

## DR. ROYSTER MAKES SPLENDID ADDRESS

### Commencement Exercises Take Two Nights; Class Day Program Given On Thursday Evening.

### BIGGEST CLASS TO FINISH

Every graduating class is an event in the life of any community, and Smithfield realizing this, turned out in large numbers Thursday and Friday nights to witness the graduating exercises of the biggest class that has yet received diplomas from the Smithfield High School.

On Thursday evening the class day exercises were held. The stage had been converted into a veritable flower garden with rose trellises, gracefully supporting pink Dorothy Perkins roses, vines and flowers forming a lovely setting for a garden party, the farewell party of the class of '24. Miss Sara Oliver was hostess, Miss Ava Wellons presided over the punch bowl, and the merry group of boys and girls, other members of the class, completed the realistic scene. The party opened with appropriate words by the class president, Mr. Tilden Honeycutt. Miss Jane Avera was called upon to review the history of the class and by the time she had finished, a wandering gypsy, (Miss Josephine Biggs), was prevailed upon to stop and reveal the future of the class.

Miss Maude Meacham had compiled interesting statistics which were given at this point, followed by a "Declaration of Independence" by Mr. Thel Hooks. Mr. Morgan Broadhurst had been chosen executor of the last will of the class but due to a slight operation was unable to read the will which task was performed by his sister, Miss Pauline Broadhurst. Miss Odessa Massey was class poetess, and after she read her poem, the gitanian, Miss Pauline Broadhurst, delivered tokens of appreciation to members of the faculty who had taught the seniors. The class song was composed by Mr. Lawrence Wallace, and the "Garden party," closed with this. Mr. Wallace singing the stanzas and the class joining in the chorus.

The graduation exercises proper, were held Friday night when the following received their diplomas at the hands of Dr. L. D. Wharton, chairman of the school board: Jane Avera, Ida Batten, Josephine Biggs, Mozelle Boyette, Pauline Broadhurst, Blanche Fitzgerald, Ava Wellons, Maude Meacham, Sarah Oliver, Cornelia Powell, Johnnie Watson, Gladys Turnage, Ola Beaty, Ora Tolley, Odessa Massey, Mary Louise Turner, Lawrence Wallace Thel Hooks, Rexford Gardner, Nick Avera, Earnest Aycock, Charles Beasley, Walton Booker, Morgan Broadhurst, Delma Brown Eugene Caudill, Edward Fuller Tilden Honeycutt, Marvin Jordan, Ronald Keen Leland Parrish, Arthur Pittman, Frank Skinner, Wilbur Turner, Gilmer Wharton, and John Parker.

The program of the evening was featured by an address by Dr. Hubert A. Royster, of Raleigh. Using as his subject: "Education and Its Counterparts," Dr. Royster presented a number of interesting facts to an appreciative audience. Speaking in a conversational tone for the most part his speech simple and direct had a personal appeal for each of his hearers. He closed his remarks by advising the senior class to do three things if they would continue to expand and grow: Read, Discuss, and Travel.

Always an interesting moment of the graduation exercises is when the winner of the Edwin Smith Pou Medal is announced. This medal is given each year by Congressman and Mrs. E. W. Pou in memory of their son, who gave his life in the World War. The medal was won this year by Mr. Gilmer Wharton, and represents four years of hard work in high school here. Mr. Wharton is the third member of his family to receive this coveted prize, his brothers, Messrs. Benton and Donnell, having had this same honor. Mr. L. G. Stevens made the presentation speech.

At the beginning of the evening,

## Special Term Of Superior Court

It will be of interest to the farmers who were summoned to serve as jurors or witnesses in the special term of court to begin June 9, to know that on account of the recent rains and the pressing need for the farmers in their crops the County Commissioners sent a request to Governor Cameron Morrison asking that the special term be called off. The request was sent yesterday and in the afternoon Mr. W. T. Adams, clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, received the following telegram:

"At request of Board of Commissioners of Johnston County I have to-day cancelled special term court called for June 9 for entire term. You are authorized to advertise same to that effect.

CAMERON MORRISON,  
Governor."

## BOARD EDUCATION HAS NEW MEMBER

### Mr. P. B. Johnson Succeeds Mr. Talton; Work In Johnston County Attracts Attention Abroad.

### UNOPPOSED IN PRIMARY

For some time it has been customary for the Democratic conventions or primaries to nominate the members of the County Board of Education. With the primary three days off, with the time for filing candidates closed, it speaks well for the present board that there is no opposition to any member. In April, it was necessary to fill a vacancy on the board, Mr. Talton of Clayton having resigned, and Mr. P. B. Johnson of Benson was chosen by the remaining members of the board, according to the law, to be his successor.

With boards of education and school superintendents coming from other counties to examine the school system of Johnston County and the buildings which have been erected recently by the Board of Education, the people of the county are beginning to be conscious of the fact that its board of education must be achieving something as its goal, the giving of every boy and girl in Johnston County an equal opportunity for getting an education at an equal cost to himself and parents. To this end all of its activities have pointed since the adoption of this policy.

Looking toward the realization of this goal the board has erected, or is about to erect, thirteen large buildings with a total number of 163 class rooms and auditorium space sufficient to seat 6850. Most of these buildings are equipped with steam heat and running water. It is doubtful if there is a board of education in North Carolina who has achieved more in so short a time. Especially commendable in the policy of the board is their effort to give the country boys and girls as good a chance to get an education as the town boys and girls.

### PRAYER-MEETING AT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The mid week service of prayer will be held at the Presbyterian church Wednesday evening at eight o'clock. A cordial invitation is extended to all to worship in this service.

### The invading army of insects will soon launch their attack. Is your spray rig ready for the battle?

Supt. Franks read the honor rolls, and winners of special honors and prizes. These will be published in a later issue of The Herald.

Also at this time music prizes offered by Misses Peedin and Kehoe, were awarded to Misses Elizabeth Jordan, Jeneatte Holland, Hilda Peedin and Catherine Smitha, for playing the most correctly in the recitals. Miss Leah Alley was presented a prize for memorizing the most selections.

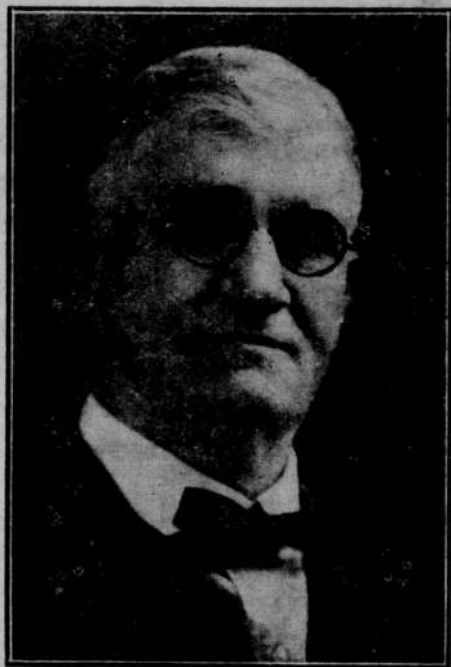
## Johnston County Board Education



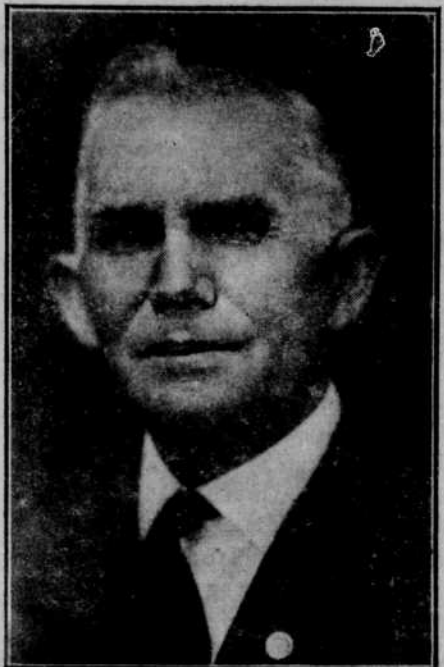
JOHN THOMAS TALTON



PRESTON BRIGHT JOHNSON



WILLIAM GILLIAM WILSON



GEORGE F. WOODARD

## Biographical Sketches

Mr. John Thomas Talton, leading banker of Clayton, was a member of the Board of Education from July 4, 1921, when he succeeded Mr. J. Walter Myatt, to April, 1924, when his business undertakings drew so heavily upon his time and energy that he found it necessary to resign. Mr. Talton is a son of John Westley and Elizabeth (Penny) Talton and he was born at Pinkney, Wayne County, on February 29th, 1880. He says he is 44 years old, though he has never had but one real birthday, having been born on a fifth Sunday in February and there having been only one fifth Sunday in February since that time, which was on February 29, 1920.

Mr. Talton was educated in the public schools of Johnston County, at Turlington Institute, State College of Raleigh, and Massey's Business College. Upon completing his education he was for six years connected with Ashley Horne and Son of Clayton. On June 20th, 1911 he married Miss Ruth Barnes. For the past eighteen years he has been connected with the Clayton Banking Company, of which bank he is cashier. Besides being leading banker Mr. Talton is actively engaged in farming, insurance, and other business enterprises.

It was with reluctance that the Board of Education accepted Mr. Talton's resignation in April, 1924, for his good council and sound business discretion had done much to forward the progressive program which the Board of Education was carrying out.

Mr. Preston Bright Johnson, the leading merchant of Benson, is the junior member of the Board of Education of Johnston County. He succeeded Mr. John T. Talton who resigned in April, 1924. Mr. Johnson, besides being one of the largest merchants of the county, is actively engaged in farming, cotton buying, and many other general business undertakings throughout the county.

Mr. Johnson is a son of James Henry and Amelia Barefoot Johnson and he was born in Meadow township on March 3, 1876. He was educated in the public schools of Johnston County, Turlington Institute, and the University of North Carolina. On December 23, 1903 he married Miss Mattie Ryals. Since leaving the University of North Carolina he has been constantly in the

mercantile business in Benson. For some time he has been vice president of the Citizens Bank and Trust Company of Benson. Mr. Johnson is pre-eminently a business man, but at the same time he is not lacking in breadth of vision concerning the public welfare of the county. Member of the Board of Education, Johnston County, 1924.

Mr. William Gilliam Wilson, chairman of the Board of Education of Johnston County, is the oldest and leading lumber manufacturer of the County. He is a member of the firm of C. M. and W. G. Wilson, which business was begun and carried on by his father until his death.

Mr. Wilson was born on October 27th, 1860, and is the son of John Marshall and Susan (Bobbitt) Wilson. Mr. Wilson was educated in a private school maintained by his father and for three years under the instruction of Mr. John C. Scarborough at Selma, and further for three years at Bingham's Academy, Mebane, N. C.

Since the completion of his education in 1878 Mr. Wilson has been actively and continuously engaged in farming, merchandising and lumber manufacturing. He is a director in the Atlantic Fire Insurance Company. Also he is president of the Eastern Cooperative Ware-Housing Corporation, this being the holding corporation of the Tobacco Growers' Cooperative association.

On January 4th, 1893, Mr. Wilson married Miss Mary Charlotte Rouse of LaGrange. Mrs. Wilson is sister of Mrs. J. Y. Joyner and Mr. Wilson and Mr. Joyner have always been kindred spirits in the forward movement of education in North Carolina.

It would be hard to find in the State of North Carolina a man who by training, associations, business experience, and a sanely progressive vision of educational progress who would be better qualified for the chairmanship of the Board of Education than Mr. Wilson. Member of the Board of Education, Johnston County 1909.

Mr. George F. Woodard, banker and farmer of Princeton was born in Wayne County on December 7, 1865. He is the son of B. T. and Zilla (Edgerton) Woodard. Mr. Woodard was educated in the public schools

## Cars Runs Off Embankment

A Grant Six driven by John R. Hughes, of Raleigh and accompanied by W. T. Turner of the same city, left the highway about two miles from here near the Grant-ham place Saturday night about nine o'clock pitching down a slight embankment. The car was damaged considerably but neither occupant was seriously hurt. Mr. Turner received a cut and some bruises. They were en route to LaGrange but after the accident returned to Raleigh. The accident was due, according to our information, to the bright lights of an approaching car. A mule and wagon was also passing at that time, and in the effort to avoid hitting the wagon, the car went off the embankment.

## STATE TICKET FOR COMING PRIMARY

### Interest Centers Around Governor's Race; Both McLean and Bailey Sup- porters Claim Victory.

### PERSON OPPOSES POU

In our last issue of May 30, an article was published giving the candidates for the various county offices as filed with the county board of Elections, with the exception of the name of Mr. W. T. Whittenton, candidate for County Commissioner, whose name for some reason was omitted.

For the convenience of our readers, many of whom are Democratic voters, we are giving below the Democratic State Primary Ballot: For Governor: A. W. McLean and Josiah W. Bailey; for Lieutenant-Governor: Thomas C. Bowie, Robert R. Reynolds, J. Elmer Long; for Auditor: Baxter Durham and James P. Cook; for Attorney-General: Frank Nash, D. G. Brummitt, and Charlie Ross; for Commissioner of Agriculture, William A. Graham, T. B. Parker, Fred P. Latham; for Commissioner of Labor and Printing: M. L. Shipman, O. J. Peterson, Frank D. Grist, Luther M. Nash; for Insurance Commissioner: Stacey W. Wade and J. F. Flowers; for members of the Corporation Commission: George P. Pell and Oscar B. Carpenter.

Mr. E. W. Pou, who has represented the fourth Congressional District for a number of years is opposed by Willie M. Person.

Interest in the state ticket naturally centers in the gubernatorial race. Both McLean and Bailey supporters are claiming victory for their candidate, but it will take the vote next Saturday to tell the true story.

of Wayne and Johnston Counties. During his education he came under the instruction of Mr. Grey C. Gurris, a teacher who seems to have left indelibly stamped upon his students the character and capacity to achieve something. When Mr. Woodard completed his education he taught in the public schools of Johnston County for six years. Since that time Mr. Woodard has been engaged in the mercantile business, banking, farming, and insurance. He is at present cashier of the Merchants and Farmers Bank of Princeton.

Mr. Woodard has been married twice. He first married Miss Stella Morris and after her death he married Miss Lelia A. Watson on April 10, 1901.

Mr. Woodard and Mr. Wilson were both elected to membership on the Board of Education in the same year, 1909. No member of the Board has stamped more unmistakably on the educational progress of Johnston County a wise conservatism, always contemplating future needs and development. Member of the Board of Education, Johnston County, 1909.

## FORMS A NEW UNIT TO VOTE ON SCHOOL

### Three Districts Acting As A Unit To Vote On \$45,000 Bond Issue; Also Apply To State Board.

### MR. BLACKMAN WRITES

On May 27 a school bond election in Meadow township in which six districts participated was held, and the bond issue was defeated. Some of the folks in that community were considerably upset because the plans for a new building were thus frustrated, and a number interested in the situation appeared before the County Commissioners in session here yesterday and made provision for a building for three of the districts, Glenwood, Hood's Grove, and Meadow which are now functioning as a unit. The commissioners called an election for the three districts mentioned, for a \$45,000 bond issue. This same unit has in an application with the state for \$30,000 and until the money can be secured the commissioners and the County Board of Education will borrow the money to complete a building at once.

Sentiment, it seems, is rather divided in regard to the election, some of those interested in the education of their children feeling keenly the turn of events. The following letter from Mr. W. V. Blackman, who lives in that section, is evidence that some of the people at least are in dead earnest about giving their boys and girls a chance:

Editors The Herald:  
"It is with much regret and unpleasantness that I have to acknowledge defeat last Tuesday in our election to say whether we shall continue our educational advance or retard, fall, go down, and backward. When we lost our election it meant, as I see it, one of the worst incidents that ever occurred in our community. It has torn down community pride, destroyed our community center, has thrown us back years and years.  
"Dear reader, there is a cause, a very serious cause, I am so sick. I appeal to you for your sympathies. I earnestly appeal to you to awake and look up, up, and fortify yourself, that you may not get entombed in such defeat.

"I have mentioned this in public print, hoping that it might be a warning to you to put on full arms and help us to put down the un-American exercises that come up among us as doth the thistle among the wheat. Let me again appeal to you for your sympathies and for you to pray with us and act with us hoping that some day all will be well and we can resume our educational, community, and civic advancement. If you as a reader exercise your abilities as a citizen, for the benefit of progress, moral uplift educational up-building and advancement, tire not for the enemy encroaches on our liberties. Awake, thou that sleepest and bestir thyself at once for the time is short and always short to duty.

"Before I close let me call attention to and endorse for your consideration the strong plea of Rev. D. H. Tuttle, Rev. S. L. Morgan and Rev. D. C. Johnson make in the columns of The Herald.

"Yours in lamentation,  
"WALTER V. BLACKMAN  
Bentonville, Route 2, June 2."

**Smithfield Summer School.**  
Miss Sarah Patterson, a graduate of the Smithfield High School and now a student at the N. C. C. W., Greensboro, has been appointed tutor for students who failed on one or more subjects during the past year. Miss Patterson was one among the very best students in her class while in the Smithfield High School and has been making a fine record at college. She is well fitted to do the tutoring.

The summer school work will begin Monday, June 3. Students or parents interested in this matter should see Miss Patterson this week and arrange for the work.  
THOS. H. FRANKS, Supt.