

# The Smithfield Herald

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## MR. L. G. STEVENS CHOSEN AS MAYOR

### Commissioners Select Successor to Mr. Chas. A. Creech, Resigned

At a call session of the town board of commissioners Tuesday, Mr. Leon G. Stevens was chosen as Mayor to fill out the unexpired term of Mr. Charles A. Creech, resigned. Mr. Creech was elected mayor last May by a good big majority and has performed the duties of his office well. Since his election, however, he has been made district agent for the Insurance Company which he represents, which position requires him to be out of town frequently. In view of this fact he tendered his resignation.

The Commissioners are fortunate in their selection of Mr. Stevens to succeed Mr. Creech. Mr. Stevens is the son of Judge W. S. Stevens and a law partner with Mr. Harry P. Johnson. He is a young man of fine judgment and business ability and will undoubtedly make Smithfield a good mayor.

## MAN WITH MANY WIVES WANTS TO BE A PREACHER

### Will Become An Evangelist When He Completes Sentence—Marries 13 Wives In Ten Years.

INDIANAPOLIS, Mar. 15.—Isaiah Moore, indicted by the grand jury here on a charge of bigamy, grand larceny and embezzlement, wishes to become an evangelist when he has completed his term in prison, if he is convicted, he said. Moore is said to have confessed to having 13 wives.

"I have always wished to enter the ministry and when I am released from prison I hope to become an evangelist," Moore said shortly before he was indicted by the grand jury.

In an interview Moore said that he believed that several bogus checks which he had signed were being held in David City, Nebraska, Fayetteville, N. C., and Wilson, N. C. How many others are out, which he said were fraudulent, he said he did not know.

An automobile which he said he had used in courting Miss Amelia Cofal, of Becker, Minn., whom he was to have married yesterday, is in pawn at St. Paul, he said. Diamonds and other jewelry, he said, had also been pawned in that city.

The grand jury indicted Moore on the evidence presented by Miss Harriet Evans, of Mexico, Ind., school teacher and one of Moore's many wives.

Two more wives were added today to the list of matrimonial ventures of Moore.

"I have kept a pretty good record of my marriages and I am sure there are only thirteen," said Moore.

Moore told the police in the original list of eleven marriages he had neglected to include one at Denver, Colo., where he said he was married under the name of James Vaughan, and also one at Ridgeway, Maryland, where he gave the name of Harry Forbes. He said he could not remember the names of either of the wives.

"I have always been subject to severe nervous disorders. Petting and affection have caused my nervousness. I would get tired of one woman and would desert her. Then I would feel the need of affection and would get married again," Moore said.

Moore is said to have married all of his thirteen wives in the last ten years. He lived with his first wife but a year after their marriage, he said.

## Open Air Theatre.

North Carolina College at Greensboro is planning for the construction of an open-air theatre in Peabody Park. The site which has been selected has a pond in front of the natural stage which forms an excellent sounding board. A triple row or hedge will be planted behind the stage in such a manner as to form a back entrance. Special arrangements are being made for seating the audience. A number of the commencement exercises each year are held out of doors and the new arrangements will be welcomed.

## TO TEST VALIDITY OF LOAN FUND BONDS

### Agreed Case Is Submitted To Judge W. A. Devin in Court At Raleigh.

Facts in an agreed case to test the validity of the act passed by the General Assembly in 1921 providing for a \$5,000,000 loan fund for school house construction were submitted to Judge W. A. Devin by Attorney General Manning yesterday. The case will be given precedence through the lower court, and in the Supreme Court in order to expedite judicial action.

Question of the legality of the act under which the bonds were authorized was raised by the prospective purchaser, the Fidelity and Guarantee Trust Company, of New York. The sale of bonds had already been negotiated by State Treasurer Lacy when the trust company held up the matter with the insistence that the courts determine the validity of the act.

Under the terms of the act, the State was empowered to borrow five million dollars and lend it to counties or school districts for school house construction to be repaid to the State in 20 annual payments, with interest at 5 per cent. The bonds were to be retired in like manner. Application was received for more than the full amount of the issue, and the State Board of Education ordered the bonds sold in December.

Question arises against the bonds on account of the fact that the Supreme court has held that a school house is not a necessary public expense, and that taxes cannot be levied without a direct vote of the people concerned. The act provides that the money borrowed from the fund shall constitute a lien on the public school fund of the county or school district borrowing, and that sufficient tax shall be levied to guarantee payments.

Scores of school houses have been built, or partially built, throughout the State in anticipation of the sale of the bonds, and the time when the loan fund would become available. Supt. E. C. Brooks some time ago notified county authorities to hold up on construction until the courts settled the matter.—News and Observer, March 15th.

## GROWERS HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE TO SIGN UP

### Tobacco Association Re-opens Campaign in N. C.—To Add 75,000,000 Pounds.

North Carolina tobacco growers are to have one more chance to sign up for co-operative marketing, according to an announcement from Raleigh headquarters of the Tobacco Growers Co-operative Association. The campaign for signers reopened this week in North Carolina with the state divided into five sign-up districts in charge of experienced campaigners.

The association now has a combined membership of more than 65,000 growers and many of these have volunteered to assist in the final effort to add 75,000,000 pounds of tobacco to the total signed up in North Carolina.

Reports showing how the Kentucky burley growers have solved all their problems and made large sales at satisfactory prices, have stimulated interest in co-operative marketing in North Carolina, and several counties which were not active in the past are now anxious to "sign up for prosperity."

This sign-up district is in charge of A. O. Alford and includes the following counties: Sampson, Moore, Lee, Hoke, Robeson, Harnett, Bladen, Columbus, Brunswick, Pender, Duplin, Johnston and Onslow.

## Mrs. Steidley's Meeting.

Attendance is increasing at all hours of worship. Interest is also increasing, quite a number of professions of faith having been made already.

Three services a day will continue until next Tuesday evening. Mrs. Steidley will speak at all hours of worship on Sunday. At 3:30 Sunday afternoon, the services will be for women only. All girls over fourteen can attend.

Mrs. Nathan Strickland, of Rocky Mount has been spending several days in the city with Mrs. W. S. Stevens.

## SELMA WANTS A NEW R. R. STATION

### The Citizens Petition The Corporation Commission For Some Relief

The town of Selma petitioned the Corporation Commission yesterday to direct the Southern Railway and the Atlantic Coast Line Railway to tear away the old passenger station and build a new one in keeping with the growth of the town and increased traffic at the important junction point. The railroad demurred on the plea of poverty, but it is likely that the Commission will order a new station.

With a total of 18 passenger trains per day, and a transfer traffic heavier than many very much larger towns in the State, the petitioner claimed that the present old wooden depot is entirely inadequate for the traffic. In the white waiting room of the station there are seats for only 13 people, when it often happens that several hundred passengers are waiting there for trains.

Practically all of the travel between Western and Central North Carolina, and the Southeastern and Northeastern sections of the State changes from the Southern to the Coast Line at Selma, it was pointed out. At most seasons of the year traffic is heavy, and at no time are the accommodations of the station adequate to meet the demands.

Complaint was also made of the sanitary conditions of the station. The railroads have recently started to install water and sewerage in the building, but this step was opposed by the Selma delegation yesterday on the ground that if that were allowed, the railroads would claim that enough had been done. General Superintendent W. H. Newell, of the Coast Line, offered to install one more seat in the station, if the community were superstitious about the number 13.

Selma was not to be put off, and insisted on its demand for a brand new station, which they are likely to get as soon as the Commission can find the railroads with the \$31,000 needed to build it. Selma was represented by Mayor C. A. Corbett, C. P. Harper, W. L. Gordon, and Dr. I. W. Mayerburg. The Coast Line was represented by T. W. Davis, assistant general counsel and Mr. Newell.—News and Observer.

## FINDS \$75,000 WORTH OF BONDS IN COAL BIN

### Station Agent in Virginia Has Been Burning Costly Fuel Lately.

WINCHESTER, Va. Mar. 15.—The corner of a Liberty bond protruding from the door of the stove in which he was shovelling coal led to the discovery by R. A. Mitchell, railroad agent at Waterlick, of about \$75,000 in bonds, concealed in the station coal bin. Some of the bonds were registered in the name of officials of the Grottoes, Va., state bank and part at least of the cache was believed to represent loot secured from that institution when it was burglarized June 30, 1921.

Two-thirds of the bonds recovered were registered, the remainder being railroad and industrial issues. Mitchell said he had been scooping up "papers" with the coal for several days and he was speculating today as to what may have been the intrinsic cost of the station fire during the recent coal spell.—News and Observer.

## To Attempt Circle of Earth in A Sailboat, 46 Feet Long

An attempt to circle the earth in a sailboat, 46 feet long and of 12 tons displacement, will be made by four Austrian sportsmen. The first leg of the journey will be by way of Gibraltar to New York.—Dearborn Independent.

## He Landed the Job.

A manly boy of 15 entered the office of a New York merchant and asked for employment. He gave satisfactory answers to a few questions, and then the merchant inquired, "What is your motto?" "Same as yours," the boy replied; "just what you have on your door—Push." He got the job.

## NEW DRUG FIRM GIVEN A CHARTER

### Clement Byrd President Of Company;—Bragsdon Johnson, Sec. & Treas.

With an authorized capital stock of \$100,000, the Byrd Laboratories, Inc., was recently chartered by the secretary of State. Mr. Clement Byrd, of Greensboro, formerly of the Byrd Drug Co., of this city, was chosen president of the corporation at a meeting of the directors held recently, and Mr. Bragsdon Johnson was elected secretary and treasurer. Mr. John B. Johnson, of Dunn, was made vice-president. Mr. B. Johnson who has been with the Davis Stores since his discharge from the army after the war, has resigned his position here and will go to Greensboro to assume his new duties about April 1.

The company will market Byrd's headache remedy and other patent and proprietary medicines. It has opened offices at 350 South Elm St., in Greensboro.

Mr. Byrd, the president of the concern, has been devoting his time to the sale of his headache remedy since severing his connection with the Byrd Drug Co., several months ago, and the success of his efforts has warranted the organization just effected.

## CRIMINAL COURT PROCEEDINGS

### Many Cases Disposed of; Murder Case, State Vs. Satterfield Begun Yesterday Afternoon.

Criminal court has been going on in Smithfield since last Monday morning, Judge Thomas H. Calvert presiding. The cases which have been disposed of are as follows:

State vs. Jerry Stencil and G. C. Watson. They were tried by Judge E. H. Cramer and sentenced to 12 months on the roads but took an appeal to the Supreme Court which found no flaw in the case. They were resentenced by Judge Calvert.

William Stencil, assault and trespass. Fine, twenty dollars and cost. Willis Benson, John Benson and Alridge Benson plead guilty of assault with deadly weapons and were fined twenty-five dollars each and costs. The total cost is between four hundred and five hundred dollars.

Larry Aycock charged with the murder of Boss Pierce, adjudged not competent to make a defense.

Joe Eason, colored, larceny and receiving stolen goods, four months on the roads.

W. E. Wallace violation of the school law, fined one dollar and cost. David McLamb, assault. Judgment suspended on payment of cost.

Sid Holder, larceny and receiving stolen goods, eighteen months in the State Prison.

Henry Jernigan, larceny of an automobile, sentence not less than fifteen months and not more than thirty months in the State Prison.

Robert Hines, larceny and receiving stolen goods, two years on the roads.

E. H. Jackson, larceny and receiving stolen goods, two years in the State Prison.

Paul Jones and Fred Atkinson larceny and receiving stolen goods. Paul Jones 12 months on the roads, Fred Atkinson 16 months on the roads.

Lester White, retailing liquor, guilty but not yet sentenced.

James Coats, R. A. Beasley and D. E. Coats, charged with having on hand too much booze. The last two not guilty. James Coats found guilty but not yet sentenced.

At two o'clock yesterday the court began with the case of K. J. Satterfield, of Cleveland township, charged with killing Richard Starling with a jug a few months ago.

## GERMANY'S FLOATING DEBT IS 277,320,000,000 MARKS

BERLIN, March 14.—It was announced today that the floating debt of Germany on February 28 was 277,320,000,000 marks.

The total debt of Germany on Feb. 10th, amounted to 259,127,311,000 marks, which represented an increase of about 3,500,000,000 marks since February 1.

## MORE THAN TWENTY DEAD AS RESULT OF STORMS

### Scores Injured; Damage to Property Reported Heavy; Storms Swept Part of Four States.

NEW ORLEANS, March 14.—At least twenty-three persons were killed and many others were seriously injured as a result of a series of storms, at places reaching proportions of tornadoes, which visited isolated sections of Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas and Oklahoma last night and early today.

The heaviest loss of life reported was at Gowan, Oklahoma, a village 15 miles east of McAlester, where 12 persons were killed when a tornado swept through the foreign section of the village last night. Many others were slightly injured.

Six negroes were killed when the storm passed through the north-eastern section of Jefferson county and the southeast section of Lonoke County, Arkansas, early today. The storm in this section left a trail of wrecked buildings for 20 miles. Several were slightly injured here. Nineteen others were seriously injured and scores suffered slight injuries. Property damage there is estimated at \$100,000. Fifty buildings were completely demolished and 200 people left homeless.

Eight homes were demolished at Sunrise, a village two miles north of Baton Rouge, La., and a negro woman and her child were killed. Four others were slightly injured there early today.

Twenty-five persons were injured, a number seriously, when the storm struck Corinth, Miss., today. More than 150 homes were levelled. The storm swept a path more than 100 feet wide, razing every building in its path. Reports from outlying districts tell of considerably property damage. A school building in which were 1,000 children barely escaped the path of the storm.

An aged negro was killed and several slightly injured and a score of houses were destroyed at Arkansas City, Ark., early today.

Only meagre details are available from the sections visited by the storm on account of the damage to wire communication and it is feared the death total will be greatly increased when complete returns are available. Little efforts have been made to estimate the property damage, in addition to destroyed homes and other buildings, includes damage to crops and destruction of livestock. Rivers and small streams in practically all the sections visited by the storm, which was accompanied by heavy rains, are swollen and some apprehension is felt on this score.

The storm was accompanied by the usual freaks, the most outstanding of which as reported from Kennet, Ark., where a twelve-day old infant was blown from a bed on which it was lying across the yard where its clothing held it suspended to a picket fence until the storm abated. The baby's parents were seriously injured.—News and Observer.

## PROPOSED TO BUY NEW FAIR GROUND

### Directors Offer To Purchase Two Hundred Acres of State Prison Farm.

Proposal for the purchase of two hundred acres of ground from the State Prison farm was presented to the directors of the Prison at its monthly meeting here yesterday by Colonel Albert L. Cox, representing the directors of the State Fair Association. A full membership of the Prison Board was in attendance and no action was taken.

Removal of the State Fair grounds from the present cramped quarters to a new location a mile further out on the Hillsboro road is under contemplation by the directors of the Fair Association. No definite plans have been announced. The matter of purchase of land will be again presented to the Prison Board at its next monthly meeting in April.

Colonel Cox presented the matter in some detail yesterday, and it is regarded probable that if the Association determines upon a new location for the Fair, no difficulty will be encountered in obtaining a site. Only routine business was transacted by the Prison Board yesterday.—News and Observer.

## POU TO OPEN DEM. STATE CONVENT'N

### Will Deliver Keynote Address; Well Equipped for This High Honor

WASHINGTON, March 13.—Congressman Edward W. Pou, of the Fourth North Carolina District, is to be the temporary chairman of the North Carolina State Democratic convention when it convenes in Raleigh on April 20, and occupying that position will deliver the key note address of the 1922 campaign. The position of high honor has been tendered to him by Democratic State Chairman, J. D. Norwood, of Salisbury, and Congressman Pou has accepted.

In point of service Congressman Pou and Congressman Claude Kitchin, who unfortunately has not yet recovered in full his usual vigorous health, are the ranking members of the North Carolina delegation in the House of Representatives. Of all the men who came to Congress in

## EDWARD W. POU



both the House and Senate from the result of the 1900 election, there are only in service Senator Simmons, Congressman Kitchin and Congressman Pou.

Congressman Pou comes to the position of temporary chairman of the Democratic State Convention of North Carolina equipped and qualified to deliver the keynote address. During the period of the World War under the administration of President Woodrow Wilson, Mr. Pou was the chairman of the great committee on rules of the House, formulating and reporting out the rules under which most of President Wilson's great nights in the House were conducted.

It is the testimony of men who were associated with him at that period of his career that there was no member of the House who possessed in a greater degree the confidence, respect and affection of President Wilson than did Congressman Pou. President Wilson found that he could always depend on the member from the Fourth North Carolina district, and Mr. Pou's wide popularity with his colleagues, plus his fine legislative ability and generalship, made him an invaluable and most powerful aid to President Wilson during the stormy war years of that notable administration. When other men fell away from support of President Wilson Mr. Pou was one of those who stuck the closer to him.

In this connection there comes from sources which are most reliable that one of those rare times when President Wilson showed deep emotion was when he read the magnificent defense which Congressman Pou had made of his friend on the floor of the House in his able and notable speech on the subject of the Republican conspiracy against the President. And it is said by those in touch with the events of those days that Mr. Wilson held Congressman Pou in the warmest regard and had reason to do so.—Edward E. Britton, in News and Observer.

Dr. R. S. Stevens, of Princeton, was in the city Tuesday.