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W. H. AUSTIN HEAD COTTON FARMERS

Directors Take Steps Transfer the Organization to Permanent Officers

W. H. Austin, of Smithfield, is president, and B. O. Townsend, of Dunn, is secretary-treasurer of the North Carolina Cotton Growers' Co-operative Association. The election of officers took place at the first meeting of directors which was held here yesterday in the offices of the Department of Agriculture.

Aaron Sapiro, of California, who was advising with the directors in the various steps for the transfer of the temporary organization over to the permanent officers explained in detail the various features of the articles of incorporation and the by-laws. Several minor changes were found to be necessary because of local conditions.

The matter of financing the association on probably a ten million dollar basis will be left with the executive committee, together with the employment of assistants. After a session continuing from 10:30 yesterday morning until 5:30 in the afternoon, the directors adjourned. The members of the executive committee however were in session last night.

In addition to W. H. Austin, president, and B. O. Townsend, secretary-treasurer, the directors elected R. W. Christian, of Manchester, vice-president and Dr. G. M. Pate, Rayham, member of the executive committee, other members of which are the officers.

The directors attending the meeting yesterday were:

First district, W. H. Joyner, Garysburg; Second district, W. W. Eagles, Tarboro; Third district, H. B. Staton, Bethel; Fourth district, not represented; Fifth district, W. H. Austin, Smithfield; Sixth district, B. O. Townsend, Dunn; Seventh district, R. W. Christian, Manchester; Eighth district, Dr. G. M. Pate, Rayham; Ninth district, A. A. McEachern, Red Springs; Tenth district, L. D. Roberts, Wadesboro.

At the meeting of the organization committee of the cotton association last night, D. W. Patrick, of Greene county, Snow Hill, was adjudged director from the Fourth district. The action of the committee settled a contest over the election between Mr. Patrick and H. E. Moseley, both of whom are prominent farmers and business men of the district.—News and Observer.

TREASURY SCENE OF SPECTACULAR BLAZE

Washington, Feb. 8.—Blazing scaffolding and repair materials, accompanied by the explosion of a barrel of kerosene, on the roof of the treasury building threatened the structure for half an hour late today until the fire was brought under control with nearly every engine company in the down town section in action. A blueprint laboratory and a small contractor's shack on the roof were destroyed. Treasury officials estimated that damage was slight, but no figure on the loss from fire and water was available tonight.

Thousands of afternoon shoppers were attracted by dense clouds of smoke pierced by high flames thrown up when blaze reached a supply of tar and tar paper.

The millions of dollars of nation's treasure stored in the building were guarded by a cordon of United States marines and secret service men.

GOVERNOR HAS BIG JOB TO SIGN BONDS

RALEIGH, Feb. 7.—Forty-five hundred bonds of \$1,000 denomination each will await the signature of Governor Morrison when he returns to Raleigh tomorrow from Washington. These bonds are of the last series sold by the state, and the governor must sign each one separately. It is a job requiring several days.

The last bonds were signed in New York and the governor used a machine which enabled him to sign his name eight times at one stroke. The state lacks such a machine, however so the executive must make his signature on each bond before they can be sold to the buyers in New York.—Brock Barkley in Charlotte Observer.

RAIFORD B. WHITLEY IS MADE DIRECTOR ASSOCIATION

Wendell Man Unanimously Chosen Ninth District Tobacco Director.

At a convention held in the city court room yesterday by six delegates from Johnston county and 14 from Wake, Mr. R. B. Whitley, of Wendell, was unanimously elected director to represent these two counties on the board of directors of the North Carolina Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association.

A caucus of the Wake county delegates was held before the convention and the names of several candidates were considered, and it was decided to support Mr. Whitley. The Johnston county delegates were for him to a man. Mr. E. B. Crow, of the Commercial National Bank, said of Mr. Whitley:

"In the selection of Mr. Whitley the tobacco growers of this district have in my opinion, added more strength to the movement for co-operative marketing than any one single move they could have made. He is a man who is conservative, careful and yet progressive. The very fact that he has consented to accept the position shows his confidence in the movement, and will cause many who have so far not signed the contract to come in."

Dr. J. Y. Joyner said when told of Mr. Whitley's election: "I have known Mr. Whitley for years, and know him to be a sound, conservative business man. I am heartily glad he was elected."

Dr. Clarence Poe, A. W. Swain, and Dr. B. W. Kilgore, all the members of the organization committee who were in the city yesterday endorsed the action of the convention.

It was the consensus of opinion of practically everyone who expressed an opinion that if the board of directors measured up to the standard of the director from the 9th district, the success of the movement was assured.—News and Observer, of February 8th.

FLAGMAN SHOWS COOLNESS

Ties Bed Clothes Together and Climbs Out of Hotel Window To Safety

Richmond, Va., Feb. 7.—J. E. Scott, flagman on the Atlantic Coast Line Railway, whose home is at Rocky Mount, N. C., kept a cool head when he found himself trapped in the Lexington Hotel when it caught fire early today. While other guests were screaming for help and jumping from windows, he calmly tied bedclothes together and let himself down to safety from the third floor without mishap. He was awakened soon after 4 a. m. when flames were bursting through the door of his room.

MRS. MARY HANCOCK DEAD

Passed Away Wednesday Morning at the Home of Her Daughter, Mrs. T. S. Ragsdale.

A sad death occurred in our city Wednesday morning when Mrs. Mary J. Hancock passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. T. S. Ragsdale. For more than a year she had been in feeble health and for several weeks past she was confined to her bed. She died at 6 o'clock a. m. Just with the awakening life of a new day, she went to sleep like a tired child. She was conscious until the end came and talked with her daughters who were with her.

The deceased is survived by five daughters and 1 son, Mrs. Ragsdale of this city, Mrs. E. C. McCarty, of Atlanta, Ga., Mrs. H. C. Pittman, of Snow Hill, Mrs. O. O. Jackson, of Plymouth, Mrs. W. F. Dunn, of New Bern and Hugh Hancock, of Washington. All of her daughters were here when she died.

The remains were carried to New Bern where Mrs. Hancock lived until about three months ago. The funeral was held yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock from Centenary Methodist church, of which church she was a member. The service was conducted by Rev. W. V. McRae, pastor of the church.

The deceased was in her 59th year. She was preceded to the grave a few years ago by her husband, W. H. Hancock. The sorrowing ones have the sympathy of the community in their bereavement.

SIX PERSONS DEAD IN RICHMOND FIRE

Flames Cut off All Avenues of Escape for Frenzied Guests; 13 Missing

Richmond, Va., Feb. 7.—Six known dead, 33 reported missing, or unaccounted for and 28 known injured, 14 of whom are believed to be fatally hurt, is the toll of the fire which swept over an area of half a city block here early this morning, destroying the Lexington hotel and several other buildings and entailing a loss variously estimated at from \$250,000 to \$500,000.

The fire was discovered at 4:10 o'clock this morning in the hotel and rapidly spread to adjoining establishments. Other buildings destroyed or gutted were the Pearl Laundry, the plant of Clyde W. Saunders, printers, the Savings Bank of Richmond, Branch, Cabell and Company, and E. R. Lafferty and Company, and the Co-operative Producers' Exchange. Twenty-two patients are at one hospital, the Virginia, three are at the Memorial, two at the Johnston-Willis, and one at the Grace hospital.

Seventy-two guests were registered at the hotel. Smoke from the stairs of the basement gave the first warning of the fire to T. D. Frey, night clerk, who sounded an alarm. Summoning the fire apparatus, he returned to the hotel and aroused many guests.

Improvements were being made in the building. The telephone switchboard had been disconnected to permit new installations and the elevator had not been operated in several weeks. There was no opportunity to warn those occupying the rooms on the upper floors.

Fanned by a draught in the temporarily abandoned elevator shaft, the fire leaped toward the roof. In a moment the five avenues of escape—a front, center and rear staircase and two fire escapes at front and rear—were cut off. Guests rushed from their rooms to find the dimly-lighted hallways and corridors filled with smoke. The stairs were pits of flame, roaring upward through the semi-darkness.

A few found time to seize blankets and other wraps, but the majority were clad only in their night clothing. The windows of the hotel were filled with frenzied guests climbing outward on the sills to escape the creep of the flames and crying for help.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 8.—The scratching of their pet Maltese cat on the bath room door doubtless saved the lives of Mrs. Laura Green Daniels and her daughter, Miss Drusilla Daniels, both hailing from Raleigh, N. C., when they were trapped on the fourth floor of the Lexington Hotel in the fire which gutted that establishment early yesterday. But for the timely warning which enabled them to make their exit without serious mishap they were of the opinion today that they would have been burned to death.

E. M. Carter, of Raleigh reported as among the missing turned up safe today, the police reported. Police said tonight that the number of persons unaccounted for had been reduced to thirteen.

It was said at Memorial Hospital tonight that Jos. Overton, of Nashville, N. C., reported to be suffering from a probable fracture of both legs, had in reality only a fracture of one knee cap. Both knees, however, were severely bruised and lacerated. J. B. Rogerson, of Vaughn, N. C., received emergency treatment at Virginia Hospital for a slight injury to his hip. Charles Goodman, formerly of Greensboro, suffered a laceration of one hand in going down a rope from a window. He was also treated at Virginia Hospital.

Last Lyceum Attraction.

Next Wednesday evening at eight o'clock at the opera house, the last Lyceum attraction of the season, will be presented by "The Artists Trio." Three young ladies will give the entertainment which will consist of music, vocal and instrumental, readings and other features calculated to make the time pass swiftly and pleasantly.

FARM BLOC WINS OUT IN SENATE

House Cooperative Marketing Bill Passes by a Vote Of 58 to 1

Washington, Feb. 8.—The House co-operative marketing bill, a measure designed to aid the agricultural interests and pressed by the farm bloc, was passed by the Senate late today. Only one vote, that of Senator Gerry, Democrat, of Rhode Island, was cast against the measure.

Two other Senators, Brandegee, Rep. of Connecticut, and King, Democrat, of Utah, were paired against the measure and withheld their votes. The vote was 58 to one and the Senate's action was regarded by some as the most sweeping of the victories yet attained by the farm bloc, since in accepting the House bill, the Senate overrode its own judiciary committee which had reported a substitute measure. The substitute was defeated 56 to four. The bill now goes to conference for adjustment of differences with the House.

As passed by the Senate, the bill retains the provisions, which relieve the co-operative associations from the application of laws prohibiting trusts or unfair business practices, placing the authority to determine when such acts have been committed with the Secretary of Agriculture. The Senate substitute would have made the associations amenable to the present laws and it was around this point that debate revolved in the week the subject was before the Senate.

During the closing hours of debate today, reference was made to the bloc's power. This brought from Senator Norris, Republican, of Nebraska, the statement that he had heard the bill had administration support.

"It is the first time in many months that the majority has come over to my side," he added. "It happens so almost seldom that I feel I must make note of it. Maybe the administration is behind this bill. If that is so, then I am glad they have come over into the same wagon with me. Whether they come because of me or in spite of me, I do not know, but I welcome them here."

The most important of the amendments accepted by the Senate was one providing "that the associations shall not deal in products of non-members to an amount greater in value than such as are handled by it for members."

This, it was explained, makes it impossible for co-operative associations to be "stolen" by a group of individuals who merely by declining to admit new members resolve themselves into a closed corporation. Without the amendment, the group would be able, according to Senators, to engage in competitive trade, buying other farmers' products to an unlimited extent. The amendment limits any association in the handling of the commodities of non-members so that what was described as a stranglehold of local business could not be obtained.

Other important provisions of the bill prescribe that no member of an association may have more than one vote in directing its activities regardless of the amount of stock he holds, nor can any association pay dividends on stock or membership capital in excess of 8 per cent a year.

With respect to the authority granted the Secretary of Agriculture to control attempts to monopolize or restrain trade, the bill provides that notice of charges of alleged violations must be served on the offending association and it must be given an opportunity to defend itself. If found guilty of the charges, the Secretary of Agriculture may order the association to "cease and desist" and in event of its failure to do so, the case then may be referred to the Federal Courts for enforcement of the order and the filing of such decrees as the courts deem equitable.—News and Observer.

Presbyterian Church.

There will be regular preaching services at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday school will be held at 10 a. m. The public is cordially invited to all of these services.

SMITHFIELD WINS THREE BASKETBALL GAMES WED.

Defeat Clayton High and Clayton Scrubs 45-13 and 39-20 Score; Girls Defeat Brogden.

Wednesday was Basketball Day in Smithfield. In the afternoon the Girls team of the Smithfield High School defeated the Brogden team by a 22-16 score. This is the first time Brogden has been defeated this year. The victory was caused by the good goal shooting of Sarah Patterson and the good guarding of Leone Sanders.

A double-header was staged Wednesday night. The Smithfield High smothered the Clayton High by a 45-13 score. The game was slow and uninteresting on account of the Clayton team being outclassed. Ellington, E. Caudill, Stephenson and Godwin all scored over ten points each. The Scrubs defeated the Clayton Scrubs by a 39-20 score. The star of the game was C. Stephenson who scored 16 points.

On account of lack of space a fuller account of the games cannot be given. Watch THE HERALD for future games.

SUPT. HIPPS ATTENDS SUPERINTENDENTS MEETING

Supt. W. H. Hipps has been called by the State Superintendent, Dr. E. C. Brooks, to go to Greensboro on Friday of this week to serve with a committee composed of six city superintendents and six county superintendents in formulating rules for governing the charging of tuition of children living near the city schools of the State and who can more conveniently attend the city schools than the rural schools. The committee will report the result of their deliberations to the State Board of Education immediately after the conference ends, and the rules adopted by the State Board will have the force of law for all the city schools of the State.

Supt. Hipps, Supt. T. R. Foust of Guilford County and Supt. Frank A. Edmundson, of Avery county acted in a similar capacity for the State Board of Education last year.

Two Stills From Near County Home.

On Monday afternoon February 6, Messrs J. J. Batten, of Smithfield and R. L. Flowers, of Benson captured two whiskey stills near the county home, a few miles west of here. One of them was found north of the Hunter road and the other was south of it. They were 60 and 65-gallon capacity. Three hundred gallons of beer or about enough for two charges for each still was destroyed. One of the stills was set up ready to run and the other had been torn down ready to move to another place.

MORRISON IN SOCIAL LIFE IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Governor Morrison is in the big social swim here, and has become a favorite. He was at the southern ball at the New Willard last night, and will attend the White House reception Thursday evening. The Angus Wilton McLeans are introducing him.—H. E. C. Bryant in Charlotte Observer.

Recorders Court.

The docket of the Recorders Court this week was small. The cases mentioned below were tried on Tuesday: State against T. C. King, charged with violation of the automobile law. Plead guilty and the case was continued for judgment to March 21st.

State against William E. Stanley, Jesse Perry and Cleveland Perry, larceny of an automobile. Nol pros as to William E. Stanley. Elias warrant for Cleveland Perry. Jesse Perry probably guilty and bound over to Superior court to be tried in March.

A True Saying.

A community is not rich because it contains a few rich men, it is not healthy because it contains a few strong men, it is not intelligent because it contains a few men of learning, nor is it of good morals because it contains good women—if the rest of the population also be not well-to-do or healthful, or intelligent, or of good morals.—Walter H. Page.

NORTH CAROLINA IS FORTY-SECOND

Scotland is Richest and the Most Illiterate County In the State

Edgecombe and Scotland, the latter the richest in per capita wealth, are the most illiterate counties in North Carolina, according to the census figures on illiteracy made public here yesterday. Wilson is the most illiterate city of 10,000 population or over in the State, and Greensboro is the best educated, according to the report.

To the question "Can you read and write?" propounded to every man, woman and child above the age of 10 years in the State, 241,603 answered "No" to the census taker last year. The percentage of illiteracy for the entire State black and white, is 13.1 per cent as against 18.5 per cent in 1910. Of the illiterates 204,492 are of voting age.

From county to county the figures fluctuate compared with the figures of a decade ago. In Dare county the percentage of illiterates has increased. In many other counties the number has declined sharply. Buncombe has the smallest percentage in the State, and the county of Tyrrell the fewest people who can neither read nor write.

The figures ought to be multiplied by three, according to Miss Elizabeth Kelly, State Director of Schools for Adult Illiterates. When subjected to the test for actual knowledge of reading and writing, three quarters of a million men, women and children above the ages of 10 years would be unable to meet the requirements, she declares.

North Carolina, despite its strides in education during the past 10 years, remains 42nd State in the Union in point of illiteracy. Since Governor Aycock used to thank heaven for South Carolina, the State has pulled itself up from 48th place in the roster, and now the States of Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, South Carolina, Louisiana, New Mexico and Arizona stand between it and the bottom. Reduction in the percentages of all States have been on about an even average for ten years. Iowa leads the column with 1.1 per cent of its 2,404,000 population illiterate.

The number of illiterates above the age of ten years in the State's towns above 10,000 population follows: Asheville, 1,285; Charlotte, 3,172; Wilmington, 2,374; Winston-Salem, 4,308; Durham, 2,104; Gastonia, 1,271; Goldsboro, 878; Greensboro, 731; High Point, 611; New Bern, 1,274; Raleigh, 1,785; Rocky Mount, 1,017; Salisbury, 854; Wilson, 1,241.—News and Observer.

HOPEWELL VOTES SPECIAL TAX TO ENLARGE SCHOOL

The Hopewell school district in Smithfield Township voted last Tuesday February 7th, a special school tax of 30 cents on the one hundred dollars worth of property. There were 78 registered voters, 43 votes were cast for the special tax and 27 against it. W. E. Parker served as registrar. J. O. Stephenson and Herman Johnston served as poll holders.

There are 175 children in this district, with an average daily attendance of approximately 125. It is proposed to add two additional rooms to the school building. There are three teachers at present teaching in this school. This school district is situated in one of the most prosperous communities of the county, and it is believed that better school facilities will be provided on account of the people voting an additional tax.

Japan Gave Up Much.

We doubt if any nation, not defeated in war, has ever made such a renunciation of its national ambitions as Japan has made in Washington. And having made up its mind to do it, Japan has done it with as much cheerfulness as though it were actually scoring successes. The only thing remotely comparable with the course of Japan would be our abandonment of the Monroe Doctrine in order to improve our relations with Europe, and that would be less of a sacrifice than Japan feels that it is making.—Philadelphia Record.