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SALARY SYSTEM A BIG SAVER.

The People of Johnston County Had Placed to the General County Fund on December 1, 1916, the Sum of Nearly Eight Thousand Dollars as a Result of Paying the County Officers a Salary Instead of Fees.

When the county officers of Johnston County went in office on December 1, 1914, they were placed on a salary and all the fees received were turned into the salary fund. The first year of the new system did not show very much gain to the county since the Sheriff got a salary and also commissions on the taxes for the year 1914. But the year closing November 30, 1916, showed a very substantial gain to the County.

A careful examination of the County Auditor's report of the salary fund for the year ending November 30, 1916, shows a saving to the county, after paying premium on the bonds of officials and all other expenses relating to the salary fund, including the salaries of the county officials, the handsome sum of \$7,824.41, which was duly transferred to the General County Fund.

The salary paid the Clerk of the Court and his assistants was \$3,600 for the year. The amount of fees taken in the Clerk's office was \$4,241.38, leaving a surplus to the county of \$641.38. The best month in the Clerk's office was last March when the sum of \$511.28 was taken in. The lowest month was August when only \$230.23 was received.

The salary paid the Register of Deeds and his assistant was \$3,250.04, with an additional sum of \$300.00 for extra clerical help, making a total of \$3,550.04. The amount of fees received in the Register's office was \$5,123.70, leaving a surplus to the county of \$1,573.66. The best month in the Register's office was last January when \$760.85 was received.

The lowest month in the Register's office was July when only \$232.65 was received. The biggest gain to the county is in the Sheriff's office where a surplus of \$4,413.38 was placed in the General County Fund. The salary paid the Sheriff and his assistants was \$4,099.97. The total amount of fees and commissions turned in by the Sheriff was \$85,013.35.

The Treasurer's salary for the year ending November 30, 1916, was \$1,000.04. He turned into the fund as fees and commissions the sum of \$2,525.44. This left a surplus to the credit of the county of \$1,525.40.

The County Auditor was paid a salary of \$1,500 per year. He was also allowed as pay for additional clerical help the sum of \$300, making a total of \$1,800. The amount of fees allowed him in his work according to the fee law was \$2,120.14. This left a net balance after paying his salary the sum of \$320.14.

The amount paid for the premiums on the bonds of the county officers was \$630.50. Other expenses, \$19.05.

The total amount of fees and commissions paid in by the several county officials was \$22,524.01. The total amount paid out for salaries and premiums on bonds, etc., was \$14,699.60. This leaves a saving to the county of \$7,824.41.

This is a nice sum and a greater surplus than the most earnest advocates of the salary system expected.

PERSONS LYNCHED IN 1916.

Fifty Negroes and Four Whites, Tuskegee Institute Reports.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—Fifty-four persons were lynched in the United States during 1916, according to records of Tuskegee Institute here, made public today. Fifty of the victims were negroes and four white persons, and included in the record are three negro women. Sixty-seven persons were lynched in 1915, 13 of whom were white men.

Lynchings occurred in the following States: Alabama, 1; Arkansas, 4; Florida, 8; Georgia, 14; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 2; Louisiana, 2; Mississippi, 1; Missouri, 1; North Carolina, 2; Oklahoma, 4; South Carolina, 2; Tennessee, 3; and Texas, 9.

It is believed in Washington by many that General Pershing's expeditionary force which has been in Mexico for the past several months looking for Villa will soon be withdrawn regardless of the outcome of the parleys with Carranza.

YOUNG MAN KILLED BY AUTO.

James H. Freeman Lost His Life When the Big Car He Was Driving Turned Over Embankment Near Clayton Tuesday. Was Employed by Mr. Alonzo Parrish.

James H. Freeman, recently of Charlotte but who had only yesterday morning signed a contract to sell automobiles for Mr. Alonzo Parrish, of Benson, in Raleigh and vicinity, was killed about 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon when a large auto he was driving turned over an embankment on the Smithfield road just half a mile east of Auburn, about 10 miles from Raleigh. He lived for 15 minutes and died after shaking hands with and bidding goodbye to W. N. Hogg, a friend who was riding in another auto in front of the deceased. Coroner Charles Seapark visited the scene of the accident and, finding no inquest necessary, turned the body over to a brother, Horace Freeman, who carried it to Dunn to be prepared for burial.

The large auto in which Mr. Freeman was riding alone turned turtle down a 15-foot embankment when the deceased drove too near the edge of the road while passing another auto. He was en route to Raleigh from Benson. Mr. Hogg, who was driving ahead of Mr. Freeman, turned in his machine just in time to see his friend's car disappearing from view.

Reaching the side of the wrecked auto within a few seconds after it went over the embankment, Mr. Hogg found Freeman pinned under the heavy machine. To lift the auto from the suffering man's body was an impossibility for Mr. Hogg but he remained by the injured friend's side and did what he could to aid him.

Mr. Freeman was 24 years old and leaves a wife living in Charlotte. His mother resides in High Point and he is also survived by a brother, Mr. Horace Freeman, of Dunn. The deceased resided in Dunn a few years ago and was employed as stenographer for Mr. Ernest F. Young.—News and Observer, Jan 3rd.

CLAYTON NEWS LETTER.

A Brief Chronicle of the Comings and Goings of the Folks.

Clayton, Jan. 3.—Mrs. Evangeline Bagwell and Miss Bertie Taylor spent Tuesday afternoon in Raleigh.

Mr. Otho Gulley spent Wednesday morning in Raleigh on business.

Miss Alma Hall is visiting relatives at Fremont.

Misses Gladys Barbour and Eloise Turley returned Tuesday night from Oxford, where they have been visiting for the past two weeks.

Mesrs. Edgar Stallings and R. G. Gulley spent a few hours in Smithfield last Tuesday.

Mr. R. B. Whitley, of Wendell, was in town one day this week.

Mrs. Sallie Cole and Mr. H. P. Guess, of Cary, visited relatives here last Sunday.

Mr. Clifford Gulley, of Raleigh, spent last Sunday here.

Mr. Millard Mial, of Raleigh, Clerk of Superior Court of Wake County, was in town one day this week.

Mr. D. H. Williams spent a few days last week with his daughter, Mrs. E. L. Gulley, at Norfolk. He returned Monday afternoon accompanied by his grandson, Emmitt L., Jr.

Misses Blanche Ellis, Barbara and Jessie Gulley spent several days last week with Mr. and Mrs. G. Thurman Smith at Lillington.

Mr. B. B. Poole left Tuesday afternoon for Wake Forest to continue his work at the college there.

The many friends of Dr. V. M. Barnes are very sorry to hear of his serious illness. Dr. Barnes' home is at Wilson. He went home to spend Xmas and while there was taken ill. We hope he is getting on nicely and will be able to come back to town soon.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. G. Gulley and children spent a few of the holidays with relatives at Warsaw.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh A. Page and Hugh, Jr., spent last week at Sanford.

Mrs. C. W. Carter recently visited relatives at Keysville, Va.

There are ninety-six furniture factories in North Carolina and the annual output according to the reports made to Commissioner of Labor and Printing, is \$13,420,000. The number of wage earners in these factories is reported to be 7,533.

RUSSO-RUMANIANS GIVE WAY.

Compelled to Retire Further on Dobrudja and Moldavian Fronts. Petrograd Tells of Some Success. Reports Effective Stands by Retreating Slavs and Allies at Several Points to North.

The activities of the war for Tuesday is thus summarized by the Associated Press in Wednesday's Columbia State:

Again the Russian and Rumanian forces along the Moldavian and Dobrudja fronts have been compelled to give ground before the advance of the Teutonic allies. At several points on the Moldavian front, however, Petrograd reports the dispersal of bands of invaders under counterattacks.

The drive of the Austrians and Germans eastward from the Transylvanian Alps into Moldavia has given them additional points of vantage while Field Marshal von Mackensen's army operating northward into Moldavia, is approaching the bridgeheads of Fokshany and Fundeni. Between the Buzed river and the Danube, however, the Russians and Rumanians continue to hold their positions. In Dobrudja the Russians have been thrown back on the town of Matchin, opposite Braila. In the fighting on all these fronts, according to Berlin, more prisoners and much war material have fallen into the hands of the Teutonic allies.

Aside from the Rumanian theatre comparative quiet continues on all the fronts, although there have been somewhat spirited engagements on the French line and in Galicia. Along the entire front of the Austro-Italian theatre there have been vigorous artillery duels. The situation in Macedonia remains unchanged.

The operations on the front in France continue to be carried out mainly by patrol parties and by the artillery wings of the belligerent armies. Near Vermelles and north of Ypres German patrol parties succeeded in reaching the British trenches but later were driven out with heavy casualties, according to the London war office. On the entire Belgian front the artillery duels were violent while in the Verdun sector near Harsmont and Bezonvaux there has been considerable shelling by both sides.

In Galicia in the Brody sector the Austro-Germans launched attacks against the Russians but were repulsed, Petrograd reports. The Russians attempted enterprises to the south of Riga and near Dvinsk and Stanislaw but did not succeed in making gains, Berlin says.

KENLY HIGH SCHOOL ITEMS.

Kenly, Jan. 4.—The State High School of Kenly re-opened on Monday morning of this week with very good attendance; also several new students have entered for the spring term. All the teachers were here promptly Monday morning, each having enjoyed a pleasant vacation.

The entire week is being devoted to review and examinations. The teachers are of the opinion that the students have done splendid work during the fall.

There are several cases of mumps in the community still. Up to the present time, however, no very serious case has been reported.

Monday morning in chapel the Rev. C. P. Jerome, newly appointed pastor of the Methodist church here, addressed the students and teachers of the school on "New Year Resolutions." "Above everything else," said Mr. Jerome, "I urge you to resolve to make other people happy during this entire year." Mr. Jerome has moved his family here, and the community has extended to them a most hearty welcome.

Mr. Andrews, Superintendent of the school, states that plans are being made to arrange for a series of community lectures, to be delivered twice a month in the school auditorium, on Sunday afternoons, and to be delivered under the auspices of the school. "It is my purpose," said Mr. Andrews, "to give the people of Kenly an opportunity once every two weeks to hear a great statesman of North Carolina to discuss what he considers one of the most vital problems of education and life." Mr. Andrews is now corresponding with Doctor Clarence Poe, of Raleigh; President W. L. Potent, of Wake Forest College, and several other prominent men.

AT THE CAPITAL OF BANNER.

Benson Graded School Opens With Good Attendance. Mr. John Parnell of the Johnson Chapel Section, Dies in Fayetteville Hospital. A Full Budget of Personal Items of Interest.

Benson, Jan. 4.—Mr. W. C. Lassiter, of Elevation, was a visitor to the city Monday for a few hours.

Mr. Howard Creech has accepted a position in Dunn with Hood & Grantham, Druggists, of the city. Miss Meta Harper, of Dunn, spent Sunday in the city with relatives and friends.

Mr. Alonzo Parrish was a visitor to Richmond, Va., Friday and Saturday of last week.

Misses Maud and Jewel Hall, of Fayetteville, left for their home yesterday, after spending some time here with their grandmother, Mrs. Sarah Duncan.

Mr. J. M. Langdon, of Pleasant Grove township, was a visitor to Benson Monday on business.

Mr. Walter Strickland left Monday for Snow Hill, after spending the holidays in and near Benson with relatives.

Mr. W. H. Royal went to Wilmington Monday and Tuesday on business for the guano concern by which he is employed.

Mr. B. T. Barnes and family have moved to the farm of Mr. Barnes near Coats, after living in Benson three years. They have many friends who regretted to have them leave.

Miss Elsie Morgan left today for Greenville, where she is attending the East Carolina Training College.

Mr. Dallas Langdon, of Coats, has accepted a position with Mr. P. B. Johnson and will move his family here in the near future.

Mr. Junius Warren has accepted a position with the Benson Drug Company. Mr. Warren worked for this company a few years ago and has many friends who are glad of his return.

Mr. N. A. Townsend, of Dunn, was a visitor to Benson for a few hours Saturday.

Misses Vada and Alta Boon left Wednesday for Oxford where they will resume work in college, after spending the holidays here with their parents.

Mr. Leary Wood left Monday for Durham, where he is attending Trinity College this year.

Mr. Jesse T. Morgan left Tuesday for Chapel Hill to resume his college course, after spending Christmas here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Morgan.

Mr. Herman Jernigan returned Tuesday to A. & M. College, Raleigh, after spending his vacation at home with his mother, Mrs. Cornelia Jernigan.

Mr. J. M. McLamb left this morning for Raleigh to see his daughter, Mrs. Bradley McLamb, who is in Rex Hospital.

Mr. Ed. Johnson, of Elevation township, was a visitor to Benson Monday on business for a few hours.

Mr. W. R. Denning wore a long smile yesterday when he came to Benson, the cause being that on the previous night twin sons were brought to his home and both are getting on nicely.

Mrs. Nellie Hood and Mr. Norvell Bryan left yesterday for Arizona where they will spend the balance of the Winter months.

Rev. and Mrs. Arthur Goodrich and children are here from their home in South Port, N. C., to visit their parents, Capt. and Mrs. J. W. Goodrich, for a few days.

Messrs. J. F. Woodall, J. M. Morgan and C. W. Hall attended the Recorder's Court at Smithfield Tuesday.

Mrs. Bradley McLamb was taken to Raleigh last Monday where she was operated on at Rex Hospital for a tumor. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe McLamb, who live near Benson.

Mr. John Parnell, who has been in Highsmith Hospital at Fayetteville for the past several days for an operation, died there Monday night and was brought to Johnson Chapel and buried Tuesday afternoon. He was about sixty years old and leaves a widow and one child.

Rev. George E. Spruill, of Troy, N. C., preached at the Baptist church here last night to quite a large crowd. His sermon was interesting and instructive.

Miss Willie Lou Baucum, of Dunn, visited friends in the city Tuesday and Wednesday of this week.

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Edmundson, of Greenville, N. C., and Mr. John Croom, of La Grange, recently spent several days with Capt. and Mrs. J. W. Goodrich at their home here.

Mr. W. C. Flowers, son of Mr. R. L. Flowers, who lives near here, was married Sunday afternoon to Miss Lillie Pearl Raynor, daughter of Mr. Ransom Raynor. Rev. W. Y. Wood performed the ceremony. The young couple will make their home with Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Flowers for the present.

Dr. N. M. Gibbs, a specialist in St. Lukes Hospital, of New Bern, N. C., spent a few hours at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Whittenton yesterday.

The Benson Graded School opened Tuesday with a large attendance, after the holidays, all the teachers having spent the holidays at their homes in various parts of the State. The measles which threatened to stop the school before the holidays, had disappeared and most all the children are back in school.

ITEMS FROM FOUR OAKS.

Mr. Doon Massengill Hurt by a Runaway Mule. Death of a Child. John Parnell Died in Fayetteville. New Year Party.

Four Oaks, Jan. 3.—Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Harmon have returned to Electric, N. C., after spending the holidays with Mrs. Harmon's father, Mr. J. T. Thornton.

Miss Gladys Adams returned to Louisburg Tuesday, after spending the holidays with her mother, Mrs. C. R. Adams.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Creech, of Norfolk, Va., are visiting Mr. Creech's mother, Mrs. E. Creech.

Mr. Herman Creech, of Tarboro, spent Sunday here with relatives.

Attorney J. B. Adams and Mr. L. C. Barbour attended Recorder's Court at Smithfield Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Levinson, of Coats, visited relatives here Sunday.

Mr. Bob Beasley, of Bentonsville section, had the misfortune to break his leg Tuesday by a tree falling on him.

Mr. Doon Massengill, of near Four Oaks, received very severe injuries Tuesday, when a mule he was driving ran away with him. He is resting well at present. We wish for him a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Barbour lost their nine-weeks-old baby Tuesday night by pneumonia. It was taken Sunday and grew worse until the end. The interment was in Four Oaks Cemetery Wednesday afternoon. Our sympathy goes out to the parents.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Barbour went to Smithfield Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Perkins, of Smithfield, visited here Tuesday. Miss Margaret Sawyer, of Norfolk, Va., who has been the guest of Miss Leola Sanders, left Wednesday for Smithfield, accompanied by Miss Sanders.

Mr. J. E. Benson and family have moved to the Mrs. Ella Baker farm near town.

Mr. Strickland, the News and Observer's special representative, was in town Wednesday.

Mrs. Fred Royal from Emporia, Va., has returned home, after visiting Mrs. J. S. Strickland.

Miss Eula Parrish, of Coats, is the guest of Misses Flora and Irene Strickland.

Mr. John Parnell died Monday in Highsmith Hospital at the age of 60 years, following an operation. His remains were brought here on the early train Tuesday and taken to the family burying ground near Four Oaks.

Among the out-of-town guests attending the New Year's Party, given by Miss Florence Adams, we note the following: Misses Margery Godwin, of Dunn, Margaret Pou, Margaret Moore and Mabel Wellons, of Smithfield; Alta Boone and Mildred Parrish, of Benson; Messrs. Wm. Wellons, and Wm. Sanders, of Smithfield, and Wm. Newberry, of Dunn.

Senator Overman has introduced a resolution in the Senate asking that the Secretary of State be requested to ask the Republic of Cuba where it got the North Carolina bonds for which it is now asking permission in the United States Supreme Court to sue the State in order to get payment. He also wants to know what Cuba paid for them and if some other party or parties is to profit in the suit should prove successful.

THEY CALL FOR HEAVIER TAX.

Internal Revenue Agents Begin New Collections on Incomes. Unmarried Persons With \$3,000 and Those Married Having \$4,000 Must Now Pay 2 Per Cent.

New Federal taxes on incomes, estates, munitions manufactures, corporation stocks and certain businesses, became effective with the new year Monday and revenue collectors are making vigorous efforts to obtain early returns.

The taxes are provided by the emergency revenue bill enacted by Congress Septembr 8th.

Unmarried persons with net incomes of \$3,000 or more and heads of families with incomes of \$4,000 or more are subject to pay a normal tax of 2 per cent, instead of the present rate of 1 per cent, and additional taxes are imposed on incomes of more than \$20,000 by a graduated scale running from 1 to 13 per cent.

A tax of 2 per cent is made on the income of corporations with stock valued at \$75,000 or more; the former rate was 1 per cent.

A graduated tax of from 1 to 10 per cent is laid on estates of \$50,000 or more when they are transferred. Munition manufacturers are taxed 12 1/2 per cent of their net profit.

Corporations are subject to a special excise tax of 50 cents a year for each \$1,000 of fair value of capital stock in excess of \$99,000.

Among the new annual taxes on special businesses are these:

Securities brokers, \$30; pawnbrokers, \$50; custom house brokers, \$10; ship brokers, \$20; theatres, \$25 to \$100, according to seating capacities, with rates one-half as great in towns of 5,000 or less; circuses, \$100; other public amusement shows, excepting chautauquas and educational exhibits, \$5 for each alley or table, tobacco manufacturers, sliding scale of rates determined by scales.

Special taxes heretofore collected from commission merchants and commercial brokers are abolished.—Washington Post.

Masquerade Party at Kenly.

Kenly, Jan. 3.—On Monday evening the young men of town delightfully entertained the young ladies at a masquerade party in the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Bailey. The home was lavishly decorated in holly, mistletoe and beautiful ferns. The young ladies went to the various homes in town and at these homes were met by their masked escorts, neither lady nor gent knew who their escort was to be. The guests were greeted at the front door by Miss Adna Lec Bailey and Mr. Carl Hales. After a few moments of conversation they were directed to the punch bowl filled with delicious frappe.

The first feature of amusement was guessing who each one was by his costume and movement. The costumes represented some character either in a book or in every day life. Another form of amusement was an old-time Virginia Reel. This was followed by a few unique stunts where the guests impersonated the characters they were supposed to represent. The climax was reached when the young people unmasked and they realized who had been their partners all the evening.

Those present were: Miss Grace Jerome with Mr. Jesse Sauls; Miss Beulah Bailey with Mr. Marvin Revell; Miss Lillian Edgerton with Mr. Fred Jerome of Norfolk; Miss Gladys Kirby with Mr. Wyatt Whitley, of Fremont; Miss Frances Hales with Mr. Hal Gilbreth; Miss Agnes Hales with Mr. Addie Flowers; Miss Marie Kirby with Mr. Torey Barnes; Miss Inez Edgerton with Mr. Rudolph Kirby; Mrs. Harry Johnson with Mr. F. White; Miss Louise Alford, of Smithfield, with Mr. Yates Edgerton; Miss Elsie Townsend, of Wilson, with Mr. Howard Grady; Miss Gladys Jerome with Mr. Harry Johnson; Miss Eunice Jerome with Mr. Dobbin Bailey; Miss Bessie Sasser with Mr. Tyra Bailey, and Miss Bettie Revell with Mr. Ralph Hales.

More Fine Porkers.

Mr. J. R. Talton, of Oneals, comes forth with some fine pigs. He has killed three fifteen months' old pigs weighing 328, 344 and 350, respectively. One two years old tipped the scales at 540. They were three-fourths Big Bone Poland China and one-fourth O. I. C.