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WAR DECLARED ON RATS IN OUR CITY

Miss Anna Mae Wright Conducting Campaign to Exterminate Rodents

Everyone is familiar with the legend of the "Pied Piper," and practically every business man in Smithfield has at times wished that there was a Pied Piper here to lure the rats away. You have probably heard some time or the other of the "Pretty Poisoner," but did you ever hear of a pretty girl earning her living by poisoning rats? Just think of it! A pretty girl not afraid of rats. Well, she's here in Smithfield now, and at work on her campaign to rid the town of its rodent population. Her name is Miss Anna Mae Wright, and she is from Portsmouth, Va., and for the past four years she has been putting on rat campaigns in different parts of the country, having so far visited 22 of the states in her work.

Miss Wright has recommendations from the United States Health Service, State boards of health and various organizations, commending her work and praising the results she secures by her methods. Miss Wright admits that she rarely sees a rat in her work, but that she exterminates them by the use of barium carbonate, which can be purchased at almost any store. This poison is mixed with delicate morsels of food, which are invitingly displayed where the rats can get them. The powder is tasteless, but deadly in form.

Miss Wright says that the government estimates that each rat requires food valued at \$1.82 to feed it each year, and that there is great danger of rats spreading certain diseases, bubonic plague being spread in this manner. They also cause much damage by fire, destroying clothing, paper, etc., and on the farms do a vast amount of damage each year.

Miss Wright is poisoning the rodents in some of the business houses, and if the citizens generally will try this method at the same time good results will be obtained, but unless the rats are killed out all over the town at the same time, they will multiply very rapidly and in a few months will become as numerous as now.

As there are approximately 6,000 rats in the city limits, it is costing Smithfield \$10,920 a year to feed them. The estimate is reached by a basis of two rats to each inhabitant of any city.

Recently Miss Wright put on a campaign at Dunn in Harnett county which is being aggressively carried out by the entire population, led by the various clubs. She will not only instigate the campaign in Smithfield, but throughout Johnston county.

Directions for poisoning rats: To one teaspoonful of barium carbonate powder mix with 3 or 4 spoonfuls of any kind of food a rat will eat, meat, fish, cheese, cereal, apples, potatoes, bananas, etc. For absolute results use three kinds of bait mixed separately and continue with which ever they eat several nights or until the rats disappear.

SWEDISH HUMORIST AT HIGH SCHOOL FEBRUARY 22

Karl Jansen from "the land of the midnight sun" will, on February 22, present a splendid entertainment "Nobody Home" in the Smithfield high school auditorium. Superintendent Franks, who has heard Mr. Jansen on three different occasions, states that he regards Mr. Jansen as the very best one-man entertainment on the road and that he unhesitatingly recommends the entertainment to the people of Smithfield. Dr. N. W. Walker, Chapel Hill, N. C., formerly State High School Inspector, in a letter to Mr. Jansen says: "It gives me great pleasure to tell you how the audience at Chapel Hill enjoyed your program last night and how delighted they were with you and your entertainment. I sincerely hope to have you with us again."

A debate will be held at Piney Grove tonight, Friday, Feb. 16, to which every body is cordially invited. The query for discussion is: "Resolved, That the township schools should be consolidated into one high school."

(The above notice came too late for publication Tuesday.)

MR. J. O. TAYLOR HERE NEXT WEEK

Will Conduct Boll Weevil Meetings in Various Parts Of the County

(By N. B. Stevens, County Agt.)
Early in the year the Extension Service arranged a series of County wide boll weevil meetings to be held in each of the cotton growing counties. The County-wide meeting was held in Johnston county at Smithfield, on January 16, and at this time a number of interested cotton growers asked me to arrange with Mr. Taylor to come back to the county for a series of meetings locally with the cotton growers. As Mr. Taylor, expects to conduct some demonstrations in dust cotton in this county this year, I have arranged with him to be in the county all of next week. At this time we will hold meetings at various places in the county, and also try to arrange definitely with cotton growers for some demonstrations in various parts of the county.

Meetings will be held at the following schools on the dates mentioned and time:
Smith's School, Feb. 19, 3:30 p. m.
Brogden School, Feb. 19, 7:30 p. m.
Royall (Elevation) Feb. 20, 2:30 p. m.
Benson, Farmers Commercial Bank Building, Feb. 20, 7:00 p. m.
Royal (Boon Hill) School, Feb. 21, 3 p. m.
Pine Level School, Feb. 21, 7 p. m.
Glendale School, Feb. 23, 2:30 p. m.
Smithfield, at Court House, Friday night, Feb. 23, 7:30 o'clock.

Any cotton grower interested in fighting the boll weevil is cordially invited to attend these meetings and ask any question that may be on his mind regarding growing cotton under boll weevil infestation.

Mr. E. C. Blair, of the Division of Agronomy, will be with us at these meetings to discuss Soil Improvement and Summer Legumes, especially. I would like to outline at these meetings some work to be done with Mr. Blair, in the county, especially with legumes.

It will be impossible for us to go to every section of the county during this short time and we urge that you arrange to attend one of these meetings next week.

Why call it moonshine when it is made in the dark?



MISS ANNA MAE WRIGHT Who Is Putting on a Rat Campaign In the City.

GOVERNOR CAMERON MORRISON WHO ADDRESSES FARMERS CONGRESS TODAY



The Farmers Congress had a good start yesterday though the cold weather and bad roads no doubt kept many at home who otherwise would have been here. Today with Governor Morrison to speak, the crowd will be larger, and the amount of produce increased. An auction sale of Poland China hogs from a Georgia stock farm, featured the program at the Farmers Warehouse yesterday. The grand stand built in the center of the warehouse was packed with persons interested in the sale, and forty-five hogs were sold. The prices ranged from \$37.50 to \$110. The proprietors of the stock farm had about 75 or 80 head to begin with and the others will be sold by private sale today and tomorrow.

Today at one o'clock, after the governor's speech which will be at the court house, the Johnston County Bar Association will meet at a luncheon to be held at the Woman's Club room, and Governor Morrison will be the guest of honor. Other men of prominence in the state including the newly appointed Secretary of State, Mr. W. N. Everett, will be present.

The Johnston County Bar Association organized last fall includes in its membership practically every lawyer in the county, and the interest has steadily grown since the organization. Today will be a proud occasion in its history when the governor of the state honors the association with his presence.

DECLARE WATTS TOO ILL TO ATTEND TRIAL

Another Week's Continuance Granted On Plea of Defendant's Attorneys

Case against A. D. Watts, former North Carolina Commissioner of Revenue, accused of aiding and abetting in prostitution, was continued until Tuesday, February 20 in the city court yesterday morning. W. B. Jones and J. H. Hartness, attorneys for the defendant, presented to the court a letter from Dr. H. F. Long, of Statesville, stating that the former commissioner is too sick to leave his sanatorium. W. H. McIlwee, head of the N. C. Sales Company, of Statesville, offered to go on the stand and testify as to his condition, but his testimony was not required by Judge W. C. Harris. — News and Observer.

PLAN FOR CO-OP FARMERS TO SECURE CREDIT

RALEIGH, Feb. 14.—The "Forgotten Man" was the theme of discussion at conference held here the past week by officials of the North Carolina Cotton Growers' Co-operative Association with representative bankers and fertilizer manufacturers. The fertilizer men and financiers were called here to discuss the problem of enabling members of the co-operative to secure credit with which to raise crops this year. Bankers expressed themselves as being friendly to the purpose of the association and the fertilizer men authorized the appointment of a committee to work out plans by which the Forgotten Man may be able to buy rations and fertilizers and still be able to market his cotton in an orderly manner.

OLDEST ACTIVE PASTOR IS NORTH CAROLINIAN

Rev. H. G. Hill, of Maxton, Fills Pulpit of Florida Church; Has Been a Minister Seventy Years

The following news dispatch will be read with interest by people throughout the State:
"Winter Haven, Fla., Feb. 7.—Winter Haven has been honored with a brief visit from the oldest active preacher in America, in the person of Rev. H. G. Hill, D. D., of the Presbyterian church of Maxton, N. C. Dr. Hill is nearly 96 years of age and has served his present field 40 year. He has the service of an assistant pastor, but still does much of the preaching and some of the parish work. His appearance suggests a man 25 years his junior, and his vigor and mentality is that of a man half his years. His voice is clear and firm and his step is vigorous and never falters, and his powers of physical and mental endurance are remarkable. His memory is one of the most marvelous in the land and his faculties unimpaired. Dr. Hill is spending a short time in Bartow, where he preached twice on Sunday, he filled the local Presbyterian pulpit at both morning and evening services, and his messages were vigorous and full of spiritual fervor and strength. He preached to packed houses at both services. He has been a Christian minister 70 years."—Reprinted from News & Observer.

Modern Emphasis

Little Boy (at the circus): "Oo, ma lookit th' elephant! He's bigger 'n hell, ain't he?"
Little Boy's Mama: "Jimmy, how often have I told you not to say ain't?" — Clipped.

LEGISLATORS WILL NOT TAKE RECESS

Ku Klux Klan Bill Passes—Legislative Council of Women Scores Point

The following clippings from the News and Observer give something of the work of the legislature for the past few days:

"Definite decision against a recess pending the report of auditors now investigating the condition of the State Treasury was made by the Senate and House Wednesday following assurance from the auditors through the special finance committee that a "certified current balance sheet" cannot be furnished before April 1. By resolution introduced in the House by Speaker John G. Dawson, and passed by both bodies, the finance investigating committee is continued with authority to make its report to the Governor and council of State, in the event the General Assembly has adjourned when the report is completed.

"A semblance of order emerged from the chaotic talk of a two month recess that was beginning to paralyze the General Assembly Wednesday morning when Speaker John G. Dawson, after introducing his resolution to continue the investigation of the State finances took the floor to remind the house in a vigorous speech that it was confronted with serious business that could not be shirked or postponed.

"Defenders of the Ku Klux Klan, fighting in desperation to delay and defeat the passage of the Milliken bill on its third reading in the House Wednesday were forced into the open with the issue squarely drawn on the declaration that the measure "cut the heart out of the Ku Klux Klan," and went down to final defeat by a vote of 63 to 44, and defeat was sealed by tabling a motion to reconsider.

Every parliamentary resource of the command of the opponents of the bill, even to the proposal to send the law into the general election in 1924 for ratification was brought into play and was smashed against the stone wall defenses built around the measure that requires the registration and unmasking of all members of secret organizations. The battle lasted two hours.

"As now written and amended, the Milliken bill provides that the names of all members of secret organizations which do not allow their members to disclose their membership, shall be filed with the Secretary of State and with the register of deeds in each county; that failure to do so shall be regarded as a misdemeanor; that no member of any such secret organization or other person may perform any illegal acts while masked, and that no parades of such organizations shall be allowed."

Another bill passed was the shipping bill. Only the determined intervention of leaders in the fight against the Governor's shipping bill saved the emaciated measure from complete destruction in the House Wednesday morning. The bill, carrying an appropriation of \$25,000 for investigating purposes passed the House with no amendment other than the provision that copies of the investigating committee's report shall be mailed to each member of the General Assembly.

Among measures passed by the senate this week was a resolution relative to the State Sanatorium. "After consideration the Broughton resolution calling for a legislative investigation of the State Sanatorium, the Senate passed that measure, with amendments, and finally enacted into law its own bill, amended in the House, placing the institution under the control of a board of nine directors. Governor Morrison's shipping bill was also finally enacted into law, Senator DeLaney making the motion to concur in the lone amendment adopted by the House requiring copies of the commission's report to each member of the General Assembly.

JUDGE A. M. NOBLE FINISHES 7 CASES

Five Cases Continued—Proceedings of Work of the Recorder's Court

A number of cases were disposed of by Judge A. M. Noble in Recorder's Court Tuesday besides five cases which were continued. The cases disposed of were as follows:

State vs W. A. Parrish charged with driving an automobile while intoxicated, Found guilty and fined \$50 and six months on the roads. The road sentence was suspended upon condition that the defendant appear in court on the first Tuesday of each month for 12 months and make oath that he has not taken any intoxicating drink.

State vs Walter Lassiter of Elevation, charged with assault. The defendant being under 16 years of age, the case was transferred to the Juvenile court.

State vs John Patrick, alias John Patrick Hill, charged with store breaking. Probable cause was found and the defendant was bound over to Superior court under a \$500 bond.

State vs McKinley Williams charged with breach of the peace. Found guilty and sentenced to 4 months on roads.

State vs Ben Bunn charged with retailing without license. Guilty and sentenced to six months on roads. The defendant appealed to the Superior court.

State vs Ben Bunn charged with carrying concealed weapon. Found guilty and sentenced to three months on roads.

State vs Cornelius Badger charged with larceny. Defendant found not guilty and was discharged.

REVIVAL AT FOUR OAKS BAPTIST CHURCH

The revival meeting now being conducted at the Four Oaks Baptist church is largely attended, and a deep spiritual atmosphere is manifested among the Christian people. The pastor, Rev. M. P. Davis, is being assisted by Evangelist H. T. Stevens, a native of Johnston county, but now of Greensboro. Mr. Stevens is the superintendent of Evangelism of the Mission Board of the Baptist State Convention. He is doing some very earnest gospel preaching and all the people are delighted with his sermons.

Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, Mr. Stevens will preach on "The White of an Egg." At three in the afternoon he will preach to men and boys over sixteen only. His subject will be: "Where Is The Man?"

The meeting will continue until the fourth Sunday. The public is cordially invited to these services.

SAYS TURKS WILL CLOSE PORTS TO THE ALLIES

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 14.—A telegram from Angora to the Exchange Telegraph says the decision of the Turks to close the ports of Smyrna and Ismid to the Allies is irrevocable and that their warships must leave the harbors. The entry of Greek merchant vessels into the Turkish ports has been forbidden, the telegram adds.

Valuable Information Agency

Newton D. Baker always did have a head full of brains. He gives additional proof of the fact when he says the public schools should give a course on "how to read the newspapers." A good newspaper is the most valuable information agency in our time.—News and Observer.

adopted with two amendments." "After entanglement in a parliamentary maze probably unsurpassed in the annals of the Senate, the bill raising the age of consent from 14 to 16 years Wednesday passed its final reading in the Senate by a vote of 43 to 2. The bill emerged from the tangle somewhat the worse for amendments, but in a form satisfactory to its proponents.

"The bill was supported by the North Carolina Legislative Council of Women and is the first measure on the program of that organization to pass either House. At the hearing before the committee the measure was advocated by a large delegation of prominent women, including Mrs. Kate Burr Johnson, Mrs. T. W. Bickett and Mrs. Palmer Jeraman."