

# The Smithfield Herald

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## A. M. NOBLE TAKES OFFICE OF JUDGE

### Sketch Of Judge Brook's Record as Judge of the Recorder's Court

Tuesday saw the second judge in the history of the Recorder's court take his place on the bench. Mr. A. M. Noble, chosen in the recent election to succeed Judge F. H. Brooks, took hold of his new position with the manner of a veteran and began the discharge of his duties in a manner indicative that the Democrats have made no mistake in electing him to this place. It is a fact that Judge Noble has had some experience along this line having been Secretary of Native Affairs in American Samoa and Judge of the Court. A part of this duties there was to hold court twice each week. Therefore the successor to Judge Brooks comes well qualified to fill the position.

And it is well that Judge Noble is well equipped to follow Judge Brooks for seldom does a Recorder's Court have a man of the calibre of the retiring Judge to dispense justice as Johnston county has had. A native Virginian, he has come to our town and become one of us, and practically ever since coming to Smithfield he has been in public life.

Judge Brooks came to Smithfield on January 23rd, 1898, as stenographer for the law firm of Simmons, Pou and Ward, Hon. E. W. Pou being in charge of the Smithfield office, Hon. James H. Pou in charge of the New Bern office. Hon. E. W. Pou was at that time Solicitor of this District and naturally Judge Brooks fell into politics, taking a part in the campaign of 1898, though only a boy of twenty.

In the memorable campaign of 1900, known as the White Supremacy Campaign, Judge Brooks took a more active part, and was indicted (along with about forty other Democrats) by the Republicans before the United States Commissioner for intimidating in the election held in August of that year. It was no intimidation of voters, but an everlasting bombasting given the Republicans and their negro cohorts that prompted the prosecution, and the case was dismissed without anyone being bound to the Federal Court. Ever since Judge Brooks has been a militant Democrat, taking an active part in every succeeding campaign, being Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee for four years.

For several years Judge Brooks was County Attorney, and is at present Attorney for the Town of Smithfield.

Judge Brooks studied law under the late Judge W. S. Stevens during the years of 1899 and 1900 with Allen K. Smith, S. S. Holt and W. H. Harrison. Allen Smith and S. S. Holt dropped out after a short time, but Judge Brooks gave up his position in August 1900 and took the double course in law at the University, under the late Judge McRae and Mr. Thomas Ruffin, and secured his license to practice at the February Term 1901 of the Supreme Court. At the request of Hon. E. W. Pou he came back to Smithfield and formed a co-partnership with Mr. Pou under the firm name of Pou and Brooks, which lasted until April, 1911, when Mr. Brooks was appointed Judge of the Recorder's Court.

During the eleven years and eight months of Judge Brooks' service, he has disposed of approximately 3013 criminal cases, imposing sentences to the roads and jail amounting in the aggregate to 3279 months or 273 years, and three months; imposed fines amounting to approximately \$15,000, besides the cases bound to the Superior Court, and cases in which judgment was suspended upon the payment of cost. He has disposed of many civil actions, involving many thousands of dollars.

But not only does Judge Brooks have an enviable political record to his credit, but he has shown his public spirit in other lines.

He made an enviable record during the great World War by his untiring efforts in behalf of every war emergency measure. He was Chairman of the County Council of Defense, County Food Administrator; had charge of organizing the Smithfield Home Guards; took an active part in the Thrift Stamp and Liberty Bond campaign and Red Cross Drives. Since

## "TURLINGTON DAY" WILL BE OBSERVED IN THE SCHOOLS

The committee appointed recently to plan ways and means of raising the funds for erecting a bronze statue of the late Prof. Ira Turlington on the court house square, has decided as the first step towards this end to set apart a day to be observed in the schools of the county, known as "Turlington Day." January 26 has been selected as the day, and the idea is for every school to observe an appropriate program setting forth the life and character of Johnston's leader in education. The committee is at work on program material which will be sent to the teachers in time, and at the same time other plans will be outlined.

In addition to the campaign thru the schools, the newspapers of the county will cooperate in giving publicity to the deserved movement. It takes time to collect the facts which the committee is desirous of giving out to the public, and therefore they have been delayed in giving this matter to the newspapers. However, we have been asked to state that next week will start the ball rolling, and every one interested is requested to lend a helping hand by talking about the movement and by even contributing if they see fit.

Some money is already in hand, and other contributions have been promised. It is desired that every citizen of Johnston County and every school boy and girl have a hand in thus honoring Prof. Turlington. Even though the amount may be small any contribution from one cent up will be appreciated and due record made of the same. It sounds like a big thing when we think of raising \$10,000, but if everybody gives even a little, the sum will be raised quickly. Not only the county will be called upon to help raise the fund but former pupils of Prof. Turlington scattered over the state and out of the state will be given an opportunity to have a part in it. Letters, pledging their co-operation and liberal support in the matter have already been received from old students, some of which will probably be published at a later date, and as the movement gathers momentum it is expected that numbers of others will write expressing their admiration in a substantial way of their teacher and friend. Students of Prof. Turlington in each community are expected to voluntarily help the drive to a successful conclusion. Every one who came under the influence of Prof. Turlington will surely enlist in giving honor to one to whom honor is due.

### War Savings Forms Now Ready

Persons holding War Savings Certificates of the 1918 issue should turn them in to the post office where registered before January 1, 1923. Those wishing to have them paid through the Smithfield office, will, if convenient bring them betwixt 9:00 and 12:00 a. m. and 2:30 and 6:00 p. m. All necessary blanks are in hand. They can be changed into Treasury Certificates or cash will be paid on or about January 1, 1923.—Sarah A. Luceford, P. M.

The close of the war he has conducted the Near East Relief Campaigns in the County for the alleviation of suffering in the Near East.

Judge Brooks is President of the Board of Trustees of Smithfield Graded School District, which position he has held for several years past. During his term of office the District has built a 14 room negro school, second to none in the State, and a handsome white high school building, of twenty rooms, one of the finest school buildings in the state. He has taken an active interest in the school work of the county, having with the late Prof. Ira T. Turlington, prepared the bill creating Smithfield Graded School District, and the bill providing for the erection of the "Turlington Graded School" building.

Judge Brooks is truly a public spirited man and is always ready to take a hand in anything and everything for the uplift of his town and county, and to help his fellow man, and without undeserved flattery, and without reflection on Judge Noble, (as Mr. S. S. Holt stated at a bar meeting on Wednesday of last week, when the bar adopted resolutions of commendation and gratitude for the services of Judge Brooks), he could have been re-nominated and re-elected had he not voluntarily retired from the judgeship.

## TOWN GIVES \$100 NEW BERN RELIEF

### Committee Will Canvass the Town for Contribution Of Clothing, Etc.

Smithfield has a reputation for conducting drives. During the War she always went over the top whether it was a Liberty Loan Drive, Red Cross, or any thing else for the good of humanity. Since the war, Near East Relief has received the same consideration. The various churches have put on drives for enlarged work, and each time the quota was subscribed. And now comes a call from a Tar Heel City for aid for 3,000 or more homeless persons whose possessions were swept away by the recent fire. New Bern has handled the situation admirably, but it is beyond one city to alleviate the desolation and suffering occasioned by so great a conflagration. Other towns and communities are responding liberally to the distress call, and Smithfield also extends a helping hand.

At the meeting of the town Board Tuesday night, the city fathers voted to send \$100 at once to the stricken city, and other plans are under way to send later a contribution of clothing for men, women and children, household furnishings or cash. A committee from the Kiwanis Club has been appointed to collect the articles, each member of the committee to have charge of a certain district of the town. The fire districts have been chosen as a way of dividing the town and the committee is as follows: Mr. W. N. Holt, in charge of 6th, 7th, and half of the eighth district; Mr. Arthur Narron, 4th, 5th, and half of the third; Mr. M. Walter Jordan, 1st, 2nd and half of the third; Mr. Jno. Morris, 9th, 10th, and half of the eighth. Persons will call at each house next week, and everybody is asked to have some contribution ready. With winter coming on, with the men and women out of employment for a time, there will be dire suffering unless a good many people rally to their assistance. Smithfield will do its share.

## SMITHFIELD AND JOHNSTON CO. URGED HELP NEW BERN

To the Good People of Smithfield and Surrounding Vicinity: Believing in the sympathetic sense of our people, with reference to the recent unfortunate conditions that have been caused by the great fire in New Bern, N. C., I, as a citizen of Smithfield and Johnston county, urge that the people of our community and county come to the relief as far as possible. The dire circumstances rendered by the above referred-to fire in New Bern call for assistance. They are calling for help; they need it. We must give a helping hand. All towns and cities surrounding us realize their conditions, and they are helping, and we must.—John A. Narron.

### NEW FIRE BREAKS OUT IN NEW BERN

NEW BERN, Dec. 6.—Destruction of the New Bern Collegiate Institute, a negro school by fire today, added approximately \$15,000 more damage to the catastrophe of last week. The school was situated in the negro district. The origin of the fire was undetermined.

Governor Morrison and State Highway Commissioner Frank Page, who have been making a personal survey of the disaster, tonight departed for Raleigh. The Governor declared the fire was the worst he had ever seen and stated that much more financial aid would be necessary to alleviate the distress of the homeless victims.

### Union Meeting

The next session of the Primitive Baptist Smithfield Union will be held with Salem church, Johnston county, Saturday and 5th Sunday in December, 1922. Elder J. T. Coats is appointed to preach the introductory sermon and Elder L. H. Stephenson his alternate. Brethren, sisters, friends, and especially ministers are cordially invited to attend.—J. A. Batten, Union Clerk, Wilson's Mills, N. C., Dec. 6, 1922.

With long dresses coming back in style, a lot of men who wanted outdoor work will now hunt inside jobs.

## THE NEW BERN FIRE SUFFERERS IN NEED

### Employment be Given in Re-Building Lumber Mill and Road Construction

New Bern, Dec. 5.—Best of all the news promising relief from idleness among the hundreds of homeless negro laborers here was the statement of A. R. Turnbull, president of the Rowland Lumber company, lessee of the Roper Mills which were destroyed Friday, before the board of aldermen today in which he declared he meant to rebuild the mill immediately if he could reach an agreement with the Roper owners for the sale of the mill site.

At the time of the fire the Rowland company had close to 500 men on its payroll here, or a thousand including the men in the woods which has fed the mill with a supply of timber. This payroll has meant the release of \$25,000 a week, no trifling amount for New Bern. The loss that local laborers have felt through loss of their jobs and the cutting off of the large payroll constitute the largest single blow that came with the fire, and the city fathers were highly pleased over the encouraging news Mr. Turnbull gave them.

It will cost a quarter million dollars to replace the burned section of the Roper plant, the official said. "But our loss has not been in fire damage; it is the loss in business that is hurting us. It will require eight months to rebuild. In the meantime, we are losing an immense volume of business," Mr. Turnbull said.

Craven county commissioners, the city aldermen and a committee from the chamber of commerce headed by Senator F. M. Simmons have been organized to present a request to Frank Page to expedite the completion of the state highway in this section of the state in order to put to work the unemployed of this city.

W. A. Scott, Deputy Insurance Commissioner, stated today that there were absolutely no grounds for reports of incendiarism in connection with the fire here last Friday. Mr. Scott has been in New Bern since Saturday investigating the fire for the State Insurance department.

"I have found that the fire started from a terra cotta flue which had been in use for years," he said. "We found at least six witnesses who saw it when it was burning around the attic and under the roof. There is no evidence of incendiarism.

"As to the Roper mill fire a negro named Ernest Gibbs has been detained pending an investigation. He is not charged with setting fire to the mill but with being an escaped inmate from the insane asylum at Goldsboro.

"The relief committee has the refugee situation well in hand. Everyone of those who were rendered homeless by the fire are under cover and are being fed. None of the fire victims are suffering at present. Relief in all its branches is on a well organized basis and we now are beginning to inaugurate a definite policy of rehabilitation.

"The thing that is receiving our greatest attention at present is sanitation. Every effort to prevent an outbreak of typhoid or influenza is being employed. All the homeless are being inoculated with typhoid vaccine today as a precautionary measure.

"Three thousand refugees are still being cared for at a cost of \$1,000 per day. This amount represents cash disbursements only and does not include the many donations of supplies which have been made by local citizens and outside towns.

"The Red Cross yesterday sent \$10,000 worth of socks, sweaters and other articles of clothing. The war and navy department have come forward loyally to the assistance of the relief committee. Special thanks is due General Bowley of Fort Bragg for the generous manner in which he has responded to every request for help. In addition to supplying emergency personnel the General equipped and rushed to New Bern a relief train of eight freight cars packed with tents, cots, mattresses and other equipment which has been invaluable.—News and Observer.

With the fishermen getting back from vacations, the poor fish will soon have to hunt for food.—Nashville Tennessean.

## NORTH CAROLINA STILL LEADING IN BIRTH RATE

Washington, Dec. 5.—A declining birth rate and an increasing death rate for 1922 as compared with 1921 were forecast today by the Census Bureau, which based its calculation on records for the first six months of the year for the registration area of the country, comprising about 82 per cent of the total population of the United States.

The birth rate for the first six months of this year was 22.7 per 1,000 population, while for the same period of 1921 the rate was 24.8 and for the whole of last year 24.3. North Carolina had the highest rate for the half year, it being 30, while Virginia was second with 27.5. Vermont had the lowest rate, 18.1.

The death rate for the six months ending June 30 this year was 12.6 per 1,000 population, while for the same period of 1921 the rate was 12, and for the whole of last year, 11.6.

In the mortality rates announced by the bureau for the first six months of the present year North Carolina is below the average, this 12.6, and for the same period in 1921 it was 12, while for North Carolina the rate for the first six months this year is 11.8 as against a rate of 12 for the first six months of last year.

### Contempt of Court Case

The case of Claude Stephenson which was before the Recorder's Court last week charging him with making fraudulent entries on the registration books of Pleasant Grove township in the recent campaign has attracted considerable attention throughout the county and continues to do so.

The decision of the court, which exonerated Mr. Stephenson, seems not to have pleased some of the Republicans of the county. Mr. H. N. Lucas, defeated candidate for a seat in the House of Representatives, contributed a signed article to the Eastern News, a Republican newspaper printed at Benson, in which he severely criticized the court for the manner in which the trial was conducted and for the judgment rendered. The author of the article either lacked sufficient discretion to know where the line between the freedom of the press and personal abuse lies, or he deliberately took the bit in his teeth and went along. At any rate he found himself before Judge Brooks on the 2nd of December to make answer to a charge of contempt of court.

The judge imposed thirty days confinement in the county jail upon the author of the article, from which judgment appeal was taken. The matter is now on its way to the Supreme Court and the would-be legislator is under a \$500 bond.

At the time of Mr. Lucas' hearing the judge caused notice to be served on the Eastern News that an article retracting the gist of Mr. Lucas' article is in order. It is expected that the next issue of the paper will publish the desired article.

### WILSON GETS EASTERN CAROLINA EXPOSITION

The Executive Committee of the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce in regular session Friday afternoon, in Greenville, among other things awarded Wilson the big Exposition that this organization expects to hold early in 1923. The dates set for the big winter show are: March 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, inclusive.

The award was made on a competitive basis, due to the fact that the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce takes in about 40 counties and several of the towns in these counties were desirous of getting this big event for 1923. Wilson's bid was \$5,200.00, a house to hold it in and lights and water. Chairman H. H. Taylor of the Executive Committee said immediately after the meeting that plans will be begun immediately towards getting things in readiness for the mammoth exhibition of the agricultural and industrial possibilities of Eastern North Carolina.

### Card of Thanks

We wish to thank our many friends for the numberless kindnesses shown us during our recent sorrow in the loss of our loved one. We also appreciate the sympathy shown and the quantities of lovely flowers.—Raymond Johnson and Family.

## N. C. BAPTIST HAVE SUCCESSFUL YEAR

### Summary of Reports Shows Million Dollars Collected In Cash in Year

A summary of reports to be made at the State Baptist Convention at Winston-Salem on December 12, which was issued yesterday by Dr. Charles E. Maddry, corresponding secretary of that body, shows that the denomination has raised \$956,656.96 for benevolent purposes during the past year. This falls only a trifle short under the goal of \$1,000,000 which was set for the year and makes a total of \$3,280,671.08 paid in cash by North Carolina Baptists during the three years of the Seventy-five Million Campaign. The quota for the State for the full five year period is \$6,140,000.

Definite settlement of the controversy over evolution that has been disturbing the denomination for the past year is expected at the forthcoming convention by Dr. Maddry, who predicts that the "sober, conservative judgment of the Convention will prevail."

The statement, which declares the achievements of the past year the greatest since the convention was organized in 1890 follows:

"Ninety-two years ago, the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina was organized at Greenville. At this very first session a State Mission Board was organized and an earnest effort was put forth to evangelize the North Carolina of that day. At this time there were about 15,000 white Baptists in North Carolina. Fifteen years later, in 1845, there were 21 district Associations, 409 churches, 218 ministers and a total membership of 31,066, and a gain in baptism for that year of 742. The growth of the Baptist work since 1845 has been rapid. We are reporting to this Convention 2,250 churches, 325,000 church members, 2,174 Sunday Schools, 265,496 enrolled in Sunday Schools, 1,025 Baptist Young People's Unions with a membership of 40,183, and 2,112 Woman's Missionary Societies.

"The State Mission Board has employed 202 Missionaries this year. These missionaries have served 356 churches, delivered 15,393 sermons, and 3,023 other addresses. They have organized 12 new churches and built 12 new houses of worship. They have witnessed the conversion of 4,910 souls, and baptized 3,845 converts. They have repaired 88 churches and paid on building enterprise of church houses \$96,420.22, while they have collected on pastors' salaries \$89,051.65. They have collected a total of \$43,085.86 on the 75 Million Campaign. These 202 State Missionaries have collected a total of \$309,615.81 for the objects of the Kingdom. The State Mission Board has paid these missionaries the total sum of \$56,342.53.

"The Corresponding Secretary will report the total amount collected for the 75 Million Campaign of \$956,656.96. It was hoped very much that the total received for the year will reach the \$1,000,000 mark. For the three years of the Campaign just closing, North Carolina Baptists will report \$3,280,671.08 collected on the 75 Million Campaign. North Carolina's original quota was \$6,140,000. It is believed that at the end of 5 year period we will easily have raised this total of more than \$6,000,00.—News and Observer.

### Selma Cotton Mill Aids Fire Sufferers

Mr. Geo. T. Brietz, superintendent of the Selma Cotton Mill, sends us the following communication:

We hand you herewith a list of articles of clothing and cash contributed by the employees of the Selma Cotton Mill for the relief of the New Bern fire sufferers. We have thought that this might be of passing interest to the public. 92 ladies dresses, 12 children's dresses, 81 pieces underwear, 9 ladies' cloaks, 2 sweaters, 25 pair hose, 12 ladies cloaks, 11 union suits, 2 hats, 7 men's coats, 10 vests, 60 pair trousers, 40 shirts, 1 overcoat, 6 caps, 8 pair shoes, 3 pair overalls, 5 ties, 7 collars, 5 pillows, 4 quilts, 5 sheets, 1 bolster and case, 1 blanket, 6 pillow cases, 5 towels, \$18.00 cash.

Now is the time of year to worry about where your summer money went.—Zebulon News.