

The Smithfield Herald

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N. C. FARMERS IN SESSION AT RALEIGH

Want Fifty Per Cent Valuation Cut in Farm Lands—Till July to Pay Tax

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 9.—The joint finance committees of the General Assembly yesterday afternoon for three hours heard former Governor Bickett's Revaluation program assailed by Eastern North Carolina farmers who came to the capital asking for a horizontal reduction in all land valuations outside of cities and towns of not less than 50 per cent.

Because of the "desperate financial condition of our farmers" the General Assembly is asked to allow until July 1, 1921 to pay their taxes for 1920 and that crops held on May 1, 1921 be exempted from taxation. The farmers represented to the committees that the horizontal cut asked for would not equalize the tax burden but declared that it would give some relief.

Josiah W. Bailey and his law partner, James H. Pou, both of Raleigh, appeared before the committees in the interest of the farmers. The State Farmers Union was represented by Dr. H. Q. Alexander and President Stone, while a number representing various counties spoke asking that the provisions of the resolution be complied with.—Max Abernethy, in Wilson Times.

THANKSGIVING ITEMS

Mr. Gideon Corbett and daughter, of Emit, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Whitley.

Mr. W. S. Earp spent Monday in Raleigh.

Mr. W. G. Hinton sold a load of tobacco in Wilson one day last week and reported better prices than the week has been selling for.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Smith of the Bethesda section spent Monday and Tuesday with Mrs. Smith's father, Mr. W. S. Earp.

The B. Y. P. U. had a social at the school auditorium Friday evening, from 6:30 until 10 o'clock. All spent a very pleasant evening. The time for the regular meeting has been changed from 6:30 at night till 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The young people in the community are very much interested in the B. Y. P. U. work.

Miss Bertie and Elsie Earp spent the week-end with Miss Lillie Mae Eubanks of the Hatcher's school community.

Miss Effie Grant from Selma High school spent the week-end at home. "REX."

Salary Increase Passes House

Deaf to the forebodings of members who cried hard times, dodging very effectively the bludgeonings of partisan politics and jumping over a deep political pit carefully concealed under a seemingly harmless amendment, the bill to increase the salaries of statutory State officers, Supreme and Superior court judges, passed the House yesterday by a vote of 65 to 46. The measure had already passed the Senate, and yesterday's vote in the House made it a law.

The measure, as passed, raises the salaries of members of the Corporation Commission, the Commissioner of Labor and Printing and of Insurance from \$3,500 to \$4,500 per year; Supreme court justices from \$5,000 to \$6,000, and of Superior court judges from \$4,000 to \$5,000 with a flat expense account of \$1,250 per year. The measure was started in the Senate by Senator Long, of Alamance, was killed, then resuscitated and sent to the House where it passed unamended.—News and Observer.

Income Tax Man To Be Here

Mr. B. F. Aycock will be in Smithfield on March 3, 4, and 5 for the purpose of assisting the taxpayers in the preparation of their 1920 Federal Income Tax returns. He may be found at the hotel here.

Other places in Johnston county where he expects to assist the people free of charge are:

Benson—March 1 and 2nd.

eKny—March 12th.

Selma—March 9 and 10th.

Clayton—March 11th.

Princeton—February 28th.

PRINCETON-BOON HILL

Princeton, Feb. 9.—Miss Thelma Creech from Pine Level has been spending several days with Miss Bessie Mason.

Misses Lucile Lee and Sarah Blackman, rural teachers, were visitors in town Saturday.

Miss Sarah Newell from Wayne county was married to Mr. Willie Peele at the Methodist parsonage by Rev. Mr. Farrar a few days ago.

Miss Lora Mason and Misses Agnes and Gladys Gurley have been visiting friends at Kenly.

Mr. Clifton Holt has one of those smiles "at does not rub off"—It's a bright little girl. Mother and baby are getting along nicely.

On Friday morning the 4th, the stork visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Howell and left a fine little boy. Mother and baby are getting along nicely.

Mr. Tom Sasser, section master on the A. C. L. was pretty badly bruised up a few days ago when a motor car jumped the track and threw several men off. Tom has been in the repair shop ever since, seems to be suffering mostly with a sprained ankle.

Some unknown person made another raid on the ticket office of the Southern Railway here Monday night. After doing all the damage they could by smashing the ticket cases, no tickets were stolen.

The heavy sleet of last week caused many thousands dollars loss to owners of timbered land. Thousands of large fine trees were completely ruined by the sleet.

Mr. and Mrs. Boas Woodard are spending a few weeks at their farm eight miles north of Selma where they are having some improvements made.

The following young girls are members of the Baptist Sunday School choir, with Miss Lissie Pearce as organist: Lucile Gurley, Clyde Mason, Evelyn Edwards, Gertrude King, Ella Jones, Edna and Ruth Grantham, Emma and Alma Pearce, Teressa Holt, Myrtle Holt, Lucile and Myrtle May Worley and Mildred Snipes.

Miss Alma Lindsey from Hamlet is visiting relatives here this week. Mrs. George Bennett from Enfield was here visiting her sister, Miss Lulla Gilbert Sunday and Monday.

Mr. Cohen Tart from Dunn is spending a few days with his parents Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Tart.

Last Wednesday evening Mrs. A. L. Massey and Mrs. Hardee gave an old fashioned quilting bee at their home four miles from town. Those present were Mrs. W. J. Massey, Mrs. James I. Massey, Mrs. Arthur, Mrs. Ledbetter, Mrs. Bob Mitchell, Mrs. Flossie Wells, Mrs. Mason, Mrs. Joyner, Mrs. L. D. Grantham, Mrs. A. F. Holt and Mrs. A. F. Holt, Jr., Mrs. Henry Fitzgerald, Misses Bessie and Jessie Massey, Estelle and Leona Holt, Mrs. Carl Grantham and Mrs. Milton Massey. After the quilting, ice cream, cake and chicken sandwiches were served. The quilt was presented to the Methodist parsonage.

Mr. S. M. Wrike from Randleman has been spending a few days with his son, Mr. E. B. Wrike, the railway agent.

Services at the Methodist church next Sunday morning and night by the pastor, Rev. W. G. Farrar.

Rev. A. L. Godwin, the new pastor, will preach at the Baptist church the third Sunday morning and night.

Too Busy To Hang Negro

Baton Rouge, La., Feb. 8.—Because he was too busy with "criminal and civil matters," T. A. Grant, sheriff of Ouchita parish failed to hang Lonnie Eaton, negro of Ouchita convicted of murder and sentenced to be hanged February 4.

The information that the sheriff had failed to hang Lonnie Eaton came to Governor Parker this morning in a letter from the sheriff, who said that he had been so busy on February 4, the date which the governor had set for the execution, that the fact that negro was to be hanged "completely escaped his mind."

The sheriff now appeals to the governor to know just what to do with the negro, and the governor has put the problem up to Attorney General Coo.—News and Observer.

NEWS NOTES FROM THE TOWN OF SELMA

H. B. Pearce, Sr., Dead—Brown-Richardson Marriage—Club Meets

Selma, Feb. 7.—The company of Driver and Driver has purchased the interest of Driver and Jones, and will occupy the building now occupied by Smith-Cameron. The Smith-Cameron Co., will continue business in the Ray building. W. E. Jones is soon to open a grocery store in the building formerly occupied by Jones-Driver.

The Selma Barber Shop has recently installed an electric heating apparatus for the shower baths.

Misses Louie Delle Pittman, Bertha Riley, Elizabeth Allen, Mary Creech Williams, and Bessie Barnes went to Raleigh Saturday to attend the Kriesler concert.

Miss Inez Smithwick spent the week end with her parents in LaGrange.

Mrs. Needham Ward was the charming hostess to the Embroidery Club on Thursday afternoon from three to five. After a pleasant afternoon spent in sewing, Mrs. Ward served a delightful two course luncheon consisting of chicken salad and heart shaped fruit jello.

Mr. Shelton White of Trinity College spent Saturday with his sister, Miss Evelyn White.

Miss Sacon Horton of Raleigh, spent Saturday with Miss Gertrude Cook en route to Spring Hope to attend the wedding of Miss Juanita Privette to Mr. Grafton Fanny, which will take place Tuesday afternoon. Miss Horton will be a bridesmaid.

The many friends of Miss Audrey Richardson and Mr. Emmet Brown will be interested to learn of their marriage in Raleigh on January 29, 1921. Miss Richardson was the competent bookkeeper for Ward-Earp Co. Mr. Brown holds a position with A. V. Driver Co. They will make their home for the present with Mr. and Mrs. E. K. Eason.

Misses Elizabeth Allen, Eunice Keel, Aileen Gramling, Iva Young and Annie Belle Warren were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Loomis Debnam on Thursday evening, February 3rd.

The performance of "Freckles" on Wednesday evening was well attended and enjoyed by many.

Mr. Avera Winston of Warrenton spent a few days in town this week.

Mr. Henry Bradley Pearce, aged 67, an honored citizen of Selma, died in Greensboro, N. C., in St. Leo's Hospital Monday morning at 11:30 after an illness of about five months. The remains were brought to Selma Tuesday. The funeral services were conducted in the Methodist church by Rev. Mr. Perry. It was attended by the Masons in a body, Mr. Pearce being an esteemed member of the Masonic Lodge. Many beautiful floral tributes showed the high esteem in which Mr. Pearce was held, especially by the young men of the town in whom Mr. Pearce had taken great interest. The interment was in the Selma Cemetery. Surviving are his widow, three sons, H. B. Pearce, Jr., and H. A. Pearce of Selma; E. W. Pearce of Miami, Fla.; and one sister, Miss Anna Lee Pearce of New Bern.

Master Geo. Davis Vick, Jr. son of Dr. and Mrs. G. D. Vick, is quite ill with measles.

Little Miss Rose Worley who has been quite sick for some time is able to be out again.

Mr. Hector Debnam entertained a few friends at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Debnam, on Friday evening, celebrating his fifteenth birthday anniversary. Many games were played during the evening after which delicious refreshments were served.

Miss Laura Joyner spent the week end at her home in LaGrange.

Mr. Claybourne Tuck attended the Kriesler concert in Raleigh Saturday night.

Miss Mary Lily Cox spent the week end in Jacksonville.

Mrs. Robert Ashworth had as her guests for supper Sunday night Miss Katherine Redwine and Miss Vivian McNeill.

JOHNSTON RANKS SECOND IN COTTON

North Carolina Seventh Cotton State; Johnston Produces 38,538 Bales

Raleigh, Feb. 9.—North Carolina ranks seventh of the cotton states, and Robeson county ranks first in this state. Of the 12,987,000 bales produced in the United States 839,940 or 6.5 per cent was produced in North Carolina. Robeson county produced 60,314 bales, or 7.3 per cent of the State's crop. Johnston ranks second (38,538) and Sampson third (33,341) according to the statistics just released by the Cooperative Crop Reporting Service.

Scotland county produced the most pounds per acre (327) and Robeson next with 319 pounds of lint. Sixty counties had more than 1,000 acres. With lint cotton averaging about 14 cents a pound (36c a year ago), the United States' crop is worth about \$58,800,000. This compares with an almost equal production in 1919 worth \$149,900,000, and a net depreciation of approximately \$100,000,000 for lint and seed. The cost of production for this crop was in excess of the previous 36 cent crop, it having averaged near thirty-two cents in cost for 1920.

The cotton acreage in North Carolina was increased about one per cent over the 1919 crop. The yield for the last three years averaged 266 pounds at 14 cents in 1920, 266 at 36 cents in 1919, and 288 pounds per acre in 1918 at 26 cents per pound.

The average price paid to southern farmers for real lint cotton at the first of each of the past six months was: August 36.8 cents; September, 31.1; October 25.5; November 19.4; December 14.0; January 11.5; and February 12 cents. This indicates the greatest decline in any crop perhaps ever known.

The boll weevil has thus far resulted in no appreciable damage to the cotton crop in the Southeastern counties. The known advance of the infested area has been a much narrower belt than usual.

President to Seclude Himself

Washington, Feb. 7.—President Wilson plans to go into virtual seclusion for a time after March fourth.

Freed from the responsibilities of office which have weighed heavily upon him during his convalescence, Mr. Wilson, his friends say, will shut himself in for a period of intensive rest and quiet in the new home he has purchased here. He will deny himself to all callers except immediate members of his family, it is said, and a few very intimate friends with whom throughout his illness he has kept in contact.

No formal engagements of any character are expected to be made by the President until he shall have thoroughly adjusted himself to private life after some ten years in public service.

Even the writing which he has planned to do upon his retirement from the white house will be postponed for several months, his friends say.

For possibly six months, friends of the President believe, his life will be wholly taken up with recreation. His chief diversion since his illness has been reading. He is said to have practically exhausted the field of detective stories of which he has always been fond and more recently has taken up novels and light stories and also has given some time to reading poetry.

Since his resumption last week of his old custom of attending the theater, the President is expected to continue, as his health improves to find occasion more and more to avail himself of this form of recreation. He also is expected to continue his daily automobile rides.—Associated Press.

Epworth League Meeting

Sail around to the Epworth League room Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock and anchor for awhile and enjoy the program that will be given under the auspices of the third department. The quartette will sing.

NEWS FROM KENLY

Kenly, Feb. 9th.—Rev. C. E. Clark filled his regular appointment at the Presbyterian church last Sunday.

Mr. J. D. Lanier of Wilson spent Sunday here with his sister, Mrs. J. G. High.

Mr. W. A. Edgerton of Wilson was in town Tuesday.

Mrs. C. W. Cote from Middlesex is spending sometime with Mrs. D. K. Morgan.

Mrs. H. F. Edgerton left today to visit relatives in Smithfield.

Mrs. R. T. Fulghum spent Sunday in Raleigh.

Dr. and Mrs. Foster from Bailey were in town Tuesday the guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Wilkinson.

Mr. H. F. Edgerton visited his big farm in Northampton county last week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Darden spent Tuesday in Goldsboro.

Mr. H. M. Gizzard spent Sunday in Richmond with his father who is very ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Stallings of Wilson spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Bailey.

Mr. Hal Gilbreath of Greensboro was in town during the week end visiting his mother, Mrs. Dora Gilbreath.

Mrs. J. G. High is spending sometime in Wilson with her sister, Mrs. D. B. Bullock, who is seriously ill.

Mrs. B. C. Crawford returned to Pikeville Sunday after spending sometime with Mrs. P. H. Etheridge.

Mrs. K. D. Morgan returned home last week after visiting friends in Middlesex.

Mr. W. L. Etheridge spent Sunday with his parents Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Etheridge, of the Raines X Roads section.

The ladies of the Presbyterian church will give a Valetine social at the home of Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Grady Friday night, February 12th. The Valetine Postoffice will be open promptly at 7 p. m. Come and call for your mail. Everybody is invited to come. Refreshments will be for sale.

The Missionary society of the M. E. Church met with Mrs. H. M. Grizzard and the following officers were elected for the year 1921: Mrs. R. A. Turlington, president; Mrs. H. M. Grizzard, 1st vice-president; Mrs. A. J. Broughton, 2nd vice-president; Mrs. C. F. Darden, cor. sec.; Mrs. G. B. Woodard, rec. sec.; Mrs. R. T. Fulghum, treas.; Mrs. H. F. Edgerton, supt. social service; Mrs. J. E. Holder, supt. of study and pub.; Mrs. L. C. Wilkinson, supt. supplied; Mrs. J. W. Hollowell, agt. for voice. Plans for the year were discussed and everyone seems to be entering into the work with renewed energy.

Syrup From Sweet Potatoes

Washington, Feb. 8.—A sweet potato syrup plant is to be established by the government at Fitzgerald, Ga., under a laboratory process worked out and patented for the public by Dr. H. C. Gore bureau of chemistry. The commercial possibilities in manufacture of a fine, brown "highly palatable" syrup from a heretofore waste product are to be explored, according to announcement tonight by the agriculture department.

"Many persons think it equal to first class cane syrup," the statement said of the sweet potato product.

Fitzgerald was selected because a building was available and also because it has already a sweet potato curing and storing establishment. Equipment will be shipped from Washington for the syrup plant and the department says it can make no recommendations for commercial manufacture without comparative cost data to be obtained from the experimental mill. The chance for developing a new industry is held to be good, however, as much of the sweet potato crop of the south has been waste in the past.

The project is the first to be undertaken in the way of semi-commercial plants by the new bureau of development in the department of agriculture.

In hitherto civilized Connecticut, members of a legislative committee are discussing the plan of putting to death the incurably insane of the State Asylum.

FEBRUARY MEETING OF WOMAN'S CLUB

Nominating Committee Was Selected—Constitution Was Amended

Wednesday afternoon the regular February meeting of the Woman's club was held at the club room. The chief item of business transacted was the selection of the nominating committee who will recommend the officers for the coming year. The constitution was changed to have this committee nominated from the floor. The following ladies were elected: Mrs. Lee Sanders, chairman; Mrs. T. J. Lassiter, Mrs. A. H. Rose, Mrs. W. N. Holt, and Mrs. C. V. Johnson.

Other business transacted was the endorsement of a resolution presented by Miss Eula Parrish, president of the Johnston County Alumni Association of the North Carolina College for Women, asking the representatives from Johnston to do all possible to get an adequate appropriation for that institution.

At the close of the business, Mr. W. H. Lyon made a talk on the "Workings of a Legislature," a topic suggested in the citizenship course.

Following this Supt. H. B. Marow made a brief statement about the coming school election, and Mr. W. M. Grantham, registrar, gave any of the ladies who had not done so an opportunity to register.

THANKSGIVING NEWS

Our B. Y. P. U. is progressing nicely. We have enrolled about forty-five members. We have changed the time of meeting from 6:30 in the evening until 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

Mr. W. C. Grant of Wilson spent the week end with his father, Mr. E. Grant.

Mr. Gideon Corbett and daughter, Miss Bettie, of Emit, spent last Friday night with Mrs. Isaac Whitley.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Sasser, of Selma, spent a short while at the home of Mr. E. Grant's Sunday afternoon. "ADAM AND EVE."

Greece May Have Statue of Webster

Webster, Mass.—A movement to raise a fund for the erection of a statue to Daniel Webster in Athens, in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Greek independence, was announced today from this town, named in honor of the statesman. Constant Pantos, a local merchant, who is national treasurer of the Pan-Epirotic union, is interested in the proposal which is said to have the endorsement of United States Senators Lodge and Moses. The approval of the State Department and the Greek Legation is awaited.

Mr. Pantos said it was a speech delivered by Daniel Webster in the United States on January 19, 1824, Greece as a free nation by the United States after Greece had thrown off the Turkish yoke of 400 years in 1821. If present plans are carried out the monument will be placed in front of the parliament building in Athens and delegations from Webster, Massachusetts, and Franklin, New Hampshire, the latter the birthplace of Daniel Webster will be present.—Christian Science Monitor.

Wrightsville Beach in Danger

Washington, Feb. 9.—Senator Simmons has been advised that Wrightsville beach, located on Wrightsville island near Wilmington, is in danger of being cut in two and the lower end of the island isolated by the erosion of the water there. It is said that there is some danger, if another storm should come similar to the one in January, that the lower end of the island will be entirely cut off at the point near the cottage of Dr. James Sprunt.

Senator Simmons is asking the chief of engineers, war department, to send an engineer to Wrightsville beach to inspect the situation there and to advise the mayor and the city government as to the best means of protecting the island from erosion.—H. E. C. Bryant in Charlotte Observer.