

The Smithfield Herald

VOLUME 37.

THE SMITHFIELD HERALD TUESDAY, DEC. 24, 1918.

Number 103

CLAUDE KITCHIN OPPOSES GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP.

Democratic House Leader Sees Peril Ahead With the Railroads in the Hands of the Government—He Will Strongly Oppose the Five Year Extension Recommended by Mr. McAdoo.

Washington, Dec. 19.—An organization of railway employes into the most powerful political machine the country has ever had, a pork-barrel bill incomparable to the rivers and harbors "pork barrel" bills and unreasonable freight and passenger rates are the results of government ownership of railroads as foreshadowed by Hon. Claude Kitchin, chairman of the committee on ways and means.

Hon. William Jennings Bryan, the original champion of government ownership of the common carriers, had solicited the powerful influence of the North Carolina Congressman in favor of government ownership. Consequently, his pronounced views on the subject were conveyed to the great commoner at his home in Asheville. Mr. Bryan favors a dual plan of ownership, state and federal governments jointly exercising authority over the railroads.

"As to government ownership of railroads," said the majority leader of the House of Representatives to Mr. Bryan: "I am not convinced that it is a wise thing, and the results of the government operation and control so far have not tended to increase my faith in its wisdom."

"It seems to me that government ownership would mean:

"First, unreasonable increase in freight and passenger rates. Second, organization of railway employes into the most powerful political machine the country has ever had. Third, a continuous demand upon the part of the organization for higher wages and shorter hours, and the continuous bidding by each party for the influence of the operation and the vote of its employes, by promises of shorter hours and higher wages, which, of course, would mean higher passenger and freight rates, or a large annual deficit to be paid by the taxpayers generally. Fourth, the institution of a railroad 'pork barrel' bill in Congress at each session. Each member would have several projects for building railroads in his county and State, and many would have big projects for building interstate railroads. Members would also demand public buildings, railroad depots at numerous stations in his county and State. The so-called rivers and harbors and public buildings 'pork barrel' bill would not be a circumstance to these."

Mr. Kitchin, who perhaps is the best informed Congressman in the House of Representatives as to the trend of legislation, in an interview today expressly for this correspondence, stated that the Sixty-fifth Congress would not sanction government ownership. "I am opposed to government ownership of railroads, but for strict regulation by the government. This Congress will never pass any legislation favoring government ownership, and it is exceedingly doubtful whether the five-year plan of Mr. McAdoo will be adopted. I will strongly oppose the extension."—S. R. Winters in News and Observer.

Jerusalem a Scene of Great Red Cross Activity.

In Jerusalem the social problems are many, and the Red Cross is trying to solve them all as rapidly as possible. The question of food is an important one and the Red Cross has devised several plans new to the Holy Land to meet this demand. One of these plans is to rent oxen for plowing purposes, as in a given district there are only available 65 plowing animals against 418 during the war. The war garden plan which makes every vacant lot available for planting, is another Red Cross plan for increasing the food shortage and this also gives employment to scores of destitute native women. The present is the planting time in Jerusalem.

In addition to the war gardens the Red Cross is seeking to find employment for thousands of destitute women and girls in other fields of work. There are some 10,000 applications for employment before the Red Cross and work rooms for women are being established in many localities. All creeds and classes are engaged in the various sorts of sewing, knitting, weaving, basket work and other simple forms of handicraft. The Red Cross supervises all this work and it excellent work, too, and a means of saving the people from absolute destitution.—Red Cross Bulletin.

Eleven With Flu at Same Time.

Mr. S. A. Godwin, who lives in the Little Creek section, was here Saturday, having recovered from an attack of influenza. Mr. Godwin, his wife and nine children were all sick with the flu at the same time. They are all up now and will soon be well again.

CONVICTS RECEIVE PARDON.

Governor Grants Release to Men Whose Aggregate Sentences Total 42 Years.

Four pardons in addition to the pardon of Jim Wilcox were granted by Governor Bickett yesterday, freeing men whose aggregate sentences were forty-two years. The pardoned men are Henry Hayman, of Martin county, convicted in March, 1911, of manslaughter, and sentenced to eighteen years in the State Prison; Beil Black, of Cumberland county, convicted in November, 1915, of second degree murder and sentenced to fifteen years in the State Prison; James Harper, of Forsyth county, convicted in December, 1915, of rape and sentenced to seven and a half years in the State Prison; James Houser, of Forsyth county, convicted in municipal court of Winston-Salem, of larceny and sentenced to eighteen months on the roads of Forsyth county.—News and Observer.

GOVERNOR BICKETT GIVES PARDON TO JIM WILCOX.

Having served half of his thirty-year sentence, Jim Wilcox, convicted as the slayer of Nellie Cropsey, his Elizabeth City sweetheart, in 1902, was pardoned by Governor Bickett yesterday. Governor Locke Craig twice refused to grant Wilcox a pardon and Governor Bickett once, but neither Governor before had the statement of Wilcox himself. This, backed by the prisoner's perfect record and by public sentiment in Pasquotank that the prisoner has been sufficiently punished, moved the Governor in his course.

"The jury found him guilty of murder in the second degree and, under it, the prisoner could not be executed," said the Governor. "I do not believe in life imprisonment except in incorrigible cases. I am clearly of the opinion that no further good can come to society or to James Wilcox by keeping him in prison any longer."

Governor Bickett issued the pardon shortly after receiving from Wilcox first statement he has made in connection with the crime since his arrest, and with it an appeal for clemency on the part of Capt. H. T. Phelps, guard at construction, who has observed Wilcox for many years, and whose recommendation for pardon was the first of his eighteen years' service as a prison official.

For sixteen years and over I have been unjustly punished," wrote Wilcox to the Governor, "and now broken in spirit and health, I come to you asking mercy."—News and Observer, 21st.

Mustering Them Out.

Efforts of the War Department to hasten the demobilization of untrained recruits will be heartily approved by the people of the United States. Now that the need for training the big army has passed, the sentiment in favor of getting the men back into civil life is growing stronger daily. Senators and Representatives are besieged with requests to use their influence to get men out of the cantonments, and the War Department is flooded with similar demands.

Secretary Baker states that already more than 300,000 troops have been demobilized and that men are being discharged at the rate of 150,000 per week. If this rate is maintained it will require about eight weeks in which to muster out all the men selected for demobilization. General March recently stated that it was planned to discharge men at the rate of 30,000 per day, and while this rate has not yet been attained it is possible that it may be. As the mustering officers become more familiar with their work it is believed that the rate will be increased.

Young men who willingly joined the colors at the call to arms are now eager to get back to their ordinary employments. Good jobs are ready for them, and their friends and relatives are anxiously awaiting their homecoming. Under the circumstances the War Department should use every means in its power to hasten the mustering out process, not only in deference to the wishes of the public, but to relieve the industrial situation throughout the country. At the same time, the department must hold in reserve a supply of men for overseas duty in case the occupation of enemy territory should be prolonged. It is not to be expected that the department will reduce the army to mere handful of men.—Washington Post.

Musical Mysticism.

"What is that tune you were playing on the piano?"
"That isn't a tune. That is a sonata."
"What's the difference?"
"Well, with a sonata it's hard for the average listener to detect mistakes. With a tune you've got to know pretty well what you're about."—Boston Transcript.

KAISER'S PROPERTY

5,000,000 IN CASH.

Only 7 of His 90 Estates Are Crown Property, Is Report.

The Hague, Nov. 28.—The Rheinisch-Westfälische Zeitung says that the Kaiser's private fortune in cash, mostly deposited at 4 1-2 per cent with various banks, is estimated at 20,000,000 marks, or \$5,000,000, and his annual income therefrom roughly at \$225,000.

The revolutionary government has declared (so far as its declarations have any effective value) that the Kaiser's private landed property will not be seized, though the crown domains will pass to the treasury. The newspaper says that of ninety forest, farm, park and other estates, castles, etc., only seven are crown domain, all the rest being private property. Thus the Kaiser's private estates include Bellevue palace in Berlin and Monbijou palace, within whose grounds is St. George's English Church. In Potsdam he has thirteen palaces, all belonging to him; also Wilhelmshöhe palace at Cassel, where King Edward paid his last visit to the Kaiser, and where Napoleon III was confined after Sedan.

Besides palace and estates in Coblenz, Weisbaden, Charlottenburg, Friedwalde, and elsewhere, he owns the well-known experimental farming estate of Cadinen, of which he used to boast when the Agricultural League met annually in Berlin; also the famous shooting box and forest of Rominten, near the eastern frontier. He has house property at Trouville, and apparently the Achilleon palace in Corfu belongs to him.

The cash consists largely of savings effected by Frederick William III—calculated in 1840 at about \$3,750,000; after 1871 William I. received \$1,125,000 as a sort of war bonus. Since this latter item clearly came from the French indemnity, the Kaiser might possibly have to disgorge when Germany has to repay the indemnity. The Kaiser also received \$2,500,000 from the State for the ground where the royal library stands, and for the old Opera House of Kroll, where the late Sir Herbert Tree gave his Shakespeare performances. Most of this, however, was spent in improving those very royal stables from whose subterranean passages officers resisted the revolution.

The University of Paris Honors Mr. Wilson.

Paris, Dec. 21.—In the great amphitheatre of the University of Paris (the Sorbonne) President Wilson this afternoon received the degree of doctor, conferred upon him in recognition of his work as a jurist and historian. This is the first time in the history of the University that an honorary degree has been bestowed, authorization for its granting having been given by a recent decree.

President Poincare, the presidents of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies and diplomatic corps, government and civil and military authorities attended.

Great crowds cheered the President when he arrived, accompanied by Mrs. Wilson, American Ambassador Sharp and Jules Jusserand, French ambassador to the United States. Alfred Croiset, dean of the faculty of letters, welcomed President Wilson in a short address and presented to him the diploma of doctor as a testimonial to his work as an historian and his writings on historical subjects. Ferdinand Larnaude, dean of the faculty of law, then bestowed upon the President the degree of doctor for his works on jurisprudence and political science.

Lucien Poincare, vice-rector of the University and brother of the President of the Republic, paid an eloquent tribute to President Wilson's ability as a professor before he entered upon his political career, and told of the President's part in the war.

THREE IN AUTO KILLED BY RAILWAY TRAIN.

Wilson, Dec. 21.—Mrs. J. T. Flowers and her daughter, Miss Laura Flowers, and her son-in-law, Mr. Harvey Harrison, all of Old Field township, who were riding in an automobile, were fatally injured here last night when the car in which they were was crashed into by the rear car of a Norfolk Southern train at the Tarboro street crossing of the railway.

All three were removed to a hospital. Mrs. Flowers and Miss Flowers died in about an hour. Mr. Harrison died this morning at 8:15.

The accident occurred when the train was backing out of the "Y" preparing to resume its eastward trip. The auto, with its occupants, was dragged about 15 feet. The rear car of the train was derailed.—News and Observer.

Rev. E. C. Stevens will preach at Blackman's Grove Baptist church, Sunday, December 29, at 11 o'clock.

DR. J. Y. JOYNER RESIGNS.

Has Been State Superintendent for Seventeen Years—Governor Bickett Appoints Mr. E. C. Brooks, of Trinity College, to Succeed Him—Gossip Says Joyner May Be Candidate for Governor.

The news sent out from Raleigh Saturday and published in the Sunday papers that Dr. James Y. Joyner had resigned as State Superintendent of Public Instruction came as a great surprise to the general public. The Raleigh dispatch to the Charlotte Observer gives the story as follows:

Dr. J. Y. Joyner has resigned as State Superintendent of Public Instruction and Governor Bickett appoints E. C. Brooks, of Trinity College, as his successor, the resignation and appointment to be effective January 1. The resignation came as a complete surprise although it seems that Dr. Joyner had notified the Governor last summer that he contemplated such action. Dr. Joyner has been State Superintendent of Public Instruction for seventeen years.

Dr. Brooks, the new State Superintendent, was for a number of years connected with the State Department of Education before he joined the faculty of Trinity College. He is an educator of recognized ability, and is familiar with the work of the State Superintendency.

Dr. Joyner's resignation is for the purpose of taking a much needed rest. However, in spite of this, gossip is getting him very much entangled as a strong possibility in the next race for Governor and also as president of the University of North Carolina, as successor to the lamented Dr. E. K. Graham. Dr. Joyner wrote this letter to the Governor:

"My dear Governor:

"As county superintendent of my native county before I was 21 years of age, as chairman of the county board of education, as teacher and superintendent of the public schools, as teacher and dean in the State Normal and Industrial College, as State Superintendent of Public Instruction for the past seventeen years, I have been in public service and have felt the weight of public responsibility for 37 years. I have had joy in the service. I am more grateful and appreciative than I can ever express in word or fact for the measure of confidence, support, co-operation and appreciation, far beyond my deserts, that I have received from the people of North Carolina during all these years. I need a rest now. I hope to have earned it. I have had scant time, especially during the past 17 busy years, to give to my private business. It needs attention.

"In accordance with my notification to you last summer, I beg, therefore, to tender my resignation as State Superintendent of Public Instruction, to take effect January 1, 1919."

In accepting the resignation, Governor Bickett wrote Dr. Joyner as follows:

Governor Bickett's Reply.

"My dear Doctor Joyner:
"I am just in receipt of your letter of this date tendering your resignation, effective January 1. I deeply regret that the State is to lose the benefit of your services, but concur in the opinion that you have rightly earned a period of rest.

"I know that any words of fulsome praise would be distasteful to you, but writing with rigid conservatism, I am constrained to say that during the 17 years you have been State Superintendent of Public Instruction you have made a noble and imperishable contribution to the intellectual and moral life of the State.

"I deem it not improper to add that when you notified me last summer of your intention to resign the first of January I at once offered to consult with you about your successor. You stated that you would prefer that I should not do so, as you did not desire to have anything to do with naming your successor. Immediately after this conversation I made up my mind to appoint Dr. E. C. Brooks, of the chair of education in Trinity College, and at once went to Dr. Brooks to ascertain whether or not he would be willing to accept the appointment. He advised me that he would, and I am today naming him as your successor.

"With sentiments of affectionate esteem, I beg to remain,

"T. W. BICKETT."

Ideals of Service.

Boys and girls who are to count largely in our community life when they become men and women must be actuated by ideals of service, be able to think straight, and be willing to co-operate with others in those activities which make for the common good. The question for every teacher is: "Are my pupils developing these ideals and abilities now?"—George D. Strayer.

W. S. S. STAMPS NOW PAY HIGHEST RATE OF INTEREST

Stamps Bought in December Pay 4.55. Bankers Say Stamps Best Best Investment.

Winston-Salem, Dec. 23.—The bankers of the State are calling to the attention of the public the fact that War Savings Stamps purchased in December at \$4.23 will pay the investor 4.55 per cent interest, which is the highest rate of interest received on any security yet issued by the Government. For the reason that the stamps mature in four years, January 1, 1923, and give both the large and small investor an opportunity not only to invest on an unusually attractive basis, but an opportunity to render his government assistance in paying the enormous war debt, the stamp is the most attractive investment that is before the public at this time.

Persons who are contemplating buying stamps of the 1919 issue, and those who are asking for an opportunity to redeem their War Savings pledges in 1919 stamps, will do well to consider what is to be gained by buying stamps in December of 1918. Stamps bought in December of this year bear 4.55 per cent interest against a rate of 4.20 per cent interest if bought in January or February of next year. In addition to this, stamps bought this year mature one year earlier than those bought next year.

SLUMP IN PRICES OF USED CARS

Signing of Armistice Makes New Car Production Factor in Market.

Of its best the used car market has always been somewhat unstable. Various makes of cars have at different times been in great demand, and during this period naturally the price has been high.

Previous to November 11, when the armistice was signed, any sort of an automobile, so long as it would run, commanded a good price, because motor car manufacturers had been instructed by the government to be on a 100 per cent war work basis by January 1, 1919. This meant no more new cars built. In fact, many manufacturers already were out of production and there was no telling when new cars would be offered for sale. Consequently any one who contemplated the purchase of an automobile proceeded to buy.

All of this has been upset by the signing of the armistice and the granting of permission for motor car manufacturers to resume production. With the knowledge that it will again be possible to get new machines, perhaps not immediately, but within a few months, many will prefer to wait and get a new machine instead of buying a used automobile. To many who were offered liberal inducements to part with their cars six weeks or two months ago it will be a distinct shock when they try to dispose of them now, to find that there is a great variance in the price they were offered and the price that can be had today.—Washington Post.

Johnstonians in Washington.

Mr. S. R. Winters, writing from the National Capital to the News and Observer, gives some news of interest to Johnston county people as follows:

A marriage license was issued in Washington City today (Friday) to Reginald C. Pierce, of Fair Haven, Mass., and Hilda R. Tomlinson, of Clayton, N. C. The groom is twenty-seven years old and the bride twenty-four.

Representative Claude Kitchin will spend the holidays in Washington. Representative E. Y. Webb is already in Shelby and will remain during the Christmas period. Representative E. W. Pou will spend the festive week here. Representatives Godwin, Small, Robinson and Doughton will be in the State. Representative Zebulon Weaver and his private secretary, W. L. Hardin, will both remain in Washington.

Mrs. G. R. Pou and daughter, Miss Lillian Sanders, will arrive this week in Washington to join George R. Pou, lately named secretary to the House Rules Committee. They will take an apartment. Miss Margaret Atlee Pou arrived here today from Smithfield to spend the holidays with her parents.

EX-JUDGE OWEN GUION TO SUCCEED WHEDBEE.

Raleigh, Dec. 20.—Governor Bickett, turning up unexpectedly tonight from Baltimore, appointed Judge Owen H. Guion, of New Bern, judge to succeed Harry W. Whedbee, thereby settling a race that had become exciting, with H. J. Everett leading in bar endorsements.

Governor Bickett was moved to name the elder of the trio by the fact that Judge Guion had served on the bench, is a seasoned trial officer and in the Governor's opinion a highly able lawyer.

NEWSY NOTES FROM SELMA.

Miss Paris, Domestic Science Teacher to Be Married Jan. 4—Twentieth Century Mother's Club Organized. Schools Close to Open Again December 30.

Selma, Dec. 23.—The Christmas Roll Call for Red Cross members is meeting with favor. Interest is growing in the drive daily.

School closed Saturday until December 30. Most of the teachers are going home for the holidays. Miss Eunice Keel, of South Carolina, will spend the holidays with Miss Louise Delle Pittman at Mount Olive. Miss Jessie McKee, of Belmont, will spend the time with Mrs. E. H. Moser.

Miss Julia Winston will go to Norfolk to spend Christmas with her parents.

Miss Lelia Straughn and Miss Alta Debnam, students of the Greensboro College for Women, are at home for the holidays.

The Twentieth Century Mother's Club met at the school building Friday under the direction of Mrs. Brown and organized a mothers' club for Selma with twenty-three charter members. Mrs. J. B. Person was made president, Mrs. R. Lanier vice-president, Mrs. E. V. Woodard recording secretary, Mrs. J. E. Young assistant recording secretary, Mrs. I. W. Mayerberg corresponding secretary and Miss Margaret Etheredge treasurer. No better organization was ever started in Selma for the good of the town and its children than this one. It should be heartily supported and encouraged. The school teachers will co-operate with the organization and help to make it far reaching in its influence for better training of children in the community. This kind of a tie between the parents and the teachers is needed in every community and has long been needed in Selma.

Miss Helen Paris, of the Selma school faculty, resigned her position as Domestic Science teacher Saturday. Miss Paris will be married to Lieut. C. E. Ervin, of the Marine Corps, Paris Island, S. C., on January 4, 1919. Lieutenant Ervin is a graduate of the State University, and a graduate of a Pennsylvania Medical College. Miss Paris is a Normal graduate and a successful teacher of Domestic Arts. Both these young people are accomplished and popular. The people of Selma extend to them their best wishes for a happy life.

Friday night the Archer Literary Society of the Selma schools gave a dramatic representation of The Bird's Christmas Carol. These girls had intended to use this as a regular program at the Thursday Society meeting. But when they had prepared it under the direction of Miss Dodwell and Miss McKee they decided to give it for the benefit of the public. An admission of fifteen cents was charged and a goodly sum realized which will go to the Library fund.

The school offered the following program for Saturday morning's exercises:

1. Marsellaize—Tenth and Eleventh French Class.
2. Song No. 31—School.
3. Devotional Exercise—Mr. Moser.
4. Song No. 29—School.
5. Story—Katherine Robinson.
6. Song, "Away in a Manger."—Second Grade.
7. Pantomime "Holy Night."—Six girls of third and fourth grades.
8. "Jolly Old St. Nicholas"—Second Grade.
9. "Upon the Housetop"—Third and Fourth Grades.
10. A Story "Christmas"—Lucy Talton, Sixth Grade.
11. A Song—Fifth Grade.
12. Reading—Douglas Driver.
13. A Song—First Grade.
14. Reading—Miriam Breit.
15. Solo—Thelma Oliver.
16. A Story—Agnes Rose.
17. A Song—Eighth Grade.
18. A solo—Margarie Benoy.
19. A Song No. 32—School.

A large number of the town people came to the opening and enjoyed the delightful Christmas program offered by the school children.

The correspondent wishes a merry Christmas to all the readers of The Herald. If you wish to be the happiest possible and remember Christmas most pleasantly in the future, do your best to make some else happy during the Yule Tide season. It is not the receiving of gifts that brings us contentment and happiness, but it is being able to give good cheer and reader service to others that makes us happiest. A little sacrifice to render a service will do the work and fill the heart with the season's good will and good cheer. So a merry Christmas to all.

Special Services.

Rev. John E. Lanier will conduct services at Pisgah Baptist church the fifth Sunday in December at 11 o'clock. He urges the members especially to attend.