. There were 178 lodgers in the building.

The trouble with the Tin Can Trust seems to be its inability to hold the water.

T. D. Warren has been appointed to fill the position as attorney for Craven county. Ernest M. Green, who formerly held the office having been appointed assistant district attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina.