

# The Smithfield Herald.

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NO. 15.

## JURY COMMENDS HER.

Would-Be Rapist Foiled in His Evil Designs.

## HEROIC DEED OF A SELMA GIRL.

With a Coolness Rarely Found Miss Pearl Jones Shot Bud Richardson, a Negro, Who Premeditated Assault on Her.

Selma, June 10.—Last night about 11:00 o'clock Miss Pearl Jones, the telephone operator at this place, shot and fatally wounded Bud Richardson, a negro, who, by his own confession, had premeditated an assault upon her.

The telephone office is located in a narrow room between a large store and the bank fronting on Main street. In the rear of the office, enclosed by a high board wall, is a small back lot private to the operators. This lot is entered through a screen door in the rear of the office and there is also a door through the wall in the rear of the lot which is kept fastened by a hook on the inside. About two weeks ago a negro was caught climbing over this wall and scared away by one of the operators. Three nights afterwards, as one of the young ladies stepped into the back lot from the office, she was confronted by a negro man. This time there happened to be a young man in the operating room who ran to her rescue, only to see the negro's back and give a fruitless chase.

Hearing of this second attempt the young men of the town decided to guard the office at night, which they did regularly, taking turns, until last night, the two men assigned to this duty were sitting in front of the drug store awaiting for the stores to close so they could take their positions, when at 11 o'clock they heard a pistol shot, followed by four more in quick succession. These two, with the chief of police, ran to the office, when they found the young lady with the pistol in her hand. She told them she started out into the back lot with pistol in her hand and instinctively feeling the presence of some one fired once. By the aid of that fire she could plainly see some one crouched in the corner. Then she aimed at him and fired the other four shots as he went out the door and thought she hit him with the last one.

### BROTHER FURNISHED CLUE.

The crowd that had gathered by this time began the search for the negro, when some distance away they saw a negro boy coming on the run toward the drug store. When he was halted he said he was going after the doctor for his brother, who had just been shot. Not waiting for the doctor they made him lead them back to where the boy lived. They found him at home lying on the bed, groaning and praying. He confessed the whole affair then and there before the doctor came.

Only one shot took effect. This bullet grazed his left arm and entered the body, piercing the lung and perforating the bowels. At the magistrates trial Sunday the wounded negro made the following confession:

"North Carolina, Johnston County: Bud Richardson, being sworn, says: Jim Merritt and I went into the back lot of the telephone company's office Saturday night, June 9th, for the purpose of committing rape on Misses Pearl Jones and Jessie Hunt, who were night operators for the company. I got shot and Jim told me he had been there twice before for the same purpose, but could not succeed by himself. No one else was with us. (Signed)

### "BUD RICHARDSON."

Jim Merritt emphatically denied having been with the negro at all that night, but said he went home at 10:25 with another negro, Haze Richardson, who took the stand and corroborated Jim. Henry Barrow, a

reliable white man, swore he was passing along the street back of the telephone office at 10:45 and saw Bud Richardson and Jim Merritt standing in an alley looking directly toward the rear of the office, and at 11 o'clock, when he was almost home, he heard the five pistol shots. Maggie Barefoot, who lives in the nearest house to Richardson, swears she saw two men pass her house shortly after 11, one half-carrying the other. Then one ran back to the road and pretty soon another man ran towards town.

### EXCITEMENT RAN HIGH.

On this evidence Jim Merritt was bound over to court along with Richardson. There were two or three hundred white men at the trial and excitement was running high, until they knew the result of the hearing, and Jim Merritt was hurried off to jail.

Miss Jones is a most excellent young lady and her closest friends were agreeably surprised at the wonderful amount of courage she showed. She has reloaded her pistol and says she will continue to do her duties as if nothing had happened and fears no further trouble. A subscription list is rapidly growing, the object of which is to present her with a handsome gold-mounted revolver, a gift from the citizens and visitors of the town. The operators up and down the line are contributing money to purchase a gold medal for her.

The above is a revised account of the occurrence as published in the daily papers of Monday.

The wounded man lived until Tuesday afternoon when he succumbed to peritonitis, caused by the wound.

Wednesday morning Coroner Z. L. LeMay summoned a jury and held the inquest. After examining several witnesses, including Miss Jones, the jury returned the following verdict:

"The death of the said Bud Richardson was caused by a pistol shot at the hands of one Pearl Jones who undoubtedly fired the shot in defence of her honor, for which act this Jury heartily commends her.

Signed: M. C. Winston, C. W. Richardson, L. D. Debnam, S. S. Holt, R. O. Cotter, H. L. Skinner, Jury.

### Canaday for Register of Deeds.

I heartily endorse all that has been said through your valuable paper in regard to the candidacy of Mr. J. P. Canaday for Register of Deeds. No better selection could be made in the county. He is a man whose character and moral courage are above reproach. He has always measured up to the standard of excellence in every undertaking; he is of the type who does things, not dream them, and while he is a resident of Banner township, the people of Elevation have a strong claim on him, his boyhood and early manhood being spent in this township where he taught school for a number of years.

He is of that type whose best friends are those who know him best. And while his influence is felt most in this section where he has done so much towards the training of our boys and girls, yet his influence has been felt throughout the county. In a word, he needs no introduction to the people of this county where he is so well known. So now, I appeal to you, my fellow citizens, to go to the county convention and help us nominate this worthy man, and I might add, a full ticket of just such men and all will be well for Democracy in this county.

### ALONZO BARBER.

### Elevation Township.

### Death From Lockjaw

never follows an injury dressed with Bucklen's Arnica Salve. Its antiseptic and healing properties prevent blood poisoning. Chas. Oswald, merchant, of Rensselaersville, N. Y., writes: "I cured Seth Burch, of this place, of the ugliest sore on his neck I ever saw." Cures Cuts, Wounds, Burns and Sores. 25c at Hood Bro's, drug store.

## JONES CHOSEN UNANIMOUSLY.

Placed in Nomination by Harnett and Seconded by Every County—W.

M. Sanders Chairman of the Convention.

The convention of the Sixth Judicial District met at Lillington Tuesday and was called to order by Mr. W. C. Munroe, of Goldsboro, chairman of the executive committee. Mr. C. M. Muse, of Lillington, delivered an address of welcome to the convention.

Mr. W. M. Sanders, of Smithfield, was made permanent chairman and Mr. Edward E. Britton, of the News and Observer staff, acted as secretary.

In accepting the chairmanship of the convention Mr. Sanders referred to the fact that he secured his good wife in Harnett county. He thanked the people of the county for the work they had done for Mr. E. W. Pou. He said among other things that Democracy stands for good roads, good schools and temperance and well deserves the support of the people. He reminded them of the work done for the party by such men as Senator Vance and other leaders.

The present solicitor, Hon. Armistead Jones, of Wake, was placed in nomination by Mr. Dan Hugh McLean, of Harnett, who made an appropriate speech. Speeches seconding the nomination were made by Messrs. T. P. Sale, Graham Haywood, Robert Haynes, Charles U. Harris, John C. Drewry, W. C. Douglas, W. H. H. Smith and J. N. Holding, of Wake; W. C. Munroe, of Wayne; L. H. Allred and R. M. Nowell, of Johnston; W. A. Stewart and H. L. Godwin, of Harnett. He was then nominated by a rising vote of the convention.

Messrs. L. B. Pegram, W. C. Munroe, W. A. Stewart, and J. M. Beatty were appointed a committee to wait on Mr. Jones, notify him of his renomination and escort him to the convention. He accepted the nomination in a very appropriate speech, thanking the convention for the honor conferred on him.

The convention passed a resolution endorsing the course of Senator Simmons and recommending that he be re-elected to succeed himself.

Messrs. W. C. Munroe, W. M. Sanders, C. M. Muse and W. B. Jones were chosen executive committee for the Sixth Judicial district for the ensuing two years.

### J. W. Barnes for County Commissioner.

TO THE EDITOR:—Permit me space in your valuable paper to present before the convention for nomination the name of J. W. Barnes for County Commissioner. It has been several years since Wilders township has been honored with the office. I think we are justly entitled to one commissioner. I don't know of any better man we could get to fill that place than Mr. J. W. Barnes, he has been a lifelong Democrat a zealous worker for the cause of Democracy and always at the post of duty. He is a man who will look after the interest of the county and see that the county's money is spent judiciously. I appeal to the people of Johnston county to help us nominate him and we will have a commissioner the county will be proud of.

### W. B. EASON,

### Wilders Township.

### Following the Flag

When our soldiers went to Cuba and the Philippines, health was the most important consideration. Willis T. Morgan, retired Commissioner Sergeant U. S. A., of Rural Route 1, Concord, N. H., says: "I was two years in Cuba and two years in the Philippines, and being subject to colds, I took Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, which kept me in perfect health. And now, in New Hampshire, we find it the best medicine in the world for coughs, colds, bronchial troubles and all lung diseases. Guaranteed at Hood Bros. druggists. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

## FREE DELIVERY BOXES.

Mr. Pou Speaks Against This Unjust Monopoly.

## PRICE OF MAIL BOXES TOO HIGH.

There is No Reason Why the People Should not be Allowed to Make Their Own Boxes.

Washington, D. C., June 11.—Congressman Pou, of North Carolina, delivered the following speech in the House Saturday:

Mr. Chairman, I wish to say a few words, supplementing the remarks of my friend from Tennessee, respecting the ruling of the Post-Office Department, that patrons of the rural free-delivery service shall not make their own boxes, but must buy boxes put on the market by the trusts. I am not making these remarks for home consumption, either; I want to appeal to the Members of this House to pass a bill allowing the patrons of this service to make their own boxes or have them made. Gentlemen, why should these people not be allowed to make their own boxes? The Post-Office Department could say what kind of a box should be made, and the patrons of the service could easily have boxes made conform to such requirements; and they could have boxes made just as good as those sold by the trusts, just as good as those the Postmaster-General requires them to use, at about one-third of the price they are compelled to pay now.

A few weeks ago I went into a hardware store where a large number of these boxes were on sale, and I was told by the proprietor of that establishment that boxes which he was compelled to sell for \$1.50 could be manufactured for 30 cents. He said he was forced to sell at a profit and could not afford to charge less than \$1.50 for one class of boxes and \$1.25 for another, but that either kind of box shown could be made for about 30 cents. I am told that a worthless sort of box is offered for 50 cents, but the point I am trying to make is this: It is wrong to allow the Post-Office Department to say to the patrons of this service, "You must use boxes prescribed by this Department or you shall not have your mail delivered to you. You shall not make your own boxes. You shall not employ some one else to make them, but you must buy from manufacturers who enjoy the favor of this Department or you shall be denied the benefit of a service which you yourselves largely pay for." This, Mr. Chairman, is in effect what we allow the Post-Office Department to say, and I declare to you it is wrong.

Why shouldn't the people be allowed to provide their own boxes in accordance with reasonable requirements? Will any gentleman rise here and now and give one single reason why they should not be accorded this privilege?

Let the truth come out. Is it not because the Department wishes to help certain manufacturers? It can not be because of the necessity for uniformity in the kind of boxes used, for there is no uniformity nor is there any necessity for such uniformity. I believe I have myself seen half a dozen different shapes of boxes. All that is necessary is a box which will keep the mail dry. I see no reason why wooden boxes may not be used, but I will not press that suggestion. Let the boxes be made of sheet iron or any other metal; let the Department make any reasonable and sensible requirement, and then if the trusts can put their boxes on the market cheaper than the people can have them made, then the people will probably buy from the trusts; but in the name of common decency don't let a ruling stand which requires, compels, forces millions of American people to patronize the trusts.

God knows we are largely at the mercy of the trusts anyway, but let us frame a law which will stimulate the manufacture of these boxes in every town in the land. There are men in almost every town who would be glad of the chance to make these boxes at prices less than those charged by the trusts.

I wonder if the companies which make these boxes contributed anything to the great fund our present Postmaster-General raised in the last campaign as chairman of the Republican National Committee? They certainly should have contributed to that fund, for they are allowed to charge a profit of 100, 200, and even 300 per cent for goods manufactured by them and which the people are forced to use.

In conclusion, I say, Mr. Chairman, if the people of this country who use the rural free-delivery service are not allowed to have their own boxes made, then the Government should at least see to it that they get their trust-made boxes at actual cost. I have introduced a bill, now pending before the Committee on the Post-Office and Post-Roads, which requires the Postmaster-General to buy these boxes from the lowest bidder and then furnish them to the people through the post-offices of the country at actual cost. I do not know why some action is not taken to prevent the trusts from extorting money from our constituents. I suppose my bill will sleep the eternal sleep of nearly all anti-trust bills introduced since I have been a Member of this body; but let me tell you, the people are restless under this great injustice, and the day is not far distant when you will hear from them. This unjust requirement of the Department is one reason why this service is not patronized by many of the people. They can not understand why they are not allowed to manufacture their own boxes. They know they are forced to pay more than the boxes are worth, and rather than submit to a flagrant wrong many of them refuse to buy boxes.

Gentlemen, this is an important matter. Thousands, it is true, have already paid tribute to the trusts by purchasing boxes, but there are thousands who have not, and in the name of ordinary decency, I say, let us emancipate our constituents in this matter, at least, as far as possible from the domination of monopoly.

### Death of Little Earnest Nicholas.

Our community was saddened last Wednesday morning when the sorrowful intelligence was received that little Ernest Nicholas had passed from time to eternity. As the rosy streaks of dawn were peeping over the eastern hills the death angel came and the little life ended—a life that gave much happiness to the fond and loving parents.

He was one year, eight months and 28 days of age, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Nicholas. All that devoted parents, kind and loving friends and skilled physician could do could not stay the relentless grasp of death's icy grip.

The parents have the sympathy of the entire community in the sad hour of their bereavement. The interment was made at the family burial ground Thursday afternoon in the presence of a vast throng of sorrowing relatives and friends.

June 12. S. L. W.

### Deadly Serpent Bites

are as common in India as are stomach and liver disorders with us. For the latter however there is a sure remedy: Electric Bitters; the great restorative medicine, of which S. A. Brown, of Bennettsville, S. C., says: "They restored my wife to perfect health, after years of suffering with dyspepsia and a chronically torpid liver." Electric Bitters cure chills and fever, malaria, biliousness, lame back, kidney troubles and bladder disorders. Sold on guarantee by Hood Bros. druggists. Price 50c.

## FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS.

A Plan Suggested Whereby This Handsome Sum May be Secured Each Year for Johnston County Public School Fund.

TO THE VOTERS:—If Rockefeller, Carnegie or some other philanthropist should offer to donate the sum of \$5,000 in cash each year to the general school fund of Johnston county, our people would consider themselves peculiarly fortunate in obtaining such an amount of money. They have the opportunity, as it is, to secure this money next year, the year after, the year after that, and for many years, and will not be forced to consider themselves as an object of charity or the beneficiary of the trust made millionaires.

In pointing out the source of this Golden Revenue, I would remind the readers of this paper that Johnston county, within the past several years, has made wonderful strides along industrial lines and that our people are not very far behind those of any other county in the accumulation of wealth. This material advancement has brought about a new order of things. There is more business being transacted, there are more taxes being paid, there are more teachers salaries and school expenses being paid, and these items suggest the thought that the county offices whose remunerations are based upon fees are reaping the Golden Harvest. The advance in other lines of business has been felt in the office of Sheriff, Clerk, Register and Treasurer, until now these four officers are receiving an aggregate of \$12,000 for transacting the business of the county.

I believe that it is possible to have this work done just as well for \$7,000, and I would therefore suggest that the next County Convention adopt a resolution authorizing our members in the next General Assembly to secure Legislative enactment authorizing the four above named offices to be placed upon a salary basis. Suppose we pay the Sheriff a salary of \$2500, and have all fees in excess of that amount put into the general school fund. Why not pay the Register the magnificent salary of \$2000, the Clerk the handsome sum of \$1800 and the Treasurer, who has comparatively little to do, the handsome wages of \$600.00 and let the school children of the county receive the benefit of the amount in excess of the above sums. By doing this, I believe that in the year 1907 the school fund would receive at least \$5,000 and the tendency each year would be for this sum to be increased. I believe that there are able men in the county who would fill the above offices at salaries above mentioned and would be glad of the opportunity to do so. Why then should we practically squander \$5,000 when we can save the money? The opportunity is ours, why not take advantage of it? If we can receive the same service, and there is no question of that fact, who will oppose the proposition to give the needy children of the county \$5,000 per year?

Very respectfully,  
S. S. HOLT.

## IN AND AROUND PRINCETON.

Mr. John Worley lost a valuable horse last week.

Miss Elizabeth Parker, of Goldsboro, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. McKinne.

Mrs. Follett, of Durham, lectured in the Missionary Baptist church here on last Tuesday and organized two societies of Christian workers.

Childrens Day was strictly observed here in the M. E. church on the 4th Sunday in May and every part was carried out in a very creditable manner by all the children. Not any too much praise can be said of Mrs. J. W. Perry for the rendition of the new and beautiful songs by her and the children.  
June 13th. J. D. F.