

# The Smithfield Herald

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## MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR W. S. STEVENS

### Portrait Hung in Chapel that Bears His Name; Judge Robinson Speaks

A memorial service, most fitting and proper, was held for the late W. S. Stevens Sunday afternoon at the little Methodist chapel in Boon Hill township named in his honor and which stands as a lasting monument to the life of one who gave freely of his means and of his time in advancing the cause of Christ in that community.

Sometime ago some of his friends started a movement to place a portrait of Judge Stevens and a marble tablet in the church, and Sunday afternoon saw the fruition of these plans. A great crowd gathered at Stevens Chapel at 3:30 o'clock to do honor to their friends and neighbor—a crowd so great that numbers were unable to get into the church. Rev. W. G. Farrar, pastor at Stevens Chapel was in charge of the program. After the congregation had sung "How Firm a Foundation," he introduced Rev. D. H. Tuttle, pastor of the Methodist church of this city, who conducted the devotional exercises. Judge F. H. Brooks, was then called upon to present the speaker for the occasion, Judge W. S. O'B. Robinson, of Goldsboro, a life long friend of Judge Stevens. Judge Brooks used the following little poem by John Oxenham as the basis of his remarks, showing how Judge Stevens chose the "high way" for his life:

To every man there openeth  
A way, and ways, and a way,  
And the high soul climbs the high way,  
And the low soul gropes the low;  
And in between on the misty flats,  
The rest drift to and fro.  
But to every man there openeth  
A high way and a low,  
And every man decideth  
The way his soul shall go."

Judge Robinson spoke of his early acquaintance with the deceased, spoke of his father, of how his fortune had been swept away by the Civil War, and how it was a struggle to get along in those days. "No man or woman was ever great," said Judge Robinson, "without struggle, and the struggle was what made the subject of the memorial exercises great." He reviewed briefly his school life, his attendance at the Wayne county public schools, his going to Judge Hughes' school in Orange county, and later studying law under Chief Justice Pearson.

He told of his location in Johnston county, his election as Clerk of the Superior Court, and how by his kindly and accommodating manner he so won his way into the hearts of Johnston county folks that though the personnel of the Democratic ticket as to other offices have changed, the same clerk was elected year after year.

The speaker dwelt upon the friendliness of Judge Stevens. He said that if ever a man lived "by the side of the road" that man was Judge Stevens. He said often the question has been asked, "If a man die shall he live again?" The inevitable answer as exemplified in the life of W. S. Stevens is, "yes." "To live with those we leave behind is not to die."

At the conclusion of Judge Robinson's address, the congregation was asked to sing "Blest Be The Tie That Binds," and during the singing of the last stanza little Miss Dorothy Stevens, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. R. S. Stevens, of Princeton, slowly unveiled the portrait of Judge Stevens which is a remarkable likeness. Below the portrait is a marble tablet with the following inscription:

"In memory of our beloved superintendent, Wm. Smith Stevens. May 2, 1852—Nov. 1, 1922."

The benediction by Rev. D. H. Tuttle closed the services.

### \$2,000,000 DEMAND BY THE DEUTSCHE BANK

HAVANA, Cuba, May 16.—The Deutsche bank of Berlin has made a demand upon the administrators of H. Upmann and company, Havana bankers, for a sum in excess of \$2,000,000, alleging that at the time of the Upmann failure the German bank had cash and securities to that amount on deposit which were not liable to be seized by creditors.

## SCHOOL COMES TO CLOSE AT KENLY

### H. E. Spence Delivers the Commencement Address—Seven Graduates

Last week was commencement week in Kenly, the exercises beginning Wednesday evening with a music recital. The program was well rendered. Quite an enjoyable part of the program was a spring time operetta, the scene of which was laid in the land of "Once upon a Time."

On Thursday morning the graduating exercises took place at which time seven graduates of the high school received diplomas and twenty were awarded seventh grade certificates. The literary address was also delivered at this time, Mr. H. E. Spence, of Trinity College, Durham, being the speaker.

Mr. Spence's subject was "Dreams and How They Come True." "No nation nor individual is better, or greater, or brighter than their dreams. We live in two worlds," said Mr. Spence, "a world of material things and a world of ideals—loves, hopes and dreams." The speaker reviewed several characters in history—Moses, Samuel, Isaiah, Paul—pointing out what dreams did for those men. He stated that we are now living in the best time for dreams to come true. The only question is, who will dream the dream that shall revolutionize the world. He spoke of things which a few years ago seemed impossible to achieve—things which we now enjoy as a matter of course. He predicted that, while now we have fireless cookers and iceless refrigerators, the future may see "quarrelless" women and "squall-less" babies.

Having laid down the proposition that this is the best age for dreams to come true, Mr. Spence developed a scheme by which they can come true. Four words form the key to unlock the door of fulfillment: want, work, watch, wait. Greece was great because she wanted to lead the world in art. When she became satisfied her ideals died and her greatness waned. Rome wanted to be the center from which great roads should radiate. Napoleon wanted to conquer the world. William of Germany wanted world supremacy and failed only because others had a greater vision. All of these dreamed dreams. But it is not enough simply to want a thing, one must work. Lincoln and Garfield are examples of greatness by the route of hard work. This nation, according to the speaker, is the greatest country to work in and brings the greatest compensation. But desire and work is not enough. One must wait for the time for realization. "There is a tide in the affairs of men which taken at the flood, leads on to fortune." Boys and girls must not let the hour of opportunity slip. Then after the opportunity has come one must wait for ultimate success." Youth, the speaker said is impatient. Human nature is impatient. People are impatient for everything except the paying of taxes and death. It takes time for great dreams to materialize. A weed grows quickly, but it takes a hundred years to grow an oak, and it takes five generations to grow a man. Mr. Spence called to mind the fact that we have come a long way from the time when men scratched a ground with a stick to use of present day farming implements; there is a long road from the first musical instrument to a pipe organ; a long way from a cave, the home of primitive man, to the palatial residences of today; a long trail from the ideals of womanhood expressed in the serfdom of women to the present time when women are recognized as equals of men. And because of the nature of things it is for youth to cultivate patience in accomplishing their dreams. The speaker closed his address by quoting from the poem "Columbus."

On Thursday evening the pupils of the high school presented a play entitled "Where East Meets West."

## MIDDLESEX ORPHANAGE CLASS TO BE AT PINE LEVEL WED.

The singing class of the Middlesex Orphanage which is supported by the Free Will Baptist church, will give an entertainment Wednesday night, May 23 at Pine Level. The concert which will consist of songs, recitations, etc. will be held at the school house.

## SEVENTY-THREE DIE IN SCHOOL FIRE

### Oil Lamp Explodes Turning School Building Into A Funeral Pyre

Camden, S. C., May 18.—Kershaw county today counted the cost of the fire that last night destroyed the Cleveland school eight miles from here. Seventy known dead, men, women and children and two missing together with the dozens more or less seriously injured were being counted this morning. Five injured are being cared for in a Camden hospital.

The exact number of injured could not be ascertained this morning attention being given to the injured and identification and care of the bodies of the dead. Eye witnesses to the horror were so shaken that but few could talk of it. The blaze which in some instances wiped out entire families leaving none to care for the dead started near the close of the comedy, "Stoney Brook," being presented by the senior class of the school as a part of its commencement exercises.

The bracket on which hung a lamp over the stage gave way the lamp fell to the stage and exploded. Burning oil splashed over the stage igniting flimsy draperies.

Men, women and children made a rush for the single exit from the room. The scene according to persons present was indescribable. Mothers with babies in their arms were trampled under foot. Cooler heads attempted to quell the panic without avail.

Then the stairway collapsed, hurling the mass into the lower floor pinning many under a screaming, squirming mass. Some were pinned by the falling timbers. Mothers trapped on the second floor hurled their children to safety in eagerly awaiting arms of persons who had escaped and then fell back into the flames giving their lives that their children might live.

Camden, S. C., May 18.—Bathed in the glory of a setting South Carolina sun, sixty-two bodies that less than twenty-four hours before had been fun-loving men, women and children, late today were placed in one big grave in Beulah Methodist church yard. Three thousand South Carolinians, led by Governor Thomas G. McLeod, gathered from all parts of the State to pay a last tribute to those who had perished in the burning of the Cleveland school house last night, stood with bared heads throughout the brief, simple funeral service.

Tears stood in the eyes of many. (Continued on page four.)

## SAM BROWN COMMITS SUICIDE IN SELMA

### Well Known Resident of Sanders Chapel Sends Bullet Thru' Brains

Taking a seat on the sidewalk in the shade of a maple tree in the town of Selma Friday afternoon, about 2 o'clock, Sam Brown, aged about 46 years, deliberately and without ceremony placed a .32 Owl Head pistol to his temple, pulling the trigger brought an abrupt end to his life on earth, and plighted his soul into eternity, leaving no message or indication of the motive for the act, according to information received here last night. He was taken to the home of a daughter where he died about 5 o'clock.

Mr. Brown was a resident of the Sanders Chapel community between Goldsboro and Smithfield, and was in Selma on business or visiting. He is survived by a wife and several children.

While no reason for the suicide was indicated by Mr. Brown and none has been advanced by friends or relatives, it is thought by some that bad health, might have been the cause.

About 8 months ago Mr. Brown became despondent on account of bad health, and at that time made threats of suicide. However, since that time nothing unusual has been noticed. Domestic affairs have been rumored as possible cause, but as yet nothing definite has been given. He was engaged in farming.—H. T. Hux, in Goldsboro News.

## GREAT BARBECUE AT HOLT'S LAKE

### Gov. Promises Hosts a Fish Hatchery; R. R. Reynolds Out for Lieut. Gov.

By BEN DIXON MacNEILL, in News and Observer.

Smithfield, May 18.—With such an assemblage of great and near-great in attendance as would have made the eyes of those who might be impressed with such assemblages fairly pop out of their sockets, Holt Lake was thrown open for its fourth season of fishing, swimming, boating, picnicking and allied pastimes this afternoon at a monster barbecue given by the management.

"Everybody of any consequence in North Carolina is here," said somebody. Numerous somebodies were probably present to the same statement. Officially and politically it came mighty near being true, for all that. The Senator and several congressmen were inexplicably absent. The Governor and the Council of State, together with a host of lesser dignitaries attended.



Purely social although the occasion was declared, it appeared inevitably that there would be some speech making before it was over, and it was even so. More than that, a full fledged candidacy was launched when Capt. R. R. Reynolds, of Asheville, mounted a flag-draped platform that somebody just happened to provide in case it should be in demand, and launched himself for Lieutenant Governor.

The Governor had already spoken, filled though he was to the very collar-button with perch and barbecue, promising Holt Lake one of his fish hatcheries when Captain Reynolds came forward. Then the oratory broke loose and lasted until sundown. It was a great occasion, and a considerable time was had by all, particularly Judge F. H. Brooks, who appeared in the role of stage manager and hat-holder.

Holt Lake, if there anywhere be those in North Carolina who do not know it already, is a vast sheet of water three miles out on the National Highway, covering somewhere between 1,100 and 2,600 acres of Johnston county and providing a home for more fish, if local statisticians are to be believed, than any similar piece of water in the earth. And it is empty now to what it will be when the Governor is through with his fish hatchery.

It is a beautiful piece of water as any one would want to see, and the plans of the three owners, A. H. Gray, James H. Abell and R. C. Gillette will make it even more beautiful. Golf courses and all the appurtenances of a first-class resort will be added to its natural beauties and qualities. Already it is tremendously popular throughout the central section of the State, particularly with those who have a bent for fishing.

Today they had three or four hundred succulent perch taken from the pond and fried in grease previously fried out of good country bacon, done at the hands of John Jones, whose hands are master hands. Moreover they had barbecued pig and corn bread, great heaps of it spread out on tables under the trees and the multitude did eat until their abdominal expense was increased prodigiously.

Then Judge Brooks, who used to preside over the recorder's court here, herded the throng toward the (Continued on page four.)

## BOARD BANS LASH AND DARK CELL

### A Sweeping Revolution In Methods of Discipline Of the Convicts

Raleigh, May 17.—The North Carolina state prison board today ordered drastic changes in the method of discipline for prisoners under the state's penal system, in fulfilling one phase of Governor Morrison's promised "action" in a prison betterment undertaking.

What it did: Abolished corporal punishment and the dark cell.

Provided for the reclassification of all prisoners so as to give greater privileges to those of good conduct.

Adopted rules for the maintenance of discipline almost identical with those of the federal government's penal system.

Recommended to the governor the placing of all prisoners now serving fixed terms under an indeterminate sentence, thereby insuring appreciable cuts in the sentences of prisoners who make good prison records.

### Reward Of \$400 Offered

Besides, the board reinforced its denial of charges of inhuman treatment and excessive use of the lash on prisoners by adopting a resolution urging the governor to offer the maximum reward authorized by law for evidence sufficient to convict any employe of the state's prison system from whipping any prisoner contrary to statutory regulations or of cruelty or inhumanity to any prisoner prior to this date. Governor Morrison issued notice of the offer of a \$400 reward, the maximum allowed.

The changes ordered by the prison board were contained in a list of recommendations submitted at this afternoon's two-hour meeting by Supt. George Ross Pou. The full list of recommendations was adopted.

Superintendent Pou wrote that "upon my appointment the governor requested me to study and experiment to ascertain if the use of corporal punishment could be abandoned," and with the new system recommended Mr. Pou believes it can.

Hereafter prisoners will be punished according to offense in the following manner:

### Grades Of Punishment

- (A) Reprimand; (B) Loss of one or more privileges; (C) Reduction in grade; (D) Addition of time to minimum sentence; (E) Double shackles; (F) Confinement in solitary cell and hard labor; (G) Confinement

(Continued on page four.)

## PROGRAM BE GIVEN IN THE COURT HOUSE

### Prominent Speakers—Music Furnished by Kiwanis and Woman's Club

Next Thursday evening, May 24th, at eight o'clock the citizens of the town and surrounding county will have the privilege of attending a good entertainment at the court house which will be given under the direction of the Kiwanis Club and the Woman's Club of this city.

Several out-of-town speakers have been secured for this occasion, and since the town is considering voting on bonds to build an adequate hotel for Smithfield, they will discuss every phase of the hotel proposition. Among those who will speak on this subject and discuss its benefits to the town and to the individual are: Mr. S. H. Boyd, and Mr. Cherry, of Wilson, and Mr. M. C. Winston, of Warrenton.

The Woman's Club will contribute much toward the evening's entertainment. A few readings have been prepared and the Music Department will render several special selections among which will be quartets, duets and solos, also a few Irish songs. The Stephenson band will furnish much of the music during the evening.

The program promises to be well worth while and every citizen of the town, man or woman, is not only invited but urged to be present. Besides a splendid entertainment put on under the directions of the two clubs, a question of vital interest to every citizen of Smithfield will be discussed on this occasion. The public in general is cordially invited.

## DEATH MISS WEST SHOCKS THE TOWN

### Her Sudden Death Casts A Gloom Over Entire City: Funeral at Dover

A gloom hangs over our city because one of the teachers of our graded school, Miss Hazel West, of Dover, has been suddenly taken from our midst to finish the purpose of her life in God's Garden above. Just as the bells were ringing for Sunday school Sunday morning, the news spread quickly that Hazel West was dead. Two weeks ago today she was taken with an acute attack of appendicitis and was operated on at the Smithfield Memorial Hospital. The operation was without complications and last Friday she was able to be removed from the hospital to the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Watson where she boarded. She was apparently improving rapidly and Sunday morning remarked that she felt the best she had felt since her operation. About a quarter of nine o'clock she raised up in bed and was suddenly taken with a heart attack. Physicians were summoned but in a half an hour she had passed away. A sister, Miss Gladys West, who was supplying for her in the graded school, was at her bedside when the end came, and a brother who was passing through the city enroute from Greensboro to Dover arrived in the city a few minutes before she died.

The body was prepared for burial and then taken through the country to her home at Dover Sunday afternoon, the funeral taking place yesterday afternoon. Quite a number of friends accompanied the remains to Dover, and quite a number attended the funeral yesterday. School was suspended yesterday as a tribute of respect.

The funeral services were held at the Methodist church in Dover, the house being filled to overflowing with sympathizing friends and relatives. The choir sang "Abide with Me" and "Sun of My Soul," after which Mr. Paul Eason sang "One Sweetly Solenn Thought." The service was conducted by the pastor, Rev. E. B. Bell, assisted by Rev. D. H. Tuttle. Rev. Mr. Tuttle paid a splendid tribute to the deceased whose Christian graces made her life beautiful. As the casket was borne from the church the choir rendered "Christian, Good-night." Interment was made at Bethany Church about three miles of Kinston, the old home church of her father.

There beneath the sheltering trees  
She sleeps where the daisies nod,  
And the clover hangs its head,  
Where the wild birds come and the  
wild bees hum,  
Above her lonely bed."

Hazel West was the youngest child of Mrs. Laura West, of Dover. She was twenty-three years old, just in the prime of young womanhood. She was educated at the North Carolina College for Women at Greensboro and had taught school for three years. For the past two years she had taught the fifth grade in Turlington Graded school and had been re-elected and had accepted the same position for next year.

Her future was full of promise and we dare not ask why she was taken from us in her prime, unless, as flowers are picked before the frost finds them, the Heavenly Father wished to gather her unto Himself. She was a member of the Methodist church and was active in the service of the Master. Since coming to our town she has been organist and secretary in the Senior-Intermediate Department of the Sunday School and the young people of that department will miss her presence. With a most attractive personality, with a gentleness and thoughtfulness for others which was especially noticeable she made friends wherever she went. A life, though short in its span, that imparts such lessons is well worth living.

## MR. COON TO SPEAK AT PEACOCK'S CROSS ROADS

Mr. Charles L. Coon, County Superintendent of Schools of Wilson County, will deliver the commencement address at Peacock's Cross Roads next Friday.

Mr. Coon is an able school man and all interested in rural education should hear him. The speaking will begin at 10:30 o'clock.