

# The Smithfield Herald

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## LUCAMA IS VISITED BY BAD CYCLONE

### Number Houses Are Blown Down Causing Heavy Property Damage.

The people who suffered in Saturday afternoon's cyclone that started in the Southwest corner of Wilson county near the Wayne county line and went in a northerly direction spending its force somewhere in the head of Contentnea Creek are this morning rapidly repairing their homes.

The wind was of the cyclone or twister variety, and was accompanied by a heavy rain from a black cloud. It struck the ground near the Baptist church in Lucama and damaged property over an area of 200 yards wide and a half mile long. It then went in a northerly direction and struck the earth again at Tommy Lamm's store about six miles from Wilson. Here it destroyed property covering an area of 200 yards wide and a half mile long.

It then went in the direction of Mr. Sells Smith's place about a mile beyond the Country Club.

In Lucama where it first struck the cyclone blew down the tobacco barns on the farm of Mr. McRae Boyett causing about \$500 damage.

It tore down a large pack house on the farm of Mr. Ambrose Lucas and damaged his property about \$200. It blew down some outhouses on the farm of Mrs. Nellie Moore's farm, causing damage to the extent of \$300.

At Tommy Lamm's place where it struck the earth the second time it destroyed the dwelling of Mr. J. W. Matthews, his outhouses, tobacco barns, with damages amounting to \$2500.00.

It blew down Tommy Lamm's store all his out houses, tobacco barns and a part of the roof of his dwelling house and porch and one tenant house. His damage is estimated at \$2000.00.

The storm also on Mr. Connor Lamm's farm blew down several tobacco barns.

Here it did several hundreds of dollars in damage. It also broke the leg of William Woodard's wife who lives on Mr. Lamm's place.

The storm when last seen crossed the Lucama road, and the Smithfield road which circles the mill pond, and was about a half mile from the bridge, and disappeared in the upper part of the pond.

The storm struck a shed under which a man driving a horse and buggy had taken shelter. The shed was blown down and the horse and buggy with the man sitting in the buggy were blown about fifty yards. Neither were injured.—Wilson Daily Times.

## TWO IMMENSE STILLS FOUND NEAR WENDELL

Wendell, April 29.—Two of the largest whiskey stills ever seen around here, were captured late Saturday afternoon on the farm of E. G. Richardson, two miles east of Wendell. Besides the two large 80-gallon stills captured, nine hundred gallons of beer was captured from 14 sugar barrels. The raid was led by Julius Williams, chief of police of Wendell, assisted by E. V. Andrews.

The tip was given to the chief of police several days ago, and plans were made to capture the stills and operator. When the raid was made the operators had just left the still as indications showed. The still and beer was found in a tobacco barn, one hundred yards from the Richardson home. Beside the stills and beer, a quantity of bottles, jugs and jars were found on the place that had been used in storing the whiskey. Warrants have been issued for Mr. Richardson and his son, Edgar, who lives on the place with his father. Mr. Richardson and his son are prosperous farmers, living on the main Raleigh-Wilson highway, and are prominent in their neighborhood.

The citizens of Wendell are proud of the efficient work of Chief Williams. He has always been on the job when the scent of whiskey was around. He is considered fearless among the bootleggers.

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Lore and little daughter, have returned from a visit to relatives at Concord.

## WILLIAM J. BRYAN SPEAKS IN RALEIGH

### Great Commoner Offers Faith in God as World's Greatest Need.

When William Jennings Bryan is announced to speak in public there is always an audience to listen. The Commoner as he is familiarly known was in Raleigh Friday night under the auspices of the Raleigh Kiwanis Club. Quite a number of Smithfield citizens went to Raleigh Friday evening to hear Mr. Bryan, and according to those who went, the audience was not disappointed in his address on "America's Greatest Needs." The following account is taken from The News and Observer:

Beginning with some pleasantries about his relations with North Carolina and Raleigh.

"I know of no place where they have loved me more or longer than in Raleigh and North Carolina," Mr. Bryan declared and then referred to Josephus Daniels and the presidency.

Discusses Five Problems.

It was the beginning of an address that for fervor and conviction will rank well up with the best of those he has delivered on the nine occasions of his former visits. Frequently he was interrupted by cheering while his humor never failed to draw its ripple of laughter.

Starting with taxation as the easiest one of the world's five greatest problems to understand, he scored the Republican record on the bonus and referred to his own seventeen year fight for an income tax.

"I had the pleasure of seeing men who called me an anarchist for advocating the payment of a two per cent tax, walk up to the tax collector and pay sixty-five," he declared. "It was a long time coming, but it was worth waiting for."

His own bonus plan, he explained provides for the payment of the just dues to the men who fought the war by taxing the incomes of those who got rich out of high profits.

The Harding administration, with its seven million majority vote, and its two-thirds Senate and House, had more trouble with the revenue bill than any other administration since Washington, he said.

"I was looking for trouble, I was expecting trouble," he said, "but it was worse than I expected. And when anything gets worse in the Republican party than I expect, it's bad to say the least."

He discussed the battle around the retroactive clause and the reduction of the surtax and the unique experience of 95 Republicans joining the Democratic party and holding the surtax at 50 per cent in spite of the Republican leadership.

Labor Problems Serious.

More serious even than the question of taxation, is the labor problem, Mr. Bryan declared, pointing to the development of class consciousness in this country, the rule of one class in a European and the growth of uneasiness in all other nations of the continent. The United States has this protection, he declared. No class is strong enough to fasten itself upon a country and force its government upon the remainder of the people.

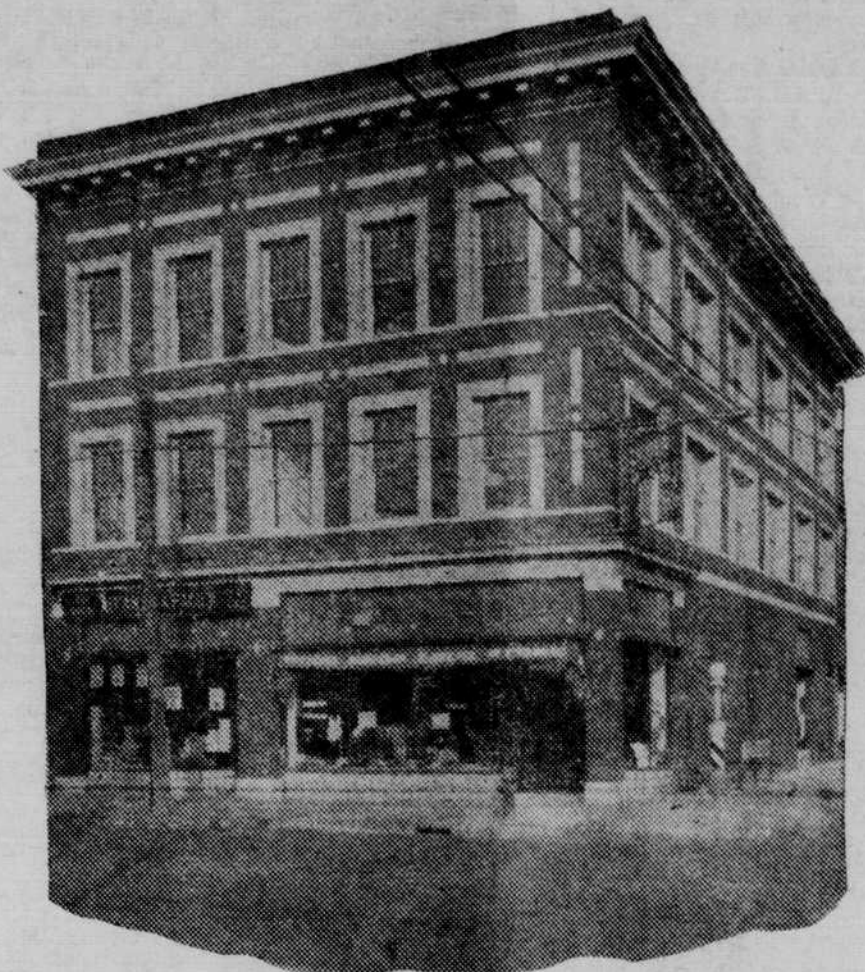
"A recent decision of the United States Supreme court," he declared, "in my opinion, will do more to stir up class consciousness than any other thing I know. It was a decision denying the right of Congress to fix a minimum wage for women workers. 'It wasn't long,' he continued, "before the effect was manifested by a man named Vauclain, president of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, who said workers working ten hours in his plant in the day could work longer if they wanted to, and workers working fourteen hours at night could work longer if they wanted to. 'You will search in vain before you find a more cruel statement than that,'" was Bryan's comment.

Law Enforcement An Issue

Becoming an issue for the first time in the nation's history, law enforcement, said the speaker, has broken down the precedent of acquiescence, and now the three mile limit is perfectly familiar to men who a few years ago did not know it existed.

He advocated the appointment of dry officers to enforce dry laws and more active efforts against the smug-

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Hood Brothers' New Building on Corner of Third and Market Streets.

## WELFARE BOARD WILL INVESTIGATE PRISON

Will Undertake Thorough Investigation of System On Request of Governor.

The State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, upon the request of Governor Morrison, will proceed as soon as practicable with a thorough investigation of the entire prison system of the State and counties filing a report with the Governor, according to the formal announcement which followed the conference between members of the Board and Governor Morrison yesterday afternoon.

"You can say for me," said the Governor commenting on the action, "that we've got the finest Welfare Board in the South, barring none and with that board we don't need the help of Mr. Dudding or anybody else in handling our prison situation."

Plans for the investigation will be worked out at once. Mrs. Kate Burr Johnson, Commissioner of Welfare, stated after the meeting, and will be submitted to a later meeting of the board. The method to be used in the inquiry has not been determined, but E. E. Dudding, president of the Prisoners' Relief Society, of Washington, D. C., whose charges of cruelty to prisoners started the agitation for a prison investigation, will not be asked to come to the State.

Another thing is certain: There will be no formal sitting of the board or officials of the Welfare Department as an investigating body with the examination of witnesses unless the investigation, as it progresses, shows the need of it. In such case, the board is amply provided with authority to take such measures as may be necessary.

"I requested the board," said the Governor to make a thorough inquiry to get down at the bottom of the prison situation in the State and to furnish me a report, giving all details together with names.

"If there are instances of cruelty to prisoners in North Carolina," he said, "I want to know. And I promise to hire extra counsel and pay some more big fees if necessary to put the men who are brutal to convicts in prison where they ought to be."—News & Observer.

## FLORIDA TO ABOLISH LEASING OF CONVICTS

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. April 27 It was sconvict day in the Florida legislature today, virtually every piece of business relating to them and all of it was brought on or at least given impetus by the excursions to Florida more than 15 months ago of Martin Tabert, a North Dakota boy who met death in a private camp.

The house passed in amended form the senate bill that, when its final passage is effected, will mean the end of leasing convicts to private firms or individuals in the state.

## HOOD BROS. HOUSE WARMING IS SUCCESS

### The Hood Family Has Been In The Drug Business For Half a Century.

The "house warming" given by Hood Bros. here last Friday marks the culmination of a dream of one of the most successful business enterprises of Johnston County, and the fact that between two and three thousand visitors called at that drug store on their opening day is evidence enough that the proprietors have numerous well wishers for continued success.

For fifty years the Hood family has conducted a drug business in Smithfield. In 1871 Mr. J. C. Hood, father of Mr. T. R. Hood moved to Smithfield from Bentonsville township. Two years later he together with Dr. L. E. Kirkman, a young physician of the town, bought out the stock of drugs owned by Dr. Telfair. It was customary in those days for physicians to carry a stock of drugs because the business of mixing medicines by pharmacists was not developed sufficiently for drug stores to be numerous. This stock of goods which included a pair of scales now in use by the present proprietors, probably caused the investors to expend as much as \$250.00 and perhaps included as many as 500 items—an amazing contrast to the present stock which represents an expenditure of certainly between twelve and fifteen thousand dollars with a total of not less than fifty thousand items. The first stock of goods was housed in a wooden building about sixteen by twenty-four feet located on the spot where the building known as the "Grice house" now stands. The present handsome new structure, three stories high with underground basement, is built of red pressed brick, with sandstone trimmings; a plate glass front furnishes plenty of light; a tiled floor, new mahogany finished furniture and a handsome soda fountain makes a most attractive interior for the drug store quarters; and the two upper stories form ideal quarters for offices of any kind. The older citizens are able to appreciate the progress which has been made in the business.

However, this jump in improvement was not made all at once. In 1878 Mr. T. R. Hood having come of age, was taken into his father's business who in the meantime had purchased the interest of Dr. Kirkman. Later another son, Mr. John E. Hood, purchased an interest and the firm was known as Hood Brothers. By the time of the fire which destroyed most of the business section of Smithfield, Hood Brothers was occupying a brick building on the present site of Mr. F. H. Brooks' office. Mr. T. R. Hood and another brother, B. R. Hood owned at the same time a business located on the corner of Third and Market streets, where the new structure now stands. This building was destroyed by the great fire. Changes occurred as the result of the conflagration and when the buildings were rebuilt, Messrs. B. R. and T. R. Hood were located in the corner building and Mr. J. E. Hood went to Kinston where he established a drug business of his own.

Finally Mr. T. R. Hood bought the entire business here, but continued to use the firm name Hood Bros. In 1911 Mr. Hood sold his son, Hal C. Hood an interest. In January 1, 1923, the firm became in reality again Hood Bros. when Mr. Will D. Hood, the older son of Mr. T. R. Hood, bought the other part of the business, Mr. T. R. Hood retiring to devote his time to his duties as president of the First and Citizens National Bank.

Messrs. W. D. and H. C. Hood are both registered druggists. They received their education at Burlington Institute of this city, at Trinity College, and later took a course at the State University. They have a priceless heritage in the good name and good will of their father who through honest dealings and untiring efforts, built up one of the most substantial business enterprises of the county. Not to know "Tom Hood" is to mark one a stranger in Johnston County. Hood Brothers have most brilliant prospects for continued success and they have the good wishes of a host of patrons.

It was somewhat to show their appreciation of the patronage which has been accorded them that a formal opening day was set apart. On that

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## OLD TIME FIDDLERS CONVENTION ENJOYED

### Full House and Plenty of Music; Liberal Cash Prizes Awarded.

Something unusual and unique among feature of entertainment was in Smithfield last Friday night. It was "Ye Old Time Fiddlers' Convention." The event had been promoted by Mr. Simon Honeycutt, of Benson, who had well advertised its coming. Liberal cash prizes for the participants and a chance for the spectators to hear again the sweet tones of the old fiddle in the hands of the old fiddler in the old-fashioned way were enough to fill the opera house full, and melody that night from 8:30 to 11:00 sat in the saddle in the Smithfield opera house.

Those participating in the fiddlers' contest were Messrs. W. P. Butler, of Dunn; D. H. Stephenson, of Wilson's Mills; L. D. Jackson, of Dunn; Vestal Jones, of Newton Grove; I. G. Jackson, of Dunn; Claude Westbrook of Newton Grove; and C. R. Pittman, of Smithfield. "Each fiddler had a fiddle, and a very fine fiddle had he," and a very fine sportsman was he as well. No attempt at high art violin playing was made. This was a fiddlers' convention in which each one played after his own fashion and the skill and technique of the real artist were in every piece. Everything was played: jigs, polkas, hornpipes, cake walks, waltzes, marches, fox trots, and blues. Banjo, guitar, and piano accompaniment were employed.

Mr. W. P. Butler, accompanied by Mr. I. C. Jackson with guitar, opened the ball with "The National Emblem March," which was enough to put the audience in the right frame of mind to enjoy all that followed. This piece was followed by a sort of bird-song-like selection played by Mr. Claude Westbrook with piano accompaniment by his sister, Mrs. Vestal Jones. Each selection received hearty cheers and applause but the first encore came when Mr. L. D. Jackson came to the front with "Chocolate Drops." Mr. W. P. Butler put on the only stunt of the occasion, using as his selection, "Hop Goes the Weasel," and which he began by placing the bow between his toes and so moving both bow and fiddle during the playing that the instrument literally crawled all over him. Mr. C. R. Pittman got a big volley of applause when he came forth with an old favorite, "The Smithfield Breakdown."

The judges of the contest were Messrs. J. D. Stephenson, Milton Coats, Johnny Hobbs, J. P. Parker, and J. W. Perkins. Each contestant was entitled to four selections, and the soul of the fiddler went into the very last one of those twenty-eight pieces. Sampson County, far-famed for its pretty girls and "Big Blues," had another star added to its crown that night. It was Claude Westbrook with a little piece he called "The Favorite Hornpipe" that took the belt off I. G. Jackson, Harnett's best fiddler and veteran champion of many a state fiddlers' convention. Sampson now leads the State in fiddling—a Johnston verdict says so. The winner of the second prize was W. P. Butler and the winner of the third prize was Vestal Jones.

Following the fiddlers' contest was the guitar and banjo pickers' contest and the clog dancers' contest. The first prize in the guitar contest went to W. P. Butler and the first banjo-pickers prize went to C. R. Pittman. Percy Pittman, the eleven-year-old son of Mr. C. R. Pittman, was declared the winner in the clog dancers' contest.

## STOCK GOODS OF WARD-EARP COMPANY SOLD

The stock of goods here belonging to The Ward-Earp Co who operated stores at Selma and Wendell, was sold at auction yesterday bringing \$3,250. The purchaser was M. Nelson of Norfolk, Va. The stock was said to have inventoried about \$15,000. This firm went into bankruptcy sometime ago, Mr. W. H. Poole, Jr., of Selma having been appointed receiver, and the sale was in accordance with bankruptcy proceedings. Sales were also conducted yesterday at Selma and Wendell.

Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Honeycutt, of Benson, visited relatives here yesterday.