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PRESBYTERIANS HOLD A MEETING

More Than 75 Attend Johnston County Group Conference—Splendid Program

With more than seventy-five ladies present, the Johnston County Group Conference of the Fayetteville Presbyterian was held at the Presbyterian church here Wednesday. Every auxiliary in the county was well represented at this conference. Miss Roberta Bain, of Benson, president of the Johnston County Auxiliary, who had charge of the program, had prepared one full of inspiration and information.

The crowd assembled about eleven o'clock, and after singing the hymn, "Come Thou Almighty King" by the congregation, Miss Margaret McQueen, of Rowland secretary of the department of Spiritual Life of the Fayetteville Presbyterian, made a very inspiring talk on "Devotional Bible Study." She first read several verses from the first six chapters of Nehemiah, then gave a brief sketch of Nehemiah's work as the ideal servant of God. She told of how he used ordinary, everyday things which Christian today have to accomplish the great work of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem. She bought out the fact that Nehemiah had no miraculous agencies to help him, there being no miracle recorded in the book of Nehemiah. When he was scorned by his enemies he continued to build, paying no attention to criticism, and when he was threatened he armed his men and the work went forward. When the people said the task was too great, he divided the wall into sections and gave each family a portion, thus making the burden less onerous to them. Miss McQueen told of how Nehemiah used common sense—concentrated common sense, and of how he prayed in every crisis. She said that many Christians refuse to work in the church because they are afraid of criticism, but she said that each one should be willing to bear criticism for the sake of Jesus Christ, and should strive to live so that no one could criticize except God's enemies. She said that if any Christian wanted to be a successful worker he must follow Nehemiah's plan of faith, work and method.

After a short prayer by Miss McQueen, Mrs. F. H. Brooks, president of the local Auxiliary, made a short talk welcoming the visitors, to which Mrs. P. D. Grady, of Kenly, responded with appropriate words. Mrs. J. R. Page, of Aberdeen, president of the local Auxiliary, made a short talk welcoming the visitors, to which Mrs. P. D. Grady, of Kenly, responded with appropriate words. Mrs. J. R. Page, of Aberdeen, president of the local Auxiliary, made a short talk welcoming the visitors, to which Mrs. P. D. Grady, of Kenly, responded with appropriate words.

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Mrs. Charles Rankin, of Fayetteville, one of the trustees of Elise high school, made a very interesting talk on the work that institution is doing for the young boys and girls of Moore county. Elise high school was placed in an isolated section of Moore county nineteen years ago by the Fayetteville Presbytery and a few others, for the benefit of the young people of that section who had no opportunity to go to high school. It was in a section where there were no newspapers in the homes, very few Bibles, and where many could not read or write. She said that at this school the boys and girls were getting real Christian training, and

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BIG FIRE LOSSES IN NORTH CAROLINA

This is fire-prevention week in North Carolina, and it ought to be taken seriously throughout the state. Big fires raged in North Carolina during September. The monthly summary of the New York Journal of Commerce shows nine North Carolina fires with an aggregate loss of \$527,000. Account is taken only of fires from which an aggregate loss of more than \$10,000 was suffered.

Here is a list of some of North Carolina's largest fire losses: Mount Olive, Enterprise Lumber company, \$100,000; Thomasville, knitting plant, \$100,000; High Point, bobbin plant, \$100,000; Salisbury, wholesale grocery, \$70,000; Thomasville, general store, \$55,000; Linwood, 14 cars loaded with merchandise, \$52,000; Henderson, veneering plant \$20,000; Hertford theatre and grocery, \$15,000; Elizabeth City, \$15,000.

September fire losses in the United States and Canada amounted to \$28,738,500. Fire during the nine months in 1923 caused a loss of \$302,754,750, compared with \$292,621,850 for nine months in 1922. The fire loss so far this year is the largest on record, save in 1906, when San Francisco was burned after the earthquake.

The 1923 sum is based on 304 September fires with losses of \$10,000 or more. The list in which we find the North Carolina fires takes no notice of the additional losses because of the burning of homes. The annual fire losses each year destroy much of the state's production for that year so we can understand that fires constitute a great economic drain on our people.

Fires caused by carelessness are inexcusable, and this is a matter which we should take to heart.—Wilmington Star.

MORRISON WILL ATTEND GOVERNORS' CONFERENCE

Raleigh, October 6.—Governor Morrison today accepted the invitation of President Calvin Coolidge to attend the conference of governors at the White House next Saturday week, October 20, on the enforcement of the prohibition, narcotic and immigration laws.

The invitation from the President asked the governor's attendance at a luncheon at the White House at 1 o'clock on October 20, and the conference on law enforcement will take place in the afternoon.

NEW YORK EATS 156,691,896 DOZ. EGGS YEARLY

Despite the development of egg production in California and the other Pacific coast states, New York still depends for the main supply of eggs upon the middle west, is the statement of Charles Junod for the Bank of America. Last year 354,068 cases of eggs were received from California; from Illinois shipments totaled 1,378,846 cases; from Iowa, 921,046; from Indiana, 726,323; from Ohio, 514,248, and from Missouri, 437,529.

The report concludes: "It is also extremely probable that the egg, popular as it now is, will continue to increase in favor, and that there will be a continuously growing demand for this highly concentrated and richly nourishing foodstuff. And this will also have an important bearing on those agricultural areas that are interested in egg production, as the last few years have proven that the returns from this source are an important factor in the economic stability of those sections"—Wallace's Farmer.

FOOTBALL PLAYER IS CHOKED ON TOBACCO

Cleveland, Oct. 8.—Chewing tobacco while playing football today cost the life of Chester Mares, 23, a Cleveland semi-pro player, who died while being taken to a hospital at Painesville.

Mares, playing fullback at Willoughby, east of here, had just thrown a forward pass when he was thrown from his feet. In falling, a wad of tobacco became lodged in his throat. Efforts of physicians at the field to prevent death failed.

JUDGE KERR GETS THE NOMINATION

Allsbrook Withdraws As Candidate to Succeed the Late Claude Kitchin

Hon. Richard G. Allsbrook having withdrawn from the race, Judge John H. Kerr of Warrenton, who lacked only about 400 votes of receiving the majority in the primary held last Saturday to name a successor to the late Congressman Claude Kitchin will in all probability be the next Congressman from the Second district. The Democratic nomination in this district means election.

Three names were run in the primary, N. J. Rouse of Kinston being the third man. The triangular race would have meant a second primary if Mr. Allsbrook, who polled the second largest vote, had not decided to withdraw. A Tarboro dispatch gives the following statement from Mr. Allsbrook:

"With almost a majority of the voters in the Second Congressional District voting in Saturday's primary in favor of Judge Kerr, I will not ask my friends to make further effort in my behalf, as success in a second primary could only come through their united and untiring work. I have kept faith with the entire electorate of my district, and have unbounded confidence in their expressed wish

"To the ten thousand loyal supporters of my campaign, I can only say that I am grateful from the bottom of my heart and shall ever stand ready to serve their cause without reward, or hope of reward. To Judge Kerr and his followers, I offer my congratulations and sincere wishes for success to the distinguished public office to which he has been called."

In commenting upon the action of Mr. Allsbrook which gives the nomination to Judge Kerr, the News and Observer states:

"It is expected that Judge Kerr will retire from the bench shortly. All-ready candidates are being groomed for the appointment to succeed him. Among those mentioned are: Tasker Polk, of Warrenton; J. H. Matthews, of Windsor; Garland Midyette, of Jackson, and Thos. M. Pittman, of Henderson.

"Judge Kerr, by reason of succeeding to the seat occupied so long by the late Claude Kitchin, will have the advantage of much greater prominence than ordinarily attaches to a Congressional candidate for a first term. He is still in the prime of his powers, being only 48 years old, and has the advantage of many years of public service to his credit, having served as solicitor of the Third judicial district and since 1916 he has been on the Superior Court bench. He is a graduate of Wake Forest College."

SUPPLY OF SOFT-WOOD TIMBER IS SMALL

The largest remaining supply of soft-wood timber in the United States is in the three States of Washington, Oregon, and California, which contain more than half of all the saw timber in the country and more than two-thirds of the Nation's entire supply of coniferous woods, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. Including the coastal forests of southern Alaska, this Pacific coast region is credited with 1,214 billion board feet, nearly half of which is Douglas fir, followed by western yellow pine, western hemlock, true firs of several species, California redwood spruce, western cedar and sugar pine. The amount of timber in these three States too small for lumber manufacture probably aggregates 400,000,000 cords.

Cotton Report For Johnston County

There were 12,299 bales of cotton ginned in Johnston County from the crop of 1923 prior to Sept. 25, 1923, as compared with 112,530 bales ginned to Sept. 25, 1922.

E. G. HOLLAND, Reporter.

PLEASANT GROVE FAIR IS A SUCCESS

Mr. J. A. Wellons Speaker For the Occasion—Fine Lot Of Exhibits Shown

The farmers of Pleasant Grove township, together with their wives and sons and daughters, held their fourth annual township fair at Pleasant Grove School house on October 10. Exhibits of every product of the farm and household were displayed. The attendance was fair and good eating, good story-telling, and good speaking added much to the pleasure and profit of the occasion.

The fair was formally opened at 11 o'clock by a parade. Then the doors were opened to visitors and spectators and the splendid exhibits were ready for inspection and judging.

The cotton crop in Pleasant Grove, which has not suffered so much from the boll weevil infestation as the crops in the more southern part of Johnston, is now white for the harvest and that claimed the attention of many farmers who, otherwise, would have been present with exhibits. But in spite of the busy season a large variety of exhibits was on display, some idea of which can be gained by the list of first prize winners as given below. The fair attracted more than local interest, many visitors from Smithfield and Clayton and the near-by townships being present.

Immediately after the dinner hour Mr. Claude Stephenson assembled the crowd and introduced Miss Mary E. Wells, County Supervisor of Schools, who entertained those present by telling in dialect an Irish story. Miss Wells was followed by Mr. Jas. W. Wellons, of Smithfield, who, in a rather spicy talk of fifteen minutes, spoke of some of the big and vital things that the farmers of Pleasant Grove and other townships of Johnston must grapple with in the years that lie immediately before us.

Mr. Wellons told the farmers that in the sandy soil of Pleasant Grove township could be found some of the best farms in Johnston County today, and that in the possession of such a soil they were rich, as it was a soil that would produce a greater variety of crops than any other type of soil to be found anywhere. A greater crop, however, than any other fields could produce was their families of boys and girls. These he declared must receive a good education in order that they may be ready for a great work when they become men and women. "One of your greatest needs," he told them, "is a way out of here." He then paid his respect to the township system of road building, declaring that it was a system that had wasted thousands of dollars and would continue to do so until a county unit could be formed, which should equalize the revenue for road construction and give to each township its own working force. He also advocated the equalization of special taxation for school purposes, declaring that it must become a county-wide measure if all the children of the county are to receive an equal chance one with another, whereas under the existing system there are a favored few, because of their convenient location to railroads and other sources of highly valuable taxable property, are getting advantages that by right should be shared with the more distant schools of the county.

Following the exercises of the day there was a five-reel motion picture show given in the building at night.

Rev. D. H. Tuttle, pastor of the Centenary Methodist church, of Smithfield, was present and addressed the crowd in the interest of placing the Bible in the homes and schools of the county. He stated that in doing this work he was placing the Bible in the hands of all the citizens and children that he possibly could interest in making a purchase at exactly cost.

The list following is a partial report of the first prize winners. Second and third prizes were also awarded.

Best farm exhibit, Claude Stephenson; best leghorn chicken, J. W. McGee; best Rhode Island reds, G. W. Lee; best Red Jersey pig, Jack Hawks; best calf, C. H. Wood; best bull, S. H. Starling; best pair mules, (Continued on page 4)

COTTON CO-OPS PAY 24.50-CENT AVERAGE

Final Checks Are Sent To Members For Last Year's Cotton—Above Market Price

Raleigh, Oct. 9.—After considerable delay, the result of the necessity of a final audit of the accounts of over 31,000 members, the North Carolina Cotton Growers Co-operative association tonight announced its final settlement for the cotton crop of 1922.

During the season the association landed 132,842 bales of cotton, of which 125,187 bales was short staple. This final settlement covers the short staple cotton and the average net price secured for the members of the association is 24 1-2 cents a pound, or 2 1-2 cents above the average price at which the cotton crop of 1922 was sold on the open market.

A careful survey of the cotton market at the various centers of the North Carolina cotton belt shows that the average price received for the 1922 crop was 22 cents a pound. The association had already advanced to its members 22 cents a pound and checks are being issued and mailed now for the final payment.

Speaking of the year's work, General Manager Blalock said that naturally the expense of operation was heavier for the past season than it would be the coming season, this being the experience of other cooperative organizations. Starting without experience, with untrained employees and the fact that every department had to be built up from the ground, the work necessarily was more expensive than it will be from this time forward.

DAME GEORGE AHEAD OF PREMIER LLOYD GEORGE

David Lloyd George has no title. His wife has one, however. She is "Dame Margaret George," as the American newspaper reporters have just discovered. It is an ignorant reporter who refers to her as "Mrs. George." She bears the title of "Dame" by virtue of membership in the new order of "Dames of the British Empire," founded during the recent war in recognition of women who had performed exceptional service of a patriotic character. One aspect of the title, which many women would appreciate if they had it, is that Dame is always followed by one's own name, as Dame Margaret, and not, like Mrs., by the name of one's husband. The English have a genius for titles, and, in reviving Dame, they have given a new lease of life to a good old English word.—News and Observer.

MOTION PICTURE TO SHOW COTTON DUSTING METHOD

Two thousand feet of "movie film" were recently made by the motion picture office of the United States Department of Agriculture, showing the method of spreading calcium arsenate dust over fields of cotton by airplane for control of the boll weevil. The pictures were taken at Tallulah, La., where the experiments in cotton dusting by airplane are being conducted under the direction of B. R. Coad, in charge of the Delta Laboratory there.

Results obtained by this method of spreading the poison have been sufficiently satisfactory to give promise of the use of airplanes on a commercial scale in fighting the boll weevil and the film was made largely for the purpose of creating an interest in further development of detail and to show the progress already made. It will be shown first before officials of the Department of Agriculture and of the War Department which is co-operating in the tests by supplying the air machinery and personnel.

The best results to be obtained in spreading the poison in this manner are to be had by early morning flights when the air is still and there are no airpockets to make flying more dangerous. Three days were taken to complete the making of this negative and 10 flights of from 10 to 30 minutes each were made. The planes used were two De Havilland bombers which have a speed of from 90 to 100 miles an hour.

ABSENTEE VOTERS MUST HAVE PROOF

Supreme Court Decision In the Beaufort County Case Is Handed Down

Personal knowledge by the election officials of the sickness of an absentee voter is not sufficient to meet the provision of the statute that where a voter remains in the county he must be present an affidavit or a physician's certificate attesting physical disability, according to a decision of the North Carolina Supreme Court handed down yesterday in the case of Davis vs. Board of Commissioners of Beaufort county.

An election was held in Pungo school district on the two propositions of a thirty cents special tax for schools and a \$20,000 bond issue. The majority of the total vote cast was 69 and there were 72 votes for the special tax and 71 for the bond issue.

The election was contested on two grounds, five voters were registered a half mile away from the voting place and that seven absentee voters did not comply with the statute.

Justice Adams, writing the opinion of the court, holds that the registration of the five voters was legal but declares the election invalid on the other ground.

"The mere fact that their names were registered as a matter of convenience a half-mile from the polling place did not vitiate the registration if otherwise valid. He held "The registrar was not required to be always at the designated polling place and there is no pretension that his temporary absence deprived any qualified voter of his right to register.

Justice Adams states the basis for finding error in the court below as follows:

"The statutory provision that the physical disability of the voter to attend the election for the purpose of voting in person shall be made to appear by the certificate of a physician or by affidavit is mandatory and without at least substantial compliance with the requirement the voter who is in the county cannot exercise the right which the statute is intended to confer. True, section 5968 provides the election laws shall be liberally construed in favor of the elector's right to vote and, as we have said, they are liberally construed as to the duties of the election officers but a different situation arises when the voter ignores the conditions on which his right to vote as an absentee is based.

"We have given reflection to the argument that the judges of election acted upon personal knowledge of the illness of the seven absent voters but we cannot approve the suggestion that such knowledge should be allowed to abrogate the imperative demand of the statute."—News and Observer, Oct. 11th.

ALL DAY MEETING AT BLACKMAN'S GROVE

Blackman's Grove will add to its history in bold letters Sunday Oct. 14th, arrangements having been made for an all day service. This service is for the purpose of taking definite steps toward the beginning of a new church building. Also a successful round-up of the 75 million campaign for the year will be a second aim.

The program for the day is as follows:
10:00 o'clock—Sunday school, Joseph Wood, superintendent.
11:00—Sermon—"Faith Overcomes Difficulties," Pastor.
12:30 Lunch.
2:00—Praise Service.
2:15—Address, Rev. L. R. Tate, Benson.
2:45—Playlet, Benson, W. M. S.
3:15—Address, Mrs. B. A. Hocutt, Clayton.
3:45—Doet, Misses Leola Sanders and Esther Green Four Oaks.
3:50—Address, Rev. A. O. Keller, Benson.
5:00—Baptismal Service.
The members of the churches on my field—Burnell, Blackman's Grove and Four Oaks—are urged to be present. Visitors invited.
JAMES A. IVEY, Pastor.