

# The Smithfield Herald

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## COUNTY LETS COURT HOUSE CONTRACT

### Commissioners Call Election For School Bonds for Smithfield District

The County Commissioners here in special session Wednesday let the contract for a new court house and jail to be built in the near future. J. W. Stout & Co., of Sanford, were given the job.

Work will not begin until after the sale of the bonds which are now being advertised. At the special session of the legislature last August, a bill was passed providing for a \$500,000 bond issue for the purpose of building an adequate court house and jail for Johnston county. The new structure will be erected on the present site, after the old buildings have been removed.

The commissioners at their regular meeting this month called an election for school bonds in the Smithfield District for the purpose of relieving the acute school situation here by the erection of a High school building. The school has been over crowded for sometime and about a year ago the school board purchased property adjoining the present site with a view to putting up a new building. The election has been called for March 2.

Those who have the matter in hand consider this spring and summer a favorable time for building since building material is off considerably and the price of labor is reduced.

### Princeton School Items

There will be a spelling bee and a short program by the school children given Friday, January 14, at 7 p. m. at the Princeton school building. The patrons are cordially invited to attend. No admission.

The moving picture show came to Princeton Saturday night. It was well attended by the people of the community in spite of the rain.

A contest has been worked out by the teachers of the different rooms for the best attendance. The room having the highest percentage of pupils present and the least number of tardies holds a banner for one week. A great deal of enthusiasm exists among the pupils. The sixth and seventh grade rooms won the banner for last week. The average daily attendance being 95 per cent and no tardies.

The school is going to have an honor roll. Pupils whose names are to appear on the roll are required to have 100 on department, an average daily grade of 90 on all studies, no tardies and must be present every day in the month.

A special program will be given in chapel every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. All parents are cordially invited to attend.

### A Letter of Appreciation

We are in receipt of the following letter from Mr. C. Walton Johnson, son of Mr. Esrom Johnson, of Elevation township, who is Community Boys' Work Secretary at Asheville, which speaks for itself:

"I am enclosing check for \$2.00 for my subscription to The Smithfield HERALD for 1921.

"The people of Johnston county and all the friends of Mr. Lassiter should rally to the support of the HERALD, for his sake and in appreciation of his untiring and successful effort to build up a County paper equal to any in our country, a paper that has been the champion of every good cause, free from radical ideas, thoroughly wholesome, a paper that has done much for the general progress and moral uplift of the county. The editorials were always such as to mould and direct public sentiment in favor of everything that would be the best for the people as a whole. During these days of financial depression, those who love Tom Lassiter and are yet inspired by the memory of his splendid life should not let this worthy paper suffer in any way."

### President Greatly Improved

The president's physician, Rear Admiral Grayson, has announced that the president is now able to work two hours a day without fatigue. Dr. Francis X. Dercum, the neurologist, from Philadelphia, after a visit to the white house to see the president Sunday, stated that his condition was very satisfactory.

## NAVAL BALLOONIST BACK HOME SAFE

### Return to Civilization After Thrilling Experience—Two Have Fight

The climax to a series of thrilling experiences undergone by the three American naval balloonists occurred at Mattice, Ontario, Tuesday, when two of the participants had a fight. They came to blows over statements alleged to have been made by one of them in a letter to his wife. The balloonists and their fate have engaged the interest of the country since they were lost, and the story is an interesting one.

A naval balloon ascended above New York City, December 13th, for the purpose of making some observations for the United States government. It carried three passengers, all officers of the Navy, Lieutenants Hinton, Farrell and Kloor. The balloon was caught in a contrary gale, and blown far to the north, travelling 25 hours. The passengers had completely lost their bearings and had no idea where they were. Hearing a dog bark, they descended to find themselves in the wilderness of Canada, 820 miles in a straight line from the place whence they started; but more than 2000 miles, by the foot and sled routes, which they must follow in order to get back home. They made the flight at an altitude of 3000 feet; but were 6500 feet up when they heard the dog bark and concluded to come down. They landed in an unbroken forest, with no food, and greatly exhausted. They followed a stream for four days, and in that time had not food except two or three carrier pigeons, which they had taken along to send messages. They were about to die of exhaustion, and Lieut. Farrell was so sick and hopeless, that he begged the others to kill him and eat his body. He was doubtless temporarily insane when he made this ghastly proposition, but he persistently asked them to leave him and save themselves. Instead, the other two loaned him of their clothes, and slackened their speed in order that he might keep up with them.

At the end of the fourth day, they sighted an Indian hut, where they were received fearfully by the Indian and his wife, but after their fears were allayed, the Indians gave the men something to eat, and showed them the utmost kindness. Later they helped them to find the way to Moose Factory, a Hudson Bay trading post, from whence news was sent to their friends of their safety. Lieut. Farrell was still too weak to continue the journey on snowshoes, so the others waited while a sled was made for him, and then the three proceeded to Mattice, Ontario, where they could take the railway. The news of their terrible experience had gone all over the country, and newspaper reporters had raced to meet them at Mattice.

They were all soon rested and restored to health and apparently the best of friends, with an affection cemented by the blood-curdling ordeal through which they had passed, when a bad break in the harmony occurred. Newspapers were awaiting them at Mattice, and when Lieut. Farrell read a letter, which Hinton had written his wife, from Moose Factory, telling of Farrell's terrible exhaustion, &c., he resented it and denied it so bitterly that the two came to blows! Human nature is a queer compound! A good, healthy, normal fist-fight ensued, which at least, proved conclusively, that both are restored to health and strength. Before leaving Canada, they will have to face another ordeal. It is against the laws of the Dominion, for anyone to enter it, from the United States, without giving an account of himself to the proper authorities. This the balloonists obviously could not do, as they entered at an altitude of 3000 feet. So they will be arrested duly, but of course it will be only a formality, and the report states that it is the plan of the authorities to release them immediately, so they can attend a reception in their honor. If they are like most of the men we know, they would rather remain under arrest than go to a reception!

They are expected in New York in New York in a few days, where they will be the heroes of the hour. Lieut. Kloor is from Louisiana, and about a year ago, his airship was caught in a tree, and he hung in this perilous plight for fifteen hours. Lieut. Hinton was on the famous,

## URGES BIG CUT IN TOBACCO ACERAGE

### A Reduction Of Fifty Per Cent is Only Hope For Growers This Year

Mr. T. S. Ragsdale, who has large tobacco interests here, was in attendance at the meeting in Wilson Monday of warehousemen and tobacco growers from which he brings back the message that the number of acres planted in tobacco this year must be reduced at least fifty per cent.

Mr. M. T. Carrington, of Richmond, president of the Tobacco Association of the United States, was present at Wilson and urged the importance of a reduction. He stated that his association is ready and willing to back both morally and financially the Tri-State Tobacco Growers Association.

Going to Rocky Mount from Wilson Mr. Carrington reiterated his statement in Wilson adding that "unless this year's tobacco crop is cut fifty per cent, the present prices will be considered high next season."

The North Carolina branch of the Inter-state Tobacco Growers' Association met in Raleigh Wednesday, and declared for a program of acreage reduction and co-operative marketing. Aaron Sapire, of California, marketing expert addressed the gathering.

Discussing tobacco prices in the Greenville News, Mr. J. N. Gorman makes the following recommendations to the tobacco farmers:

"First. Cut acreage half and tend this properly, making good and fine tobacco. With half a crop you can pay more attention to cultivation, sucker it more often and prime more as it ought to be and this half will cost you less and bring much more than a full acreage of common and medium tobacco.

"Second. Plant a garden and raise your other supplies on the farm. If this is done the planter will make money but if there is as large a tobacco crop planted in 1921 as there was in 1920 we cannot hope for even the present prices and the present prices paid in Eastern the farmer. All tobacco imported into the United States pays a duty of 40 cents per pound, so while the surplus tobacco crop of the world affects our foreign trade, it cannot affect our home trade, but if we continue to make more medium and common tobacco than the home trade can consume, then we cannot hope for any improvement in prices."

"These facts speak for themselves and the farmer who has been raising tobacco, or contemplates raising it can draw his own conclusions. But the slogan of those who handle after it is put on the market is 'Cut acreage fifty per cent.'"

### More Changes on Main Street

During the past week another change has taken place on Second Street, Turnage and Talton having moved their stock of groceries into the store recently vacated by the White Grocery company. Mr. S. C. Turnage and Mr. Ralph Talton, who compose this firm are so well known that their customers will have no difficulty in finding their new place.

The store from which Turnage and Talton have moved has been made ready for The Thornton Music House and Mr. G. E. Thornton is ready to display his line of musical instruments to any one interested.

The game of fruit basket among the several business houses has kept the sign painter busy, freshly painted signs greeting the eye on all sides.

### Rock Hill School Honor Roll

Eight grade:—Thelma Lee and Retta Lee.

Sixth grade:—John Mahler, Tommie Adams and Garrett Lee.

Fourth grade:—Bryant Allen and Ona Massengill.

Second grade:—Annie Moore, Herbert Massengill, Kathleen Mahler.

First grade:—Roby Blackman, Wayland Massengill, Wilbert Massengill, Josephine Mahler, Neva Morris, Sallie Allen, Mamie Norris, Aaron Wood and Lenols Woods.

A navy seaplane NC2, which made the trip across the Atlantic in 1919.

The incident serves as a companion story to the adventure of the submarine was sunk last summer and both emphasize anew the courage and discipline of our boys of the Navy.

## STATE OFFICERS' SALARIES RAISED

### Senate and House Pass the Measure; Officers Will Receive \$4,500 Except 2

Devoting practically the entire legislative day to consideration of the bill providing increases in the salaries of the Constitutional State officers, both Houses of the Legislature Tuesday passed the measure and it becomes a law substantially as it was reported from the committee.

The bill was first considered in the House where it was passed without amendment by a vote of 65 to 44, two Republicans voting for the bill. The bill was passed in the Senate by a vote of 27 to 20 the solid Republican strength furnishing a majority of the opposition. The Senate engrafted an amendment giving the Auditor an increase of \$1,500 instead of the \$1,000 granted the other State officers and placing that officer on a parity with the Secretary of State and the State Treasurer. The House which had previously rejected an identical amendment adopted the amended measure and it became a law.

Under the bill as finally adopted each of the offices affected will carry the following salaries: Superintendent of Public Instruction, \$5,000; Secretary of State, \$4,500; Treasurer, \$4,500; Auditor, \$4,500; Attorney General, \$4,500.

### Wilson County Miser

Wilson, Jan. 11.—A big tow sack containing \$70,000 in coin was recently deposited in a bank here by S. G. Newbern, who has been appointed by the court as guardian for Henry Morris, a Wilson reclusive, who is said to be the oldest and wealthiest citizen of the town. It represents the savings of many years and was taken from a safe in his home to be transferred. It required several days for the bank employees to get the coin counted as it was in all sorts of denominations, ranging from pennies to ten dollars.—News and Observer.

### Five Prisoners Escape from Smithfield Road Camp

About eight o'clock Wednesday night, January 12th, five prisoners escaped from the Smithfield township road camp near Smithfield. There were four negroes and one white man. They escaped by sawing out a hole in a window with hack saws. The sawing no doubt had been going on at night for sometime. The guards did not suspect any danger until the prisoners were far away. Up to camp prisoners had been heard from.

### Landis Controls Base Ball

A Chicago dispatch announces that organized baseball in the United States Tuesday virtually was brought under the control of Federal Judge K. M. Landis for at least seven years when the drafting committee of the National Association of Minor Leagues officially voted approval of the new National agreement, already accepted by the two major leagues committees, which creates the office of a baseball commissioner with supreme powers and with Judge Landis as the first incumbent.

### Killed His Brother

Monroe, Jan. 10.—Ranson Baucem, shot and instantly killed his brother, Charlie Baucem, at her former's home in New Salem township Saturday night. Another brother, Gaston Baucem, was struck on the face, and painfully wounded during the fight. Ranson surrendered to officers, who arrived a short time after the shooting, and is now in jail here.

### Official Count of Popular Vote

The total number of votes cast for President in 1920, was 26,759,708, as compared with 18,515,340 in 1916. Harding's plurality over Cox was 7,601,765. President Wilson's plurality over Hughes in 1916, was 591,385. The Prohibition candidate received 187,470 votes, and Debs (who was in jail) polled 214,869. The candidate of the Labor party, Fassmer, received 252,435 votes.

Official returns from all the states (except Tennessee) furnish the above figures.

## COSTLY INAUGURAL TO BE ABANDONED

### Extravagant Plans Canceled at Request of President-elect Harding

Washington, Jan. 10.—Abandonment immediately of all plans for a celebration in connection with the inauguration of President-elect Harding was announced tonight by E. B. McLean, chairman of the Washington inaugural committee, in accordance with the desire of Mr. Harding.

Mr. McLean upon receiving the request of Mr. Harding for abandonment of the celebration plans, issued the following statement:

"I realize, of course, how keen will be the disappointment to the people of Washington, but I have all along known how President-elect Harding felt with respect to the expenditures of large sums of money at this time.

"Because of Mr. Harding's feeling I was always in doubt about the inaugural program being carried out. I feel that Senator Harding's friends and advisers, no matter how much they regret the loss to Washington, will be with him in this matter."

Announcement of the President-elect's decision came only a few hours after congress, through action of the house, completed enactment of a bill appropriating \$50,000 for expenses incident to the inauguration. As the measure has passed both houses of congress, just what course congressional leaders will take in respect to it was in doubt tonight. In the usual course of procedure the bill would go to the white house tomorrow but the suggestion was made tonight that Republican leaders in either the senate or the house might move to reconsider the vote of their body and thereby withdraw the bill.

Disbanding of committees appointed by Chairman McLean, membership on which include hundreds of persons not only in Washington but elsewhere is expected to begin immediately. Upwards of \$200,000 had been pledged by Washington citizens and businessmen towards the expenses of the inaugural celebration.

### New Plans for Inauguration

Washington, Jan. 11.—President-elect Harding will take the oath of office next March 4 with ceremonies approximating in simplicity those which attended the induction into office of Jefferson and Jackson.

The new President under the plans formulated by the committee would thus take the oath of office in the small and almost semi-private chamber of the senate immediately after the swearing in of Calvin Coolidge as vice president of the United States and then would deliver his inaugural address within the hearing only of members of the senate and house, the justices of the Supreme Court and not more than 1,000 persons able to crowd into the restricted gallery space.—Associated Press.

### Women Taller and Heavier

Philadelphia, Jan. 10.—Women are growing taller and heavier, according to Dr. R. Tait McKenzie, director of physical education at the University of Pennsylvania.

"Statistics of womens colleges, covering a period of 60 years show the average college girl of today is an inch taller than the college girl of 1860," he said. "These statistics also prove the modern girl is 6 to 7 pounds heavier."

Dr. McKenzie attributed this increase to the increased interests in sports and outdoor life.—Coicord Times.

### First Woman Legislator

Miss L. Exum Clement, "the lady from Buncombe," has the distinction of being the first woman member of the North Carolina General Assembly.

Having received her training in a private law school Miss Clement began the practice of law in Asheville in 1907. She has made a speciality of the problems relating to women, particularly of divorce. The majority of her clients have been women. It will be remembered that in her campaign for the Legislature, before the passage of the 19th Amendment, she defeated the opposing Independent candidate, who received only 41 votes, by a majority of over ten thousand.

## MORRISON TAKES OATH OF OFFICE

### Ceremonies Were Simple; Chief Justice Walter Clark Administers Oath

Cameron Morrison took the oath of office as forty-eighth Governor of North Carolina in the city auditorium shortly afternoon yesterday and before an assemblage of legislators and citizens of the State that crowded the big hall enunciated the program, that during the next four years he will seek to write into the life of the state.

Inaugural ceremonies of severest simplicity inducted Mr. Morrison and the State officials who were elected with him into their respective offices. Senator J. L. DeLaney of Mecklenburg, chairman of the legislative inaugural committee, presented the/ officers-elect for the administration of the oath by Associate Justice Platt D. Walker, except Governor Morrison, who was presented by retiring Governor Bickett, and who took the oath at the hands of Chief Justice Walter Clark of the North Carolina Supreme Court.

Asking for the banishment of discord and difference and for consideration and co-operation of all the people of the State in a program for the next four years, Governor Morrison in his inaugural address threw down a challenge to lawlessness, plead for greater care for the defective, the unfortunate and the delinquent, and made a powerful plea for health and education.

"Our present weakness grows out of our strength," he said in the discussion of schools. "We have attained such glorious results that our equipment and organization is inadequate."

He asked for greater support for the common schools which have already flooded the higher institutions, and then for adequate provisions by which the colleges may take care of the public school output.

The Governor's proposals thus far had been received with applause, but it was nothing to the outburst which followed the enunciation of his road program, a system of good roads, hard surfaced for the main highways, which should not depart from local self-government in construction and maintenance than practicality and necessity may require.

It was promptly on the hour of noon that band music and a commotion at the doors announced to the waiting auditorium full of people that the inaugural party had arrived. Governor T. W. Bickett and Governor-elect Cameron Morrison started down the center aisle toward the stage between them, hanging on the arms of two Governors, nine-year-old Angella Morrison, daughter of the incoming Governor. The crowd greeted the trio standing. To the cheers, the two Governors responded with quiet smiles but the young lady in brown coat and hat with a corsage of sweet peas, radiated happiness. So far as the two Governors or the assembly were concerned she was the center of the ceremony.—News and Observer.

### Austrian Government Bankrupt.

London, Jan. 11.—The Austrian government has announced to the entente that it is at the end of its resources and no longer is in a position to continue, according to a report which has reached official German quarters says a London Times dispatch from Berlin.

The government has declared its intention to retire January 15 and place the administration of the country in the hands of the reparations commission, the dispatch adds.

### Elder Felton Dead

Elder Thomas Felton, pastor of the Primitive Baptist church at White Oak Meeting House near Saratoga in Wilson county died at his home Friday in 81st year. He was sick only a week, pneumonia causing his death.

### Tobacco Growers at Wilson

The warehousemen and tobacco interests of eastern Carolina met in Wilson Monday called there by the president of the Tobacco association of the United States. The president, Mr. Carrington, urged at least a 50 per cent reduction of the tobacco acreage for 1921.