

# The Smithfield Herald

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## FORD DECLARES FAVOR COOLIDGE

Republicans Delighted; Democrats Satisfied With Matter Cleared Up

Detroit, Dec. 19.—Henry Ford today declared he, "like a great majority of the American people," feels that the country is "safe with Coolidge" and that he himself would never consider running against Mr. Coolidge on any ticket.

"I believe it is the wise and natural thing for the people to agree on the nomination and election of Mr. Coolidge," Mr. Ford said. "I am satisfied that ninety per cent of the people feel perfectly safe with Coolidge and I feel, too, that the country is perfectly safe with him. And if this is the feeling of the country, why change?"

"Mr. Coolidge has shown in these months of service a great many qualities that should please his countrymen. I think they all feel that Mr. Coolidge means to do right. And when a man means to do right, so far as I have observed, it is usually quite easy for him to find the way to do right."

"Some people seem disturbed over the conditions which business will face during the Presidential election year. But there is no reason why business should be disturbed by it, if the people by common consent agree they will hold to a good man while they have him. Public sentiment can be so formed long before the election that there should be no doubt about the election."

"In addition to considering the interests of the people, we should consider the interests of the President as head of the American government. President Coolidge has a position of the highest responsibility. He should not feel compelled to take any of his time or strength for any sort of political campaigning, and for the sake of the country as well as for his own sake, he should not have to do so."

Asked concerning the use of his own name in connection with the Presidency, Mr. Ford said:

"No man has a right to say he

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## Burton Tucker and Wife Will Remain in Southern Pines

Southern Pines, N. C., Dec. 19.—(By Associated Press.)—Mr. and Mrs. Burton S. Tucker are still in Southern Pines and they intend to remain here "until they get good and ready to leave," they declared here today. Both freely discussed their marriage and the publicity which has been centered on them as a result of their indictment in New Jersey on charges of conspiracy to violate the marriage law and perjury. Tucker is said to be 17 years old and Mrs. Tucker 51.

Mr. and Mrs. Tucker earlier in the day had been reported to have checked out at a hotel in which they had been stopping since their arrival here several days ago.

## Body of Mr. Hugh Peacock Expected to Arrive Today

Mr. W. L. Fuller received a telegram Wednesday stating that the body of Mr. Hugh Peacock, who died in Chicago Monday afternoon, left that city Wednesday and is expected to arrive here today.

## Secretary Hughes Refuses to Negotiate with Russians

Washington, Dec. 18.—Russian Soviet efforts to open negotiations with the United States were rejected today by the Washington government. Foreign Minister Tchitcherin was informed by Secretary Hughes that there could be no negotiations until propaganda against American institutions "directed from Moscow" had been abandoned.

## COMMUNITY TREE CHRISTMAS DAY

Will Be Held In Court House; About 100 Will Receive Gifts; Good Program

Plans are about complete for Smithfield's second Community Christmas tree to be held this year in the court house. Mr. T. C. Young heads the committee again, and with the aid of his helpers, Messrs. E. S. Edmundson, E. L. Woodall, and Chas. Davis, from the Kiwanis Club, the tree will undoubtedly be a success. These Kiwanians have called on several ladies to give assistance, Miss Irene Myatt, having charge of the program, and Mrs. H. L. Skinner and Mrs. J. J. Broadhurst constituting the purchasing committee.

The tree was held last year on the court yard square, but weather conditions being uncertain, it was decided to have the tree indoors this time. Mr. E. L. Woodall has charge of decorating the trees, which will be lighted with colored electric bulbs. Everybody in the community is invited to the tree, but special invitations will be given to those who will receive presents, and front seats will be reserved for these. About one hundred persons will be recipients of gifts on this occasion. The program which will begin at 5:30 o'clock Christmas afternoon will be appropriate to the occasion, and a large crowd is expected to be present.

### New Coal And Wood Yard Open

A new coal and wood yard is being opened up here by T. S. Ragsdale, Jr., and company. It is located in the southern part of town near the old veneer plant. Look up the ad about it in this issue.

## Officers Capture Two Copper Stills in County This Week

Wednesday morning, December 19th, Deputy Sheriff P. L. Wood, assisted by Federal Officer J. J. Batten, captured a fifty gallon capacity copper still with complete outfit in the western part of the county in Cleveland township. Several hundred gallons of mash were seized and destroyed.

Yesterday morning Mr. J. L. Ellis, ex-policeman, of Clayton, assisted by Federal Officer J. J. Batten and Mr. R. L. Flowers, of Benson, captured a forty-gallon copper still and complete outfit two miles north of Clayton, in this county. Several barrels of mash were destroyed from this still. No arrests were made.

## Wm. G. McAdoo Formally Announces His Candidacy

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 17.—William Gibbs McAdoo formally announced tonight his candidacy for the Democratic Presidential nomination in a telegram to W. W. Howes, Democratic State Chairman, Pierre, S. D.

Mr. McAdoo's formal acceptance of the platform adopted by the Democratic proposal convention already is in the mail en route to Pierre.

### FORD WILL CHANGE MIND

Robert B. Pointer, of Dearborn, who organized the Ford-for-president conference said their plans would go on despite Mr. Ford's decision. not to enter the presidential race.

## The Two Little Stockings

SARA KEABLES HUNT.

The two little stockings hung side by side, Close to the fireplace broad and wide. "Two?" said Saint Nick, and down he came, Loaded with toys and many a game. "Ho! ho!" said he with a laugh of fun, "I'll have no cheating, my pretty one; I know who dwells in this house, my dear; There's only one little girl lives here." So he crept up close to the chimney place, And measured a sock with a sober face. Just then a wee little note fell out, And fluttered low, like a bird about; "Aha! what's this?" said he in surprise, As he pushed his specks up close to his eyes, And read the address, in a child's rough plan. "Dear Saint Nicholas," so it began, "The other stocking you see on the wall I have hung for a child named Clara Hall. She's a poor little girl, but very good, So I thought perhaps you kindly would Fill up her stockings, too, tonight, And help to make her Christmas bright. If you've not enough for both stockings there, Please put all in Clara's; I shall not care." Saint Nicholas brushed a tear from his eye, "God bless you, darling," he said with a sigh. Then softly he blew through the chimney high, A note like a bird's when it soars on high. When down came two of the funniest mortals That ever were seen this side earth's portals. "Hurry up," said Saint Nick, "and prepare All a little girl wants where money is rare." Then, oh, what a scene there was in that room! Away went the elves, but down from the gloom Of the sooty old chimney comes tumbling low A child's whole wardrobe, from head to toe. How Santa laughed as he gathered them in And fastened each one to the sock with a pin! Right to the toe he hung a blue dress. "She'll think it came from the sky, I guess," Said Saint Nicholas, smoothing the folds of blue, And tying the hood to the stockings too. When all the warm clothes were fastened on, And both little socks were filled and done, Then Santa tucked a toy here and there, And hurried away through the frosty air, Saying, "God pity the poor, and bless the dear child Who pities them, too, on this night so wild!" The wind caught the words and bore them on high Till they died away in the midnight sky, While Saint Nicholas flew through the icy air, Bringing "peace and good will with him everywhere."

## Believes Josephus Daniels is Bryan's "Dark Horse"

Washington, Dec. 18.—"The dark horse from Dixie" who is being groomed by William Jennings Bryan for the Democratic Presidential nomination is believed to be former Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels of North Carolina. At least, Mr. Daniels is the guess of several usually well informed Southern Senators, who argue that the former Secretary is about the only public man in the South who measures up to the Bryan standard especially in the matter of prohibition. Of all the bone dries in America, they declare, none is more so than Mr. Daniels. Besides, the former Secretary and the Commoner have been the closest of friends for years.

Mr. Daniels' friends, however, believe he will not become a candidate even at the solicitation of his old friend, Mr. Bryan. He is believed to favor McAdoo, and if Mr. Daniels entered the race it might embarrass Mr. McAdoo and probably lose him some Southern delegates. North Carolina is one of the Southern states claimed by the McAdoo machine.

## NO MERRY CHRISTMAS AT JONES COUNTY JAIL

Kinston, Dec. 19.—There will be no merry Christmas at the Jones county jail. That diminutive bastille at Trenton "is on the blink," according to Joseph Westbrook, the sheriff. "Unless somebody gets in before Santa Claus comes, it is going to be about as cheerful as a mausoleum in a grove of weeping willows," Westbrook stated today. "There isn't a soul in the jail."

## Mellon Says Trade Outlook Indicates a Steady Revival

Washington, Dec. 17.—Secretary Mellon expressed the opinion today, when asked about the industrial and business outlook, that recent developments apparently have given support to the statement made in his annual report that "the factors which have been most influential in the revival that has taken place are likely to remain effective, at least in a considerable degree."

It was pointed out by Secretary Mellon that there is always a period of comparative dullness after the Christmas holidays when activities in mills and many factories are cut down and inventories of stock taken. This slackening will be again experienced early in 1924, but he was satisfied that there would be a quick revival.

## COOPS SELL 1922 LONG STAPLE COTTON CROP

Raleigh, Dec. 20.—The North Carolina Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association has finally sold its stock of long staple cotton of the 1922 crop and just as soon as the accounting department can make up the statements a final settlement for this cotton will be made with every member who delivered long staple cotton last season. Approximately 10,000 bales of long staple was handled and much of it was of low grade staple making the sale of this grade very slow. Final settlement was made on short staple cotton of the 1922 crop some time ago.

## W. D. AVERA FARM SOLD GOOD PRICE

L. G. Patterson Purchases The Home Place; R. R. Barbour Wins Automobile

The biggest crowd ever known to attend a land sale in this section was present at the W. D. Avera farm near town yesterday when 909 acres of unusually good farm land was disposed of at a total price of \$85,016.82. Fully two thousand people, according to an estimate of one present, followed the brass band and auctioneers as they moved from tract to tract. Nor did the crowd disperse until every one of the twenty-eight plats were sold, after which a Ford touring car was given away to the one whose name was drawn. Mr. R. R. Barbour, who has been living on Mr. Avera's farm, was the lucky person receiving the car.

This farm, which had been subdivided by the Union Auction Company, is located near Smithfield, and every farm fronts on a highway, which facts no doubt were factors in making the good sales which were consummated. The land ranged in price from \$30 to \$176 per acre. About 500 acres are cleared and there are tenant houses upon fifteen of the tracts. The home place, which is a modern country home in every respect, equipped with water and lights, was purchased by Mr. L. G. Patterson of this city. Other purchasers were Albert Johnson, C. F. Johnson, G. R. Southerland, R. H. Higgins, Mrs. M. H. Barbour, John L. Johnson, J. W. Gay, R. C. Gillett, J. M. Ogburn, F. H. Brooks, and W. H. Austin, and William G. Sanders, colored.

The music for the day was furnished by a brass band from Fort Bragg.

## King George Departs From Greece and the Tumult Dies

Athens, Dec. 19.—(By Associated Press.)—King George, in accordance with his note to the government that he would comply with its request to leave Greece, departed from the royal landing stage at Piraeuth in a naval launch to the Daphne, which will carry him and his party to Rumania. The launch was in midstream when the harbor forts fired a royal salute. The King was accompanied by Queen Elizabeth and a guard of picked marines. Only a small group of friends witnessed the departure of the monarch.

The "official gazette" publishes a decree appointing Admiral Courdouris, regent. He will take the oath before the cabinet tomorrow.

## Rice Growers Pay \$100 Fines For Attack on Editor

Stuttgart, Ark., Dec. 19.—Pleading guilty to rioting and malicious mischief, 11 rice growers who were indicted in connection with the attack recently upon the plant of the Free Press, local weekly newspaper during which the editors of the paper, R. A. Berry and T. F. Lawson were beaten, paid fines of \$100 each in circuit court today.

### BRITTON KAYOES KAPLAN

New York, Dec. 18.—Jack Britton former welterweight boxing champion, decisively outpointed Phil Kaplan of New York in a ten-round bout tonight.

## Ways and Means Committee Denies Bonus Right of way

Washington, Dec. 19.—Soldiers bonus legislation received a setback today with the refusal of the house ways and means committee to give it right of way over administrative provisions of the treasury's tar bill. The committee declined, however, to sidetrack it until a decision is reached as to what changes should

## LEON HILL FOUND GUILTY BY JURY

Seduction Case Consumes Week In Court; Splendid Array Of Counsel

The entire week in the Criminal term of Superior Court, up to late yesterday afternoon, was taken up with trying the case of the State vs. Leon Hill charged with seduction under promise of marriage, Miss Mary Foster of Smithfield township being the prosecuting witness. Monday morning was spent in getting a jury Monday afternoon, Miss Foster was put on the stand and it took all afternoon to hear her testimony. Tuesday morning Miss Foster was called on redirect examination, and was on the stand for about an hour and a half longer. After her evidence, about a dozen witnesses for the state including a number of character witnesses were put on the stand, the chief witnesses being Dr. J. B. Preston Dr. George D. Vick and Mrs. Annie Barefoot, sister of the prosecuting witness.

The defense then heard the testimony of Leon Hill, the defendant, it taking about two hours for his evidence. Other witnesses for the defense were Dr. I. W. Mayerberg, of Selma, Miss Sadie Pate, of Wayne County, who taught school with the prosecuting witness last year, Mrs. Coor, of Wayne, with whom these teachers boarded while they were teaching, and James Hill, a cousin of the defendant. By 2:20 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, all the evidence was in, and the splendid array of counsel began to argue the case. Mr. S. S. Holt opened for the prosecution, other lawyers making speeches Wednesday afternoon included Messrs. F. H. Brooks and James Raynor for the prosecution, and Mr. L. G. Stevens for the defense. Thursday morning Mr. E. S. Abell plead for the defense, and Solicitor C. L. Williams for the state closed the argument. Judge Daniels then delivered his charge to the jury, after which the jury returned and after being out about twenty minutes came back to the court room with a verdict of guilty. At this writing no sentence has been passed.

## Wilson Leaf Market Sets World Record for Tobacco Sales

Wilson, Dec. 19.—The Wilson tobacco market today surpassed the world's record for seasonal tobacco sales which was established in 1920, when 62,242,066 pounds of the week were sold from the floors of local warehouses, the sales today, the last before the Christmas holiday bringing the total thus far from the season to 62,387,024 pounds. Tobaccoists predict sales of over 70,000,000 pounds for the entire season, which does not close until about the middle of February.

## Gypsies in Six Cars Arrested at Raeford on Larceny Charge

Raeford, Dec. 19.—Six automobile loads of Gypsies en route to northern parts of the state, were arrested here after advices from towns south that some were wanted for stealing large sums of money from two or three different persons along their journey.

The entire outfit was placed under \$300 bond for appearance at Recorder's Court.

The bonus was given another jolt by Secretary Mellon who declared in a letter to Representative Andrew, republican, Mass., that if the compensation measure vetoed by President Harding were enacted the direct cost would total \$5,492,562,444, and would average \$225,000,000 for the first four years.