

## COMMISSIONERS AS EQUALIZATION BO'RD

### Board Kept Busy Practically All Day Reducing Taxes Of Applicants

Yesterday a goodly number from different parts of the county were here to meet the County Commissioners who sat as a board of equalization the purpose of which are set forth in section 26 of the Machinery Act which reads as follows:

Section 26. The board of county commissioners shall constitute the board of equalization in each county, and shall meet the second Monday in July in each year. Said board shall equalize the valuation so that each tract or lot of land or article of personal property shall be entered on the tax list at its true value in money and for this purpose they shall observe the following rules: (1) They shall raise the valuation of such tracts or lots of real or articles of personal property, including stocks, bonds, and shares in all incorporated companies, except such as are specifically exempt by law, as in their opinion have been returned below their true value, to such price or sum as they may believe to be the true value thereof; (2) They shall reduce the valuation of such tracts and lots or articles of personal property as in their opinion have been returned above their true value, as compared with the average valuation of real and personal property, including stocks, bonds and shares of all incorporated companies of such county. In regard to real property, they shall have due regard to the relative situation, quality of soil improvements, natural and artificial advantages possessed by each tract or lot. The clerk of said board of county commissioners shall be the clerk of the board of equalization, and shall within five days after adjournment of said board furnish the State Tax Commission with a copy of all proceedings of the county board of equalization with respect to any and all changes made by such board of valuations made and returned by the township list takers and assessors. The clerk of the board shall also furnish the State Tax Commission, within five days after adjournment of the county board of equalization, on blanks to be furnished by the commission, statement from the returns made by the township list takers and assessors of aggregate value of real and personal property by townships and as a whole for the county and average value per unit of land acreage and of the several classes of live stock.

The board was in session practically all day and reduced the taxes of quite a number of applicants.

### Liberty Bell May Go West.

PHILADELPHIA, July 6.—The monster petition signed by school children in the middle West requesting that the Liberty Bell be sent to Chicago for the pageant of progress arrived here today in the care of a committee, including three schoolboys who acted as a guard of honor. The petition will be presented to city council.

Some patriotic societies are on record as opposed to the famous relic being taken from the city, but it is said city council may grant the request.

### Penniless But Wanting to Wed.

GENEVA, Switzerland, July 7.—Two royal princesses, sisters, aged 23 and 26, desire friendship and eventually marriage after mutual tests with English or American gentlemen, who must be young, wealthy and handsome, especially not "upstarts" or newly rich reads an advertisement in an Innesbrook newspaper.

The princesses who belong to the old royalty are accomplished but very poor. The gentlemen must give references.

It may be recalled that an Austrian archduchess advertised in a similar manner about a year ago and it is believed found a suitable husband.

Miss Hattie McCullers of Burlington spent yesterday in the city with Miss Cora Belle Ives.

## FIGHT POISON FUMES IN A NEW YORK SUBWAY

### One Hundred Overcome But no Fatalities—Fifteen in Hospital—Escape A Miracle

A subway express of the Lexington avenue line was slipping northward yesterday at 11:17 A. M., the first of its string of ten steel cars flashing past the fifty-third street marker, when there came from the motorbox of the fifth, or middle car a sudden, terrifying report. Instantly blinding flame, white, yellow, blue-green, shot out of the vestibule, a noxious odor of burning rubber spread through the car and train and heavy smoke added its oppressiveness to the confined air of the tube.

For a few seconds the train sped onward, then came to a stop with a recoil that threw many persons among the 400 aboard headlong from their seats. All the lights went out except the dim spots at each end of every car, which get their power from storage batteries. There was semi-darkness; startlement quickly succeeded by terror, shouts, shrieks, groans, prayers, the noise of breaking glass—panic!

The voices of men of sense and nerve were heard entreating people to stay where they were, that there had been short circuiting and a blowout, but that it was nothing serious. These voices crying in the darkness through fumes growing harder and harder to endure in that close atmosphere did little good.

The crashing of glass continued as men and women clawed at one another in their furious effort to reach windows and break through them. Presently a string of gasping, coughing people, some holding hands, some running and others walking fearfully because of the remembered third rail, were making their way north and south toward emergency exits rising sheer as cliffs for sixty feet.

Some made the climb alone. Others were helped by sturdier ones from below. In a little while rescuers, firemen, police and volunteers from Bloomingdale's department store came to help out manfully and to make sure that none had been forgotten in the abandoned train through which fumes as bad as poison gas were drifting.

There has scarcely been an occasion of danger in New York so weird as this—hundreds of men and women and some children, too, horribly oppressed by the terror of their surroundings, the depth under ground, the darkness, the vile air that was taking their breath away and making them sick at the stomach, the dread of what might come upon them unexpectedly. For ten or fifteen minutes most of the inherited or acquired protective assurances of civilization fell away from these people, and they struggled desperately to win clean air and sunlight and the sight of other human beings; fought on in stark terror.

In the few minutes that the struggle lasted the wonder is that dozens were not trampled to death in the surge from the poisonous train and in the dim, smoke obscured tube, or that dozens, also, did not come to a shocking death from the menace of the third rail. The firemen and the police, knowing how irrationally human beings behave in the extremity of danger and fright cannot understand how not a single person was killed or even seriously injured by fumes or flight.

But that is the extraordinary fact. Of the 400 persons riding in a compactly filled train at the beginning of the noon rush, less than 100 suffered seriously enough from partial asphyxiation to require medical attention, and of these comparatively few needed hospital care. In fact there were only fifteen in the hospital last night, and none of these was in really a serious condition.—N. Y. Herald, July 7.

### Carrier Pigeon Takes Up

Mr. Joseph E. Creech who lives on Smithfield, Route No. 2, was in town Saturday and told us of a pigeon which he thinks is a carrier pigeon, that came to his house Saturday morning. The bird is quite tame and allowed his children to catch it. A gold band was found on one leg and a silver band on the other.

Miss Lizzie Wellons is spending some time with her sister, Mrs. W. R. Johnson at Rose Hill.

## BUSINESS SHOWS AN UPWARD TREND

### One Sign of Stability Furnished by Firmness Of Commodity Prices

New York, July 9.—While the holidays have served to obscure the trend in business and finance during the last week, the available evidence indicates a continuation of the improvement in general business. The securities markets have continued to show considerable irregularity, but the tendency has been, on the whole, toward higher prices. Call money has been a variable factor and the reserve ratio of the combined federal reserve system has fallen for the second consecutive week. The normally heavy demand for currency in connection with the early July holidays, however, caused the latest decline in the ratio and the real tendency of money rates during the month remains to be disclosed.

No falling off is discernible, meanwhile, in the demand for steel, despite the fact that pig iron output for June set a new high record for the year, a daily average of 78,700 tons comparing with 74,400 tons in May and 53,100 tons in January. Loadings of railroad cars have also risen to a new high record. Thus for the week ending June 24, the total is 878,000 cars, or 17,000 more than in the previous week and 51,000 more than in the week immediately preceding the coal strike, although loadings of coal cars in that week ran 108,000 higher than in the one ending June 24.

Other signs of increasing stability in business are furnished by firmness in the general level of commodity prices and a continuation of the falling off in the volume of business failures. Dun's index of wholesale prices rose 2.2 per cent during June, with all seven groups of constituent commodities participating in the advance. Commercial failures as reported by the same agency declined to 1,740, which is 220 less than in any month of the year. Liabilities involved fell off in similar measure. These facts illustrated apparently the growing safety of doing business and explain the increase in confidence lately apparent.

Although existing strikes continue to supply an element of uncertainty most quarters consider that the events of the week have justified optimistic views as to the effect of the rail walk-out. The textile strike is dragging on with mixed results so far as one side or the other is concerned, but the suspension of coal mining is regarded as the most important of the country's industrial disputes. It is too early to estimate the probable success of the negotiations now going on at Washington to end the strike, but nothing has transpired so far which is interpreted as being prejudicial to a settlement. Crop news is little changed. Wheat prices after a tentative rally, softened under the influence of fair weather reports. Cotton, on the other hand, rallied sharply on the government's crop estimate which placed the condition as of June 25 at 72.1 and the probable yield at slightly more than 11,000,000 bales. Such a crop will be approximately one million bales short of last year's taking and will be added, furthermore, to a substantial carry-over. With the possible damage by the boll weevil still to be developed, the trade expects prices to remain reasonably firm. Monday's sharp rally called for the profit taking, but most of the gain was retained during subsequent trading.

Foreign developments were not as favorable as those in the domestic field, the German mark breaking sharply to a new low price and the French, Belgian and Italian currencies showing sympathetic weakness. The political situation in Germany was generally considered to be responsible for the declines.—Associated Press.

### ADD BASEBALL COLUMN O WENDELL LOSES TO BENSON

Benson avenged the defeat handed them by Wendell at Wendell Thursday by defeating them 5 to 1 at Benson Friday afternoon. This sends Wendell to the bottom place in the standing of the clubs.

## WEDDING POPULAR YOUNG COUPLE

### Miss Sallie Sanders of Four Oaks Becomes Bride of Mr. F. O. Bowman

Thursday, July 6th, at high noon, in the little church Antioch, nesting in a grove of oak trees six miles southwest of Four Oaks, beautifully decorated with long leaf pine, southern smilax, and blue Hydrangeas gathered from the fields about it, Frederick Oscar Bowman and Sally Sanders were married in the presence of a great company of friends.

The assembled crowd grew quiet as Miss Sadie Puckett, of Smithfield, accompanied Miss Mary Louise Bender, of Jacksonville, who beautifully sang "Believe Me If All Those Endearing Young Charms," and "Oh Promise Me."

Then to the strains of Lohengrin's Bridal Chorus, entered the groomsmen: Mr. Snead Sanders and Mr. Rufus Sanders of Four Oaks, and Mr. Frank Ray and Mr. Arthur Narron, of Smithfield, and took their places about the altar; followed by the bridesmaids: Miss Gladys Sanders of Smithfield and Miss Jessie Eason of Wilson, and Miss Pauline Sanders of Four Oaks and Miss Inez Sanders of Wilson, gowned in light blue organdy with cream lace trimmings and tulle sashes, wearing black lace hats and carrying pink gladioli; followed by the maid of honor, Miss Norma Sanders, sister of the bride, wearing pink organdy with cream lace trimmings, black lace hat, and carrying pink gladioli; followed by the flower girls: Miss Evelyn Gray Sanders, little niece of the bride, and Miss Annie Walker Slaughter of Tarboro, daintily attired in pink organdy, scattering rose petals, followed by the ring bearer: Master Kenneth Sanders, nephew of the bride, in a white linen suit, carrying the ring on a silver tray.

The bride, beautiful in navy blue poiret twill with gray accessories, carrying a bouquet of bride's roses showered with valley lillies, entered on the arm of her brother: J. Marvin Sanders, who gave her in marriage, and was met at the altar by the groom with his best man: J. O. Bowman, brother, of Clinton. They were married by Rev. E. B. Slaughter, pastor of St. James Methodist church, Tarboro, using the ring ceremony, while Miss Sadie Puckett softly and beautifully rendered MacDowell's "To a Wild Rose." Mendelssohn's wedding march was used as a recessional.

The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Annie B. Sanders, of Four Oaks, and the late John Sanders, and granddaughter of the late Thomas D. Snead. She was a student at Burlington Graded School, Smithfield, a Graduate of the Greenville Training School, a student at the North Carolina College for Women. She taught for a year in the schools of Cranberry N. C., and for the past year and a half she has been living in Tarboro. Of refined presence and wonderful personal charm, she has been loved as the favorite of the community which quit its work to gather about her on her wedding day and send her on with deeply felt evidences of its affection for her.

The groom was born in Bakersville, N. C., and prepared for college at Eowman's Academy. He graduated from Berea College in Kentucky, in 1914, was Superintendent of Schools at Cranberry, N. C., until he entered the army in 1917. On being discharged from the army he entered the Law School of the University of North Carolina in 1919 and received the degree of L. L. B. in June 1920. Since graduation he has been employed as General Attorney for the North Carolina Pharmaceutical Association with headquarters at Chapel Hill, and is well known by the druggists of the state for his splendid work in their behalf.

Immediately after the ceremony the bride and groom left on a wedding tour which will include Asheville, and points in Kentucky, including the High Bridge and the Mammoth Cave. They will be at home in Chapel Hill, after August 1st.

Enjoyable pre-nuptial entertainments for the bridal party included a gypsy tea at Holt's Lake on the evening of July 4th, and an informal reception on Wednesday evening,

## WOMAN, BABE IN ARM, BATTLES BLACKSNAKE

### Kills Six-Foot Reptile With a Hoe as It Springs Toward Her.

WINCHESTER, Va., July 6.—Holding her baby under her arm with one hand and a hoe in the other, Mrs. J. F. Allen, of Greenspring, battled desperately last evening with a ferocious blacksnake until she hacked it in two. Mrs. Allen was sitting at one end of the porch rocking her baby, with other children playing around her cradle. One of the saw the snake poke its head above the other end of the porch floor and then crawl and coil itself around a corner post, at the same time lashing the balustrade with its tail as if angered.

As the children ran into the house and shut the door, Mrs. Allen jumped from the porch, with her baby under one arm, and seizing the garden hoe nearby, struck at the serpent. The first blow missed and the snake sprang toward her. As it did so Mrs. Allen dealt it several blows, finally cutting the snake in two. Each half squirmed and flopped about like a beheaded chicken, but became apparently lifeless, except at intervals until sundown. The two pieces of the snake were laid together and measured 6 feet 9 inches.

The blacksnake has no poison fangs, but is not slow to bite. However, its usual method of attack is to coil itself about a person so tightly as to cause serious injury, if not death, by squeezing. The severity of the lashing it is capable of with its tail is said to be equal to that administered with a cowhide or horse-whip.—Washington Post.

### Give Mother a Vacation.

A paper of our state recently carried an editorial on the subject of "giving mother a vacation," pointing out the fact that many mothers have not had vacations for years while

daughters go to school or teach in the winter months and frolic in the summer. If those girls would be more thoughtful of their mother's comfort and take the brunt of the work for a while in order that she might rest and visit friends, it would be a great thing for the mothers of our country. Just because our mothers have worked and slaved for us for years uncomplainingly is no reason why they should continue to do so until the end of the chapter. Housework is irksome in the hot weather, with canning, cooking, ironing and all sorts of hot jobs. Let mother go to the "swimming hole," or pool. Fix the old folks a nice picnic lunch and send them to the woods for an outing. It will prolong their lives and add many happy thoughts to their sunset of their lives. Then in truth will the poem come true

"Grow old along with me, the best is yet to be  
The last of life, for which the first was made."

—Asheboro Courier.

### Eleven Sentenced to Die.

MOSCOW, July 6.—(By Associated Press.)—Eleven persons, including the Petrograd Metropolitan, Benjamin, have been sentenced to death by the Petrograd revolutionary tribunal, for interfering with seizure of church treasures. Fifty-three others have been sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. Twenty-two were acquitted.

July 5th, at the home of the bride. Mr. Rufus Sanders and Miss Mary Louise Bender presided over the punch bowl, and cream and cake were served by Miss Jessie Eason, of Wilson, Miss Pauline Sanders of Four Oaks, and Miss Sadie Puckett, of Smithfield.

Out-of-town guests included: Mrs. G. P. Hood, Elizabeth City; Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Bowman, Clinton; Rev. and Mrs. B. B. Slaughter and little daughter, Annie Walker, of Tarboro; Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Sanders, Wilson; Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Sanders, Jonesboro; Miss Ballard Bunn, Tarboro; Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Wellons, Mrs. J. W. Wellons, Mrs. Nellie Wellons, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ray, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Narron, and Mr. Albert Coates, of Smithfield.

## ROAD BUILDING CONTRACTS BE LET

### Project Extending From the Wake County Line to Smithfield be Let

With the letting scheduled for July 25th, including 20 projects for a total of 179.65 miles of gravel and hard surfaced roads, at an approximate cost of nearly three million dollars, the North Carolina Highway Commission will have passed the 2,500 mile mark in new construction since Frank Page was made Highway Commissioner by Governor Bickett in 1919.

Contracts to be awarded on that day will bring the "1,000 miles in 1922" program to within less than 100 miles of achievement, and the authorized expenditures for construction to approximately \$15,000,000, as compared with an estimated 18 miles for that mileage when the thousand mile program was adopted in January. Including the July letting, the mileage since January 1 will total 901.10 miles.

Of the total of 2,509.16 miles under construction, under contract or completed during the three year period, 844.79 miles is hard surfaced road, and 1,664.54 miles is of other types. New work let since January 1, 1922, the mileage for hard surface has been 436.31 and for gravel and other types, 464.79. Hard surfaced contracts for letting in August will bring the total mileage for this type beyond 500 miles for the year.

In addition to this mileage, but included in the general total of expenditure and amounting to about one fifth of the total are several hundred bridges ranging from small crossings over ditches to the tremendous undertaking at Williamston costing more than \$400,000, and the Swift Island bridge on the Raleigh-Charlotte road near Albemarle. The Williamston bridge will be opened for traffic with much ceremony on Labor Day.

One of the most important links in the Central Highway will be let this month in Project 236, extending from the Wake county line to Smithfield and with the completion of that work, it will be possible to ride from 30 miles east of Raleigh to Statesville, 165 miles to the west without leaving a paved road. This will be one of the longest stretches of hard surfaced road in the country. The end of next summer will see the completion of the entire Central Highway from Morehead City to Murphy, a distance of 606 miles.

Three links of the north-south National Highway, with a total of 34 miles will also be let including a nine mile section of the road between Raleigh and Wake Forest. Original plans were to connect Raleigh with the Franklin county line beyond Wake Forest in one project, but difficulties over the elimination of grade crossings beyond the Neuse river have held up that end of the work for some time. The new road will be from Raleigh to the Neuse river.—News and Observer, July 9.

### Long Life.

Man may not be able, by taking thought, to add cubits to his height, but, according to a popular lecturer, he can add aeons to his life. "Death is a matter of psychology and mentality," says this exponent of deathless living. All that is needed to insure everlasting life is banishment of the fear and expectation of death. Tell that to the lightning and the reckless driven automobile and heart disease and cholera and bootleg liquor and the gallows!

The thought is evidently intended to be comforting, but it has several disturbing slants. Most of those who reach the allotted limit of life are ready to yield the ghost. Life, when long endured, grows wearisome to the average man. The thought of out-Methusalehing Methusaleh would be unbearable to many who have found that it largely consists of bearing the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune. Perhaps it is well that man can not prolong his life indefinitely.—Washington Post.

Miss Stalma Boyett of Ahsokie is now visiting at the home of Rev. and Mrs. Fred T. Collins.