

# The Smithfield Herald

FORTY-THIRD YEAR

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## SUDDEN DEATH OF JARVIS EDGERTON

Kenly Business Man Found Dead IN Bed By His Wife Saturday Morning

### KU KLUX PALL BEARERS

Friends in the county and elsewhere will regret to learn of the death of Mr. Jarvis T. Edgerton which occurred at his home in Kenly Saturday morning at two o'clock. Mr. Edgerton had been in ill health for several years, but there were no alarming symptoms to warn his relatives of his sudden death. His wife found him dead when she went to him about two o'clock in the morning.

The funeral service was conducted at the home Sunday afternoon at three o'clock after which interment was made in the Kenly cemetery. Dr. W. B. North, pastor of the Methodist church, of which the deceased was a member, conducted the services. The active pall bearers were members of the Ku Klux Klan and they performed this last sad rite in their masks.

The deceased was the youngest son of the late Gabriel Edgerton, of Kenly. He was prominent in the business life of Kenly and the community has sustained a distinct loss in his passing. He is survived by his wife, who was Miss Passie Harris before her marriage, and by two sons Griffin and Jarvis, Jr. A more detailed account will appear in a later issue.

### FINGERPRINT SYSTEM WILL HAVE BIG TEST

Criminologists, jurists, and police officials in all parts of the world have focussed their attention on a building at Sixth and B streets, Washington, D. C. From that structure during the next few months will come the answer, one way or another to the belief of identification experts that the fingerprint system is infallible and that no two fingerprints are alike. It is the building where the fingerprint system will be used to check-up on the 5,000,000 applications for soldier bonus.

"Since the army adopted the fingerprint system in 1906, I never have found two prints alike," says Walter S. Kayne, director of the identification bureau. "There are no doubtful cases, and fingerprints are no more alike than flowers are alike. If the fingerprint system shows itself a failure now I will be the most surprised man in the world."

Proof of the ability of the fingerprint system was established after the flood in Galveston, Texas, in August, 1915, Kaye says:

After the flood subsided, the body of an unidentified soldier was found. All efforts to identify the body failed so one of the man's fingers was sent to Washington in alcohol.

Kaye declared that when the bottle reached the bureau the skin had become detached from the finger. He made a finger of wood, however, glued the skin in place, took a fingerprint, and in a few minutes identified the soldier as Fred Aldrich. Later, he said, his identification was proved correct.—Mocksville Enterprise.

### New Sport.

Country Youth (to angler): "Fishing, mister?"

Angler (after fishing three hours without getting a bite): "No, I'm teaching the worms to swim."—Ex.

## MICRO SCENE OF DESTRUCTIVE FIRE

The town of Micro suffered a \$10,000 fire loss Friday night, according to report received in this office. About twelve o'clock a blaze was seen between the J. W. Boykin Garage and a grocery store of Mr. J. W. Fitzgerald. Before the flames could be extinguished the garage, the grocery store and the blacksmith shop of Mr. Boykin were burned. Three automobiles and one truck were burned. It is not known how the fire started.

### Now at Pershing's Desk



Gen. John J. Hines is now Chief of Staff of the U. S. Army. Photo shows him at the desk in the War Dept. building made vacant by the retirement of Gen. Pershing.

## Dr. J. W. Peacock, Slayer of Thomasville Policeman Caught

### SYRIANS ATTACK CLAYTON MAN

Mr. George Romanus, of Clayton, well known Syrian merchant, and who is also an investigator and reporter for commercial rating houses among the Syrian merchants, was assaulted last Thursday night by four Syrians of Goldsboro, who waylaid him at a point about fifty yards this side of the Wayne line in Johnston county.

According to the story Mr. Romanus told the News man, he was going to Raleigh from Goldsboro with J. E. Befarah, proprietor of a store in Raleigh, when he was halted near the Wayne-Johnston line by four men who asked for gasoline. These men had blocked the road with a large Studebaker car. On the pretense of asking for gas, and while Mr. Romanus was off his guard, one of the four struck him on the arm with a large stick, and then all four jumped on him, beating and cutting him. Mr. Romanus finally succeeded in freeing himself from his assailants and ran to the home of a negro about a half mile away. After some time he got an automobile to carry him to Smithfield. In the fight that followed the stopping of the car his friend left him and went to Raleigh. At Smithfield Mr. Romanus swore out warrants for his assailants. They were later arrested and placed under two thousand dollar bond each for their appearance at court.

According to Mr. Romanus the men who attacked him were Charlie Kannan, George Rabin, Ernest Heden, and John Kanan, all of Goldsboro. Romanus alleges that the four men are relatives and that they harbor a grudge against him because of his investigation of Kanan Department Store of Goldsboro, which is said to have had a \$200,000 failure six months ago.—Clayton News.

## CIVIL COURT OPENS WITH FULL DOCKET

The September term of Civil Court began here yesterday with Judge M. V. Barnhill, of Rocky Mount, presiding. This is a two weeks' term and a full docket is before the court. The morning was spent in continuing cases or otherwise disposing of cases without trial and it was not until the afternoon that the first case was called. The first case was in re the will of W. M. Sanders. A caveat had been filed by members of the family which necessitated the matter coming before a jury and a judge. The will in question was declared to be the last will and testament of W. M. Sanders, deceased.

"Willie," asked the teacher of the pupil, "do you know your alphabet?"

"Yes'm," answered Willie.

"Well, then," continued the teacher, "What letter comes after A?"

"All the rest of them," was the triumphant reply.—Selected.

### Have Kept On The Trail of This Notorious Fugitive Until Found In California

### A CASE OF WIDE INTEREST

Dr. J. W. Peacock, who escaped from the Criminal Insane Ward of the State prison August 30, 1922, while serving a life sentence for the murder of Chief of Police J. E. Taylor in Thomasville in April, 1921, was captured in El Cajon, California, yesterday by Warden S. J. Busbee, who left Raleigh a week ago for California upon information that Peacock was practicing medicine in a little town near Los Angeles. His family was living with him.

Extradition papers signed by Governor Morrison a week ago yesterday accompanied Warden Busbee. Peacock is being held in the jail in Cajon, and has given notice that he will fight extradition. Governor Morrison gave Warden Busbee full authority to employ necessary counsel to represent the State in any action that Peacock might bring to resist his return to the prison here. The court records in the case have been forwarded to California.

The trail of the fugitive has led agents of the state prison all over America, to Cuba and to Mexico in the two years since Peacock swung himself to freedom from the third story of the prison here, with five bed sheets strung together after he had cut the bars of his cell with a small hack saw. The saw is believed to have been sneaked into his cell in the covers of a heavy volume sent to him from his library in Thomasville.

Six months after he escaped he was located in Florida and extradition proceedings started against him, but pending the action he disappeared. The trail was next picked up in New York City, then in New Mexico, then in Mexico, again in Arizona, and then in Los Angeles.

Last May, when the State primary campaign was at its height, and J. W. Bailey, then a candidate for Governor, was attacking the prison administration in his speeches for alleged failure to recapture escaped prisoners and naming the Peacock case as an example, officials of the prison were momentarily expecting to announce his capture, but he again eluded them. A little more than a month ago he was located in El Cajon, where, the prison officials were informed, he had opened an office and had been joined by his family.

This time greater precautions were taken to prevent another disappearance. Superintendent George Ross Pou said last night that he was not at liberty to divulge the means or the fugitive, but that agents of the prison had never left the trail since the prisoner escaped on the morning of August 30, 1922, a little more than two years ago. He was kept under constant surveillance in El Cajon until Warden Busbee arrived Saturday morning and arrested him. News and Observer, Sept. 22.

## FOUR OAKS ITEMS FULL OF INTEREST

Capt. and Mrs. Stanley Leave For Philippine Islands; Child of Mrs. Barefoot Eats Lye

### CONCERT GIVEN BY CLASS

Four Oaks, Sept. 20.—Mr. Daniel Adams, of Richmond, Va., visited relatives here last week.

Messrs. Gilbert Grady and Ronald Keene left last Tuesday for Chapel Hill at which place they will enter school. They were accompanied by Mr. W. R. Keene, who returned Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. A. R. Ford spent last Sunday in La Grange with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Keene and Mesdames J. W. Stanley and J. H. Austin spent Friday in Raleigh shopping.

Messrs. Richard Lewis and Gilbert Grady visited in Chapel Hill last Sunday.

Captain J. W. Stanley, who has been a physical instructor at the University of Maryland for several years, recently visited here. He now holds a government position in the Philippine Islands, for which place he and his family left this week. They will sail from New York the twenty-sixth. On their trip they will stop at Panama to see Mrs. Stanley's brother, Mr. Rupert Keene. Another one of her brothers, Mr. Roy Keene, will be visited at San Francisco. Mr. and Mrs. Stanley and family have numbers of friends here who regret to see them leave. However, they wish for them a successful voyage and a pleasant two-years stay.

Mrs. J. W. Hollowell, of Rocky Mount, recently spent a few days here with her sister, Mrs. C. H. Wellons.

Carmen Austin and brother Aubrey visited their grandmother, Mrs. M. E. Gattis, in Clayton during the last week end.

Mr. James Bandy, who holds a position with a telephone company, was visiting relatives here during the past week.

Mr. Rudolph Stanley, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Stanley, recently spent some time in Washington, D. C. He expects to enter a preparatory school in Washington or Maryland before entering West Point. He will attend school there while his parents are in the Philippines Islands. Misses Clyde Sanders and Ruby Stanley left last Tuesday for Rutherfordville, S. C., at which place they will enter Coker College for the coming school term.

Mr. Booker Barbour, of Richmond, Va., recently spent a few days here with relatives.

During the past week, Mrs. S. M. Boyette was called to Beard on account of the illness of her brother.

Mr. Lexie Barefoot was a visitor at La Grange last Sunday.

The singing class from the Methodist Orphanage at Raleigh will give a sacred concert at the Methodist church the fourth Sunday of this month. This service will be held at eleven o'clock. The public is cordially invited to attend this concert. Those who miss it will miss a rare treat. They give splendid concerts that are very inspiring as well as enjoyable.

Mr. R. A. Keene was in Clayton last Saturday on business.

On Friday morning Mr. and Mrs. Bert Barefoot's baby, Roland, found a can of lye with which he saturated his mouth. Medical aid was rendered at once, and at the present time the baby is better. It is generally believed that he failed to swallow any of the lye, thus making his condition less serious.

Mr. D. C. Lassiter, of Raleigh, was here for the week end.

### A Child's Opinion.

Some humorist has discovered what the parson's baby said about her dad:

"Up in the study,—high, high, high Writing the sermon,—dry, dry, dry Makes all the old folks weep, weep, weep,

And the little children sleep, sleep, sleep."

### Must He Die?



Bernard Grant, nineteen, a Chicago boy without money, has been sentenced to hang for a murder to which he denies all guilt. His case as compared to the recent Loeb-Leopold life imprisonment for confessed murder has aroused public sentiment and a great effort is being made to save him from the gallows.

## MRS. T. GEORGE DIES SUDDENLY

Seldom has it been our duty to record so sudden or so sad a death as that of Mrs. Telpher George which occurred at her home in Bentonville township Saturday evening about eight o'clock. A gloom spread over the community when it became known that she had passed away and friends and relatives could hardly believe that it was true. Mrs. George had been in her usual health and she with her husband and little baby had attended the Primitive Baptist Association at Corinth near her home the day of her death. Being tired when they reached home, the family retired early. They did not fall asleep, however, for the little ten-months-old daughter, Edna Earl, was in a playful mood and the parents were frolicking with the child when the sudden summons came to the mother. Without a moment's warning she gave a gasp and passed into the Great Beyond. Possessed with a charming disposition, with bright, winning ways, her passing was characteristic. The heart-broken husband could hardly believe what had happened. Relatives who lived near by were hastily summoned but it was found to be all too true.

She was buried Sunday afternoon about five o'clock at Antioch Methodist church. Rev. Mr. Connell, pastor of Pauline Baptist church, of which the deceased was a member, conducted the funeral services. A large crowd was present to pay a last tribute of loving respect.

Naomi Lee George was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lee, of Bentonville township. She was born on April 29, 1903, making her stay on earth a few months over twenty-one years. In February of last year she was married to Mr. Telpher George who with their ten-months-old baby survive. She also leaves a sister, Miss Thelma Lee, and a brother, Robert Lee.

Bentonville township sustains a loss in her passing. Here she played as a child, developed into beautiful girlhood; here she married and helped to establish a home of her own; here her busy life was spent and her faithful service rendered to the world. About four years ago she united with Pauline Baptist church and became an active worker. Up until her marriage she was superintendent of the Sunday school and she was always in her place at the church services. She kept her membership as long as she lived, at Pauline church because she felt that her work was needed in that field.

Gone from our sight! But life and love are stronger than death. She is still the mother of her little babe and the companion still of him who mourns earth's greatest loss.

Among those who attended the funeral from this city were: Mrs. J. M. Beaty, aunt of the deceased; Mr. Jerry George, brother of the bereaved husband; Mr. and Mrs. George Langston, Mrs. Alice Hood, Miss Lucy Rhodes, Mr. H. V. Rose and Mr. W. T. Holland.

## DAVIS BACK FROM WESTERN STATES

Democratic Nominee Is Confident of Victory; Great Interest Is Shown

### VOTE WILL TELL STORY

New York, Sept. 21.—Returning here tonight from a 5,000-mile campaign through the west, John W. Davis, the Democratic presidential nominee, declared that "all signs point to a sweeping Democratic victory in the coming election."

"I return to the east, confident of success," he said. "Privilege has won its last battle. We are laying our cause before the American people and they are responding nobly."

Mr. Davis said everywhere he went in the west all those with whom he talked brought the same message—"that the great silent vote, that vote which has turned every election in the past when the American people came to a cross-road, has made up its mind this year to turn to the Democratic party as the only possible avenue of relief."

"The people fully realize," he said "that the choice lies only between continuing the present discredited Republican regime or installing the Democratic administration in its stead."

Asserting that in all the states he had visited—West Virginia, Illinois, Indiana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas and Missouri—he had found the Democratic party intact and undivided, Mr. Davis said its members were working together in an "absolute unity of purpose and with an interest I have never seen surpassed in any campaign."

"Everywhere that I have been, I have heard the same story," he added, "and it has come to me from men regardless of previous party affiliation—it is that of dissatisfaction with the service rendered—or rather denied by the government, during the last three and a half years."

"The farmer resents the deception that was attempted by the Republican party in placing an utterly ineffective tariff duty on his products; he resents the artificial increase in the price of all things he buys; and he is convinced that there is no sincere purpose on the part of the Republican party to take any steps in his interest."

"The laboring man is no longer deceived by the cry of Republican prosperity and feels keenly the rising cost of living."

"The exposure of corruption in Washington made a far deeper impression on the public mind and the moral sense of the country than the leaders of the Republican party are willing to admit. They have not been forgotten and will not be forgiven."

"I found moreover, that in the middle west—contrary to the impression which prevails in some quarters—the people were deeply interested in the foreign policy of the government and entirely out of sympathy with the timid and evasive course which the present administration has pursued."

## GLENDALE SCHOOL TO BE DEDICATED

Mr. E. T. Boyette, of Princeton, was in the city last week. Mr. Boyette will be principal of the Glendale high school in Beulah township for the coming year. This is one of the new high schools just completed in the county, and one of the schools that will have a teacherage in connection with the school. This school will open on October 8 and on October 10 special dedication exercises will be held. Some speaker of note will be on the program, announcement of which will be made later.

### Junior Order Picnic

Rev. D. H. Tuttle went to Bethel Baptist church Thursday and addressed the Junior Order of American Mechanics in union Sunday school and Jr. Order picnic. A large crowd attended and a splendid dinner was served.