

# The Smithfield Herald

VOLUME 41

SMITHFIELD, N. C., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1922

NUMBER 100

## COMMUNITY XMAS TREE DECEMBER 22

### Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus and Kris Kringle Will Distribute Presents

The Community Christmas Tree sponsored by the local Kiwanis Club will be given on Friday night, December 22, at 5:30 p. m., on the Court House square. Everybody is urged to be present and help give these little folks some of the joys the more fortunate children of the community always receive at home. There will be a large tree well decorated and lighted and presents thereon given to these children receiving special invitations. A program as follows will begin promptly at 5:30 P. M.:

Invocation.....Rev. Fred T. Collins  
Song—"Joy to the World"  
Origin of Christmas.....Rev. D. H. Tuttle  
Christmas Story.....Miss Mary E. Wells  
Song—"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"  
Benedictory Prayer.....Rev. W. C. Cumming.

Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus and Kris Kringle will then arrive and distribute the presents.

The committee will appreciate the names of worthy children with their age and sex. Any donation will be thankfully received.

The hymns on the program are well known and everybody is urged to join in the singing. Mr. I. W. Medlin will lead the songs. He is training a selected choir and Miss Margaret Newell, music teacher in the school, is training the school children.

## SHARK BITE PROVES FATAL TO TARBORO WOMAN

TARBORO, Dec. 15.—The community was shocked Thursday by the intelligence received by Henry C. Bourne from Bishop Colmore, of Porto Rico, that his sister, Miss Katherine Wimberly Bourne, had been bitten by a shark while in bathing and that she died soon afterwards.

Miss Bourne was engaged in teaching school in St. John's school, a mission school of the Episcopal church at San Juan, Porto Rico. This was her second year there. Previous to this, she had taught school at North Hampton, Chapel Hill and Salisbury, where she was held in the highest esteem by all with whom she came in contact. In Tarboro, her home town, she was loved and admired by a host of friends and relatives.

She leaves one brother, Henry C. Bourne, and one sister, Miss Mary P. Bourne, and a half brother, Louis Bourne, of Asheville. Her remains will be brought to Tarboro to be buried in Calvary churchyard. No details of the tragedy have yet been received.

## MEXICO EXPLAINS HER STAND ON PAN-AMERICAN CONGRESS

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 17.—Although the Mexican government has not yet officially accepted Chile's invitation to be represented at the Pan-American Congress to be held in Santiago in March, the foreign office has published a long statement explaining why Mexico is entitled to a seat in the deliberations. The statement, coming after President Obregon's declaration that he thought it quite possible the invitation would be accepted is taken to indicate that Mexico will be represented. No delegations, however, have yet been named.

## TWENTY-SEVEN PERSONS ARE REPORTED MISSING

SAULTE, STE. MARIE, Mich., Dec. 17.—Twenty-seven persons are missing and are believed to have drowned or have died from exposure following the disaster, which overtook the tug Reliance, when it hit the rocks of Lizard Island four days ago. This was the fear expressed by officials of the Superior Paper Company, owners of the tug, who tonight for the first time admitted that in addition to the crew of 14, the Reliance carried 22 passengers.

A Consistent Advertiser, No Doubt! We heard of a certain local merchant who has become so prosperous he washes his windows with Gold Dust. Oh, gee!—Zebulon News.

## BENSON'S POLICE SHOOT DRIVER

### Mr. Paul Stephenson Gets Fatal Shot While Riding In Automobile

Mr. Paul Stephenson while riding on an automobile in the streets of Benson late Friday night, was fired at by the chief of police Perry, of Benson, and received a wound from which death resulted some 24 hours later.

Mr. Stephenson and a Mr. Odum were returning from an out-of-town carnival and had reached the home of Mr. R. F. Smith. Mr. Odum was driving the car and asked Mr. Stephenson to guide it while he lighted a cigar. In changing hands the car swerved which attracted the attention of Chief Perry. He ordered a halt but the occupants of the car either failed to hear him or disregarded his call. He thought they "were speeding" and thinking he would stop them, he fired a pistol, aiming at the rear tire of the moving car. His shot went wide its mark and struck Mr. Stephenson in the back. The bullet lodged against the spinal column which caused instant paralysis of the lower limbs.

Immediately after the shooting Dr. Utley was summoned to attend the wounded man, and it was apparent that a serious wound had been inflicted. The wounded man was taken to the Fayetteville hospital and remained there until 11 o'clock, Saturday night, when death claimed him.

Mr. Stephenson is a native of Pleasant Grove Township and a son of Mr. and Mrs. B. I. Stephenson. He was about 27 years of age and is survived by a younger brother and two sisters. He was a nephew of Ex-Sheriff W. F. Grimes, of Smithfield. For the past seven years he has been in business in Benson. He has been for the most of the time in the employment of Mr. Preston Johnson. His rise in the business life of Benson has been rapid and death claims him just when success seemed most certain.

## MYSTERIOUS FLEET ON THE HIGH SEAS

PERNAMBUCO, Brazil, Dec. 17.—The captain and passengers of the British steamship Almanzora, which arrived here today, report having seen last night on the high seas a fleet of 12 warships of the destroyer type, steaming southward, conveying a merchant vessel, presumably a collier. The nationality of the fleet was not ascertained.

The semaphore station this morning also reported observing a fleet, the vessels of which flew no flags. As far as is known no fleet at present is navigating these waters. Therefore, the reported presence of the ships is causing speculation.

## BOLL WEEVIL MEETING AT THE FROST PLACE

Mr. W. M. Sanders has arranged for a meeting to be held at his Frost place near town Thursday morning at 11:30 o'clock at which Mr. Franklin Sherman, State Entomologist, and Mr. Mabey, his assistant, will discuss the boll weevil. This is a vital question to farmers of cotton growing sections and they should avail themselves of every opportunity to learn how to combat this enemy of our chief money crop. The public is invited to attend this meeting. The speaking will be held at Johnson Union church near Mr. Sanders' place. After the addresses by these boll weevil specialists, Mr. Sanders will serve a barbecue dinner.

## HARDING WILL SUPPORT BONUS IF IT CAN BE FINANCED

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 17.—A direct message from President Harding pledging his support to a bonus for ex-service men providing a feasible means of financing the burden can be found, was presented by Col. C. R. Fortes, director of the Veterans' Bureau at Washington, before a joint conference of National and State Executives of the Veterans' of Foreign Wars here today.

## CHARLOTTE VISITED BY A BIG FIRE

### Large Trust Building Is Destroyed; Loss Estimated At \$440,000.00

CHARLOTTE, Dec. 17.—The six story Trust building on South Tryon street here containing the Keith Vaudeville theatre, and a large number of offices was destroyed and two other structures seriously damaged by fire early today with a total loss estimated at more than \$440,000.

The roof was burned off an adjoining three-story building occupied by Brockman's Retail and Mail Order Book and Stationery store and a number of offices and practically all the contents of the structure were a total loss due to fire and water. The Piedmont building on the other side of the Trust building was water soaked from roof to cellar. It was headquarters for the Piedmont Fire Insurance Company, the Morris Plan Bank and contained number of other offices.

The fire was believed to have originated in the furnace room of the Trust building and had gained great headway before it was discovered.

Save for one or two minor injuries to firemen, there were no casualties in the fire which attracted hundreds of persons. One of the heaviest downpours of rain Charlotte has had this year began to fall about the time the fire was under control.

Had it not been for the heavy rains of the last week which left nearby buildings soaked and the aid given by the torrents of rainwater that fell this morning, Fire Chief Wallace said the blaze might have proven as disastrous as the recent one at New Bern.

Tons of water were thrown into the smoking ruins throughout the day and South Tryon street was blocked to traffic until the late afternoon as part of the structure of the Trust building fell into the street. The scene of the fire was between Third and Fourth streets on the west side of South Tryon, within a block of where the famous Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence is said to have been signed.

In addition to the losses to business men and others whose offices and equipment was destroyed, the lodge rooms of the Dramatic Order Knights of Khorassan, which were in the Piedmont building, were water-soaked. The Trust building, which also was known as the Academy of Music had nothing left tonight but tattering walls, the front part of which had partly fallen out. It was erected 18 years ago and was the first office building in Charlotte to be equipped with electric elevators. Within recent months it had been purchased by C. W. Johnson at a price said to be \$253,000.

Total loss in the building occupied by rockman's store and offices was placed at more than \$100,000, while thousands of dollars of damage was done by water in the Piedmont building. Other nearby structures escaped with a few panes of broken glass or scorched awnings, from the flames which were discovered about 4:30 a. m. The losses generally were said to be well covered by insurance, although there were numerous individuals who had no such protection against fire.—News and Observer.

## ONLY ONE TUBERCULAR COW IN WAYNE COUNTY

GOLDSBORO, Dec. 16.—Wayne county has one of the best reports in North Carolina in the tubercular testing of cows, it was stated yesterday by Inspector Kerr, in submitting the month's report of the veterinarians who have been testing cows now for several months in the county. The report shows that out of 276 herds and 578 cows tested only one has had tuberculosis. During the early days of the testing in the city many cases of tuberculosis were found, but the tubercular cattle have been all weeded out as the veterinarians have gone along. All testing in the city was finished sometime ago.

## INFLUENZA IS CHECKED; CLOSING ORDER REVOKED

STATESVILLE, Dec. 16.—Improvement in the influenza situation was such here today that the Mayor rescinded the order issued last week closing all places of public assembly.

## THE TURLINGTON CAMPAIGN NOW ON

### Committee Prepares Sketch Of Prof. Turlington Telling of His Work

For some time a movement has been under way to honor fittingly the educational work of the late Prof. Ira T. Turlington, who for a quarter of a century devoted his energies to the education of the youth of Johnston and surrounding counties. His school, Turlington Institute became known over Eastern North Carolina and many of his pupils in and out of the county are anxious to perpetuate in some suitable way.

Last June a meeting was called in Smithfield. A number of interested former students responded, and a decision was made to erect a life size bronze statue on the court house square. A sculptor was consulted and \$10,000 was the sum designated as the requirement to place this memorial, and Mr. W. H. Austin was made chairman of the committee to raise the funds. At a recent meeting of the committee, it was decided to begin the drive at once and as a starter January 26 has been set apart in the schools to be known as "Turlington Day." In view of the fact that the campaign is now on, it seems proper to review the life of this man whose influence in Johnston County will never cease. Accordingly the following sketch has been prepared:

Ira Thomas Turlington was born in Elevation Township, Johnston County, North Carolina, August 28th, 1859. His father, Eli Turlington, was a leader in the social and educational life of the community. His boyhood days were spent on his father's farm, and his early education, which fitted him for the State University at Chapel Hill, was received at Pleasant Hill School near his home. His father's home was usually the teacher's home, and it bravely and courageously performed its duty as helper and loyal supporter of the school, where the foundation was laid which enabled him to build firmly for the great and mighty work which he so successfully accomplished throughout his educational career.

In 1879, while Dr. Kemp P. Battle was president, he entered the State University at Chapel Hill, where he became loved and honored by the faculty and student body. At the University he was faithful and studious and pursued his college course until his graduation in 1883. Soon after his graduation he took up his life work, that of teaching, at his old home school Pleasant Hill. The next year, 1884, he became Superintendent of Schools of Johnston County a position he held continuously until he gave it up in 1907.

In 1886 Professor Turlington came to Smithfield, and, with Prof. John L. Davis, established the Smithfield Collegiate Institute. Within four years this school had outgrown its accommodations and Prof. Turlington realizing the necessity of providing better school facilities for those seeking instruction at his hands, with limited means, but with undaunted courage and brave heart, undertook the erection of a new and more commodious building, which was completed in 1891, and became known as Turlington Institute. A military department was added to the school and the best teachers of the day were secured. Here, perhaps, Prof. Turlington did his best work, preparing large numbers of boys and girls for college and for life. At one term his school had a larger number of boys at the University than any other preparatory school in the State. During all these years, while he was building up a strong school, he was also carrying on the work of County Superintendent of Schools. These combined duties were a constant tax upon his physical strength, but his love for the work in which he was engaged was so great that in their performance he had no mercy on his health, forgetting self when some school task loomed up before him, and due to overwork he had his first breakdown in 1904.

Recovering his health, in 1905 he again went at his task as teacher and school man as energetically as ever. For the next few years he did a prodigious amount of work for education and temperance, making speeches for the prohibition cause in 1907 in nearly every section of

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## WILL ORGANIZE A MILITARY COMP'Y

### St. Julien L. Springs Has Already Received Commission As Captain

For some time, some of the young men of this city have been interested in the organization of a military company. A letter was received this week by Mr. St. Julien L. Springs announcing the fact that he has been made captain of the proposed company, and the work of organization will proceed as rapidly as possible. The letter to Mr. Springs is as follows:

"Under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved June 3, 1913, (as amended) the following appointment is made in the North Carolina National Guard subject to such examinations as may hereafter be prescribed by the War Department:

St. Julien L. Springs—to be Captain, Artillery.  
Captain Springs is assigned to command of Headquarters Detachment and Combat Train, 2nd Battalion, 117th Field Artillery, N. C. N. G., now being organized at Smithfield, N. C.

By order of the Governor:  
J. VAN METTS,  
The Adjutant General.

About 100 men have already signified a desire to become members of the proposed military company, and as many as can successfully pass the examination will now have the opportunity. Dr. Thel Hook has been appointed examining physician. From 60 to 90 men between the ages of 18 and 35 are required for this unit.

Contrary to the former custom the members of the company will receive pay throughout the year instead of the time spent in camp. The amount which the company will receive will aggregate \$8,100. The members of the company will join for a period of three years, and each year for fifteen days, they will be required to go to Fort Bragg for special training. Throughout the year one hour per week will be spent in drilling. The company will be a part of the regular army to be called out in time of war, rioting or special emergencies.

## FARM CROP THIS YEAR SHOWS VALUE INCREASE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The nation's crops this year are worth \$7,572,890,000 based on their farm value as of December 1, the department of agriculture announced today in its final crop report for the year.

Their value is \$1,842,978,000 more than last year's crops, reflecting improvement in prices for farm products prevailing now as compared with a year ago and increased production in some crops. This year's farm production is worth about the same as that of 1916 but is lower than 1920 by about \$1,500,000,000, and lower than any year since 1915, except last year. It is only a little more than half as much as the record-value year of 1919.

Record production was made this year in rice, white potatoes, sweet potatoes and hay. Other bumper crops this year were rice with the third largest production, tobacco with the fourth largest crop in history, wheat with the fifth largest production and corn with its seventh largest crop. Cotton this year is the fourth most valuable crop of that staple ever grown, although a small crop in point of production.

Corn, as usual, is the country's most valuable crop, being worth this year \$700,000,000 more than last year, with a total value of \$1,900,287,000. Cotton stands second with \$1,368,517,000, the lint being valued at \$1,190,761,000, and the cotton seed \$177,756,000. Hay is the third most valuable crop with a total of \$1,331,679,000. No other crop reached a billion dollars in value this year. Wheat was valued at \$864,130,000, standing as fourth most valuable crop of the country.—Associated Press.

## Baptists Will Meet at Gastonia.

The next meeting place of the Baptist State Convention will be Gastonia. Rev. B. W. Spillman was re-elected president of the convention and Rev. L. R. Pruett, of Charlotte, was chosen to preach the annual sermon.

## SHEPPARDS SENT TO PENITENTIARY

### Elder Man Given 18 Years; His Son 21; Submitted to Second Degree

The December term of Superior Court adjourned Saturday, the Sheppard murder trial being the last case disposed of. It was thought about the middle of last week that this trial would come up on Monday and a special venire was issued for a 150 men to report on that day. However, on Friday Martin Sheppard and John Sheppard, through their attorneys, S. S. Holt and W. S. O'E. Robinson, of Goldsboro, tendered a plea of murder in the second degree which was accepted by the State through Solicitor Siler. The case was continued until Saturday morning when all the evidence was introduced.

A brief review of the case will recall to the minds of the public the circumstances of the affair. Martin Sheppard, aged 60 years and his son, John Sheppard, aged 23 years of Wilders township, were indicted last August for first degree murder charged with the killing of ex-deputy sheriff James O'Neal. The evidence introduced brought out the fact that as O'Neal was returning from Wendell where he had been to the tobacco market, he passed the store of Martin Sheppard. O'Neal was stopped by John Sheppard and they were engaged in conversation when the elder man sprang out of the store got a gun and fired at O'Neal, hitting him. As the mule ran off, John Sheppard fired at the dying form of O'Neal with a pistol. There were eye witnesses to the tragedy who told the story in court.

When the Judge had heard all the evidence, he pronounced a sentence of 18 years in the penitentiary for Martin Sheppard and 21 years for his son, John Sheppard. Thirty years is the maximum sentence which the Judge could give. During the trial it was brought out that Martin Sheppard has been in the "pen" before, having been charged with killing a negro in South Carolina. Yesterday, he, together with his son turned his faced toward that institution again to begin service on the sentence imposed by the Judge.

## NO ACTION TAKEN BY FRANCE ON REPARATIONS

PARIS, Dec. 16.—After listening to a statement from Premier Poincaré outlining the reparations situation and the prospect for agreement at the resumption of the Armistice Conference, the Chamber of Deputies this afternoon decided, by a vote of 289 to 253, to proceed with the order of the day. This practically means postponement of all interpellations on the government's foreign policy until after New Year's.

Not once did he mention the eventual occupation of the Ruhr, although he said the government's plan called for the sending of engineers and customs officers "into the occupied regions of Germany and elsewhere," instead of soldiers.

M. Poincaré expressed confidence in the success of the forthcoming Premier's meeting, as well as optimism that the peace signed at Lausanne would clear away the clouds in the Near East.

Former Premier Briand declared himself in full accord with M. Poincaré and moved his assistance.

## TEST PACKING PLANT IS BEING BUILT AT EDENTON

EDENTON, Dec. 16.—A test packing plant is an assured fact for Edenton, the building being very nearly ready for occupancy; the machinery ordered and promised here January tenth, with a capacity of 3000 hogs yearly and an expert curer from the Smithfield district under contract.

## BOY ACCIDENTALLY SHOTS AND KILLS HIMSELF

SALISBURY, Dec. 17.—Carl Bost, 14-year-old son of Labon Bost, living between Barber and Woodleaf, Rowan county, accidentally shot himself with a shotgun Saturday, inflicting a fatal wound. The boy was taken to a hospital in Statesville, where he died Sunday.—Greensboro News.