

The Smithfield Herald

FORTY-FOURTH YEAR

SMITHFIELD, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 21, 1925

NUMBER 45

Highway Commission Accepts Johnston's Offer of \$500,000

Contract To Be Let on May 5 For Thirty-Seven Miles of Concrete Pavement on Route No. 22

COUNTY LENDS MONEY

The biggest achievement of Johnston County yet, perhaps, is the step taken at the last meeting of the Board of County Commissioners and which was approved by the State Highway Commission at a meeting held in Raleigh Wednesday, April 15, to build a hard surfaced road through the county from the Harnett line to the Wilson line. The county came together, party lines fading out, on the proposition that Johnston County lend the Highway Commission \$500,000 to help put this road through the county without delay, and in time, as the State fund for Johnston county accumulates, will pay back the \$500,000. When the State Highway Commission meets on May 5, the contract for expending this half a million dollars will be let. This project will cover a distance of thirty-seven miles on the stretch known as Number 22, and the road will pass Benson, Four Oaks, Smithfield, Selma, Micro, and Kenly.

At an early date work is expected to begin on concreting the stretch of number 10 from this city to Goldsboro, completing the link in the west to east highway. It has been reported that the farmers along this route, which has been changed to go by Selma, Pine Level and Princeton have been notified not to plant crops on the surveyed area.

When these roads are paved Johnston County will have over sixty miles of paved road.

CHOIRS FEATURE LAST DAY OF EXPOSITION

The last day of the Exposition was given over to the choirs of Johnston County and one from Harnett which furnished plenty of old-fashioned singing. A purse of \$175 was divided equally among the choirs, those participating being Clayton, Selma, R. F. D., Corinth, Johnston Union, and Duke and a Harnett County chorus. The crowd on this the last day of the exposition did not match the crowds that usually attend the vocal unions held in Johnston County every fifth Sunday, but the singing was enjoyed by those who were present.

PARADE ON SCHOOL DAY DRAWS CROWD

Beautiful Decorated Floats and Hundreds of School Children In Line of March

The school parade put on Friday afternoon by hundreds of school children in Johnston County was quite a success from every standpoint. Numbers of beautiful decorated floats were in the line of march besides hundreds of school children who marched with the colors of their schools flying. A prize had been offered for the grade putting on the most artistic float and Benson float No. 34 was awarded first place. This was a patriotic float representing America. The second prize was awarded the seventh grade of Smithfield, the float representing the queens of the Exposition. The eighth grade of the Four Oaks school won third place.

A prize was offered the rural schools in the county for the school having the largest per cent of its enrollment in the parade. The winning school has not yet been determined and Secretary Bartlett asks that the principals of each school in the parade send him at once the enrollment of their schools and the per cent of the enrollment marching in the parade.

A Card of Thanks
We wish to extend our thanks and appreciation to each and every one that assisted in any way at the fire we had last Thursday morning.
J. W. POOLE and SISTER.

TO SPEAK ON KU KLUX KLAN

A speaker of note from the national headquarters at Atlanta, Ga., will deliver a lecture on the Ku Klux Klan at the court house here Wednesday evening, April 22, at eight o'clock. The speaker, we are informed, will explain what the Klan is, what it stands for, its plan of organization, and give other information about this growing order. Both the ladies and men are cordially invited to attend this speaking.

STEWARTS WENT TO THEIR DEATH FRIDAY

Case Hard Fought Through Supreme Court; Salary and Wage Commission To Meet

(By M. L. Shipman)

Raleigh, Apr. 20.—C. W. Stewart and son Elmer went to their deaths in the electric chair Friday, after an appeal for executive clemency failed. The men confessed to committing the murders of Deputy Sheriff Leon George and Deputy U. S. Marshal Sam Lily in Brunswick county last year. The case was hard fought through the Supreme Court and the Governor sought for a way to save the boy, at least, from death but found that his conscientious duty would not allow him to exercise clemency.

The Salary and Wage Commission, which is to cut salaries of state employees and eliminate unnecessary helpers, has been called by the Governor to meet in his office on Thursday, April 23, and in preparation for the meeting heads of departments and institutions have been instructed to have ready a list of their employees, together with their duties and the salary each one receives.

Much comment has been aroused about the capital by publication of an article telling about the 400-dollar bathtub, with electrical devices attached, which it is said will be installed in the Executive Mansion at the State's expense. It is remarked that though \$50,000 was allowed by the Legislature for repairing the venerable pile of rocks that does service as the Governor's residence, still it is not considered advisable to provide equipment that almost millionaires do not have. The proposal does not dovetail in the McLean program of economy. The feeling prevails here that \$50,000 could be used to better account in the construction of a new residence for the Governor than in repairing the present one. If the Governor should decide to halt this work on the old building his action would be generally approved. It would be economy in the long run.

The new office building for the Revenue Department will be completed during the summer. Contracts totalling \$379,233.90 have been let and work will go ahead at once. The Legislature allowed \$500,000 for the work, but this will not complete the building. The frame for a five-story building will be finished during the summer and the basement, first and second floors completed in entirety. The rest will remain to be finished at a later date.

The Attorney General has given an informal ruling that directors of banks are to be considered as officers and as such are to be included under the stringent regulations made for loans to officers of banks by the recent Legislature. Heretofore, the directors have not been considered officers. A final opinion on the subject will be made by Mr. Brummitt in the near future, so that bank directors may know to what extent they may patronize the banks of which they are "officers."

The High Schools of the State have received during the week \$109,000 from the special appropriation allotted to them by the Legislature. This money is distributed on application and under certain regulations by the State Department of Education.

H. P. STEVENS TELLS COTTON PROSPECTS

Writes From Dallas Tex., That Prospects Are Most Promising For Years In Entire Belt

CONDITIONS FAVORABLE

Johnston County, the first cotton county in the State, will be interested in first hand information concerning the prospects for the cotton crop for 1925 throughout the South. Mr. Harry P. Stevens of this city representing Parrish & Co., of New York City, is now in Dallas, Texas, and will be in that vicinity for the next two or three weeks, and he has written, we find that the climatic conditions and prospects.

This is what Mr. Stevens has to say:

Conditions and prospects for a cotton crop in the entire belt are the most promising for years, with the possible exceptions of Texas and Oklahoma; Noting these exceptions later, we find that the climatic conditions are exceedingly favorable. Plenty of moisture up to this time and no excesses. The preparations for planting have been thorough. Sufficient labor to meet all needs. Indicated increase in the use of fertilizers, also a small increase in acreage.

Planting is well under way in the extreme Southern States.

In Texas there is a multitude of territory with various and sundry conditions existing.

In the Rio Grande Valley, extending to Corpus Christi, there have been sufficient rains to give the plants a nice start. There is a considerable increase in acreage in that belt.

In South Texas, there have been light to hard rains, scattered throughout the territory. These rains are scarcely sufficient to bring up the planted cotton.

In Central Texas, Hearne to Waco, the ground is well prepared and there is urgent need for sufficient moisture to plant.

In North and North East Texas, the ground is well prepared. There have been light to hard rains throughout this entire section. (These rains are from what we would term thunder clouds back East.) Planting in this entire belt is progressing nicely.

South West Texas is extremely dry (Continued on page eight)

COUNTY EXHIBIT IS MUCH ADMIRER

Sand Table Picture of Model Community; Posters Tell of Johnston's Rank

AT STATE FAIR IN FALL

The Johnston County exhibit at the Exposition attracted the attention of more "Expositioners" than any other exhibit in the hall. Young and old alike stopped to see the model community in Johnston County displayed on a large sandtable covering a double space in the Exposition building. The church, the school, the home—three factors that make any community worth living in—were shown, around which was every modern improvement that an ideal rural community needs. A paved highway, automobiles, a radio at the school, telephone lines, water and lights, rural free delivery, were all in evidence to say nothing of the well arranged barn, the up-to-the-minute poultry house, the garage, latticed fences with trailing rose vines, wire fencing separating the pastures, chicken range, and vegetable garden which was replete with growing vegetables, and a hot bed and cold frame. The farm was stocked with cattle, hogs, chickens and ducks.

The school ground was equipped with playground apparatus made by one of the grades from the Selma Graded school. School trucks, trucks loaded with miniature loads of cotton and loads of tobacco were shown on the highway. A Texaco filling station, for which this enterprising firm competed with other oil companies in this section, was a part of the model community. A background was formed of forests of pines, holly, dogwood and other trees and shrubbery indigenous to this locality. Posters on the wall gave salient facts to the passers-by about Johnston County. One placard told that this county is first in the production of cotton, in the production of sweet potatoes, in the number of hogs, and in the number of mules. Another placard told that the county is second in the production of corn, serial crops, vegetables, chickens and eggs. Still another gave the names of the ten towns in Johnston County, while on a fourth placard the county was given credit for having a full time health officer. (Continued on page eight)

WINS IN COUNTY CONTEST



MISS ROSE GRANTPAM

CROWNING QUEENS LOVELY CEREMONY

Miss "Smithfield" and Miss "Dunn" The Successful Contestants Awarded Handsome Diamond Ring

PAGEANT IS BIG SUCCESS

The curtain has rung down upon the final scene of the third Exposition put on by the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce. Friday night perhaps brought together more folks than any other occasion of the week. The usual concert by Victor's band and the Rooster Act entertained the assembling crowd until time for the coronation scene. The counting of the votes was not completed until a short while before the time for this event. An air of expectancy hovered over the immense crowd, and when the platform manager, Judge F. H. Brooks rose to announce the winners for once the buzz of noise was hushed to a stillness which only prefaced a burst of applause when it was announced that "Miss Smithfield" and "Miss Dunn" were to be crowned queens of Eastern Carolina. The vote stood as follows: Out of the county—Miss Dunn, 103,290 votes; Miss Goldsboro, 41,330; Miss Franklinton, 31,270; in the county: Miss Smithfield 120,923; Miss Benson, 100,380; Miss Pine Level, 14,380. Secretary Bartlett in commenting on the voting stated that no irregularities were found.

The coronation of the queens was a new feature of the Exposition and under the skillful management of Miss Virginia Puckett, of this city, and Miss Margaret Etheridge, of Selma, proved to be an attractive part of the program. A throne in the center of the stage was the nucleus for the coronation scene. The queens in the contest acted as attendants to the two who were crowned. These young ladies, carrying the staffs used in the wedding scene put on by Neil Joseph of Goldsboro in the style show. Smithfield's queen Miss Rose Grantham, and Dunn's queen, Miss Christine Thompson, approached the throne from the two aisles, both of them wearing court trains. Judge F. H. Brooks placed the crowns upon the fair brows of the successful contestants and presented them with the diamond rings given by the Eastern Chamber of Commerce. Each queen also received a handsome cake presented by Staudt's Bakery of Raleigh. Prior to the entrance of the queens and their attendants, an appropriate chorus to the tune of Mendelssohn's Spring Song was sung by young ladies of this city who formed a background for the ceremony.

Following the crowning of the queens one of the finest programs of the entire week was given—a pageant entitled: "Eastern Carolina Yesterday and Today," participated in by the various towns of Johnston county. Miss Irene Myatt directed this pageant and each episode was executed in a most creditable manner. Episode one was presented by Clayton. It was an Indian scene in which the Indian Spirit thanked "Great Manitto" for his many blessings. An Indian chant and Corn Dance was a part of this scene.

Episode two was given by Benson and portrayed the beginning of white civilization in Eastern Carolina. The (Continued on page five)

KU KLUX GIVE TO PRINCETON CHURCH

Robed Figures Present Nearly Hundred Dollars To Continue Building Program

CHURCH ACCEPTS GIFT

Princeton, April 20.—The congregation of the Missionary Baptist church were treated to an unusual occurrence Sunday night just before the close of the regular sermon by the pastor, Rev. Jas. W. Rose.

Ten members of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan wearing their full hooded regalia marched into the church and formed a half circle around the rostrum when one of the number presented an envelope to the pastor, which contained the following words:

"To the Pastor and members of the Princeton Baptist church: Greetings: We, the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan have recently learned that an effort is being made among you to do some building on your church, and that this effort is being handicapped to some extent on account of lack of funds.

Therefore we bring you this free will offering, not to gain honor for ourselves, but that it may act as an incentive to the members of this church to go forward in this building program, and in order that you may know that the Ku Klux Klan is always ready to aid and assist in the upbuilding of the Protestant churches and the spreading of the Gospel in our land, for we realize that true Christian Religion is indispensable in the enforcement of our laws, and in stamping out lawlessness in general, and we want you to know that we are a tall times striving most zealously for better churches, better schools, better homes and a better country.

May God's richest blessings rest upon you and this church is our earnest prayer."

The envelope which was handed to the pastor contained nearly one hundred dollars. The church voted immediately to accept the gift with thanks, after which the white robed visitors marched out to their waiting cars.

The white robed visitors are invited to come again and even though they do not bring any contribution they will be given the glad hand. The latch string always hangs on the outside and they are welcome.

Mr. Dick Wallace Dead

Mr. Dick Wallace died at the home of his son, Mr. C. W. Wallace in the Hopewell section, Sunday night about 12:20 o'clock. Mr. Wallace had been sick about six weeks suffering from heart trouble. He was eighty years old last October.

When he was seventeen years old he volunteered for service in the Confederate army and served about eighteen months during the Civil War. Only four members of his company survive him. After the war he returned home and married Miss Louvinia Ormond who died several years ago. He never married again but lived alone at his home until several weeks ago when he went to live with his son. He is survived by only one son and one grandchild.

The funeral services were conducted by Elder Jesse Barnes, of this city, yesterday afternoon about four o'clock and interment was made in the cemetery at Clement church near Four Oaks. The bereaved ones have the sympathy of the community.

Has Early Vegetables

Mrs. Z. R. Martin has one of the earliest gardens in this section. She served strawberries from her garden April 13, more than a week ago, and new Irish potatoes on the 15th. She also has a daily supply of spring turnip greens, asparagus, radish, headed lettuce and onions.

U. D. C. To Meet

There will be a meeting of the local U. D. C. this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock at the home of Mrs. H. L. Skinner. This is an important meeting and all members are urged to be present. At this time delegates will be elected to attend the meeting of the thirty-fourth district to be held at Petersburg.

Arthur Narron Again Nominated Mayor

The biggest crowd perhaps that ever assembled in a town convention was in the court house last night to name the city officers for another term of two years. J. A. Narron, the present mayor won over two others nominated in the convention by a good majority on the first ballot.

Mrs. Joe Davis placed Mayor Narron in nomination which was seconded in an eloquent speech by Mr. W. H. Lyon. Mr. Lawrence Brown nominated Mr. J. W. Stephenson and Mr. Arthur Wallace seconded him, while Mrs. T. J. Lassiter nominated Mr. T. C. Young, his nomination being seconded by Mr. T. R. Hood. Both Mr. Narron and Mr. Stephenson had announced themselves as candidate, while Mr. Young did not come out openly until his name was placed before the convention. The vote when counted stood Narron 222; Stephenson 70; Young 71. Mayor Narron placed his candidacy on actual achievement during his administration and easily won over his opponent. He was called upon for a one minute speech, and responded with appropriate words of appreciation for the honor given him and pledging the town the best administration of which he is capable. A nomination in Smithfield is virtual election, only one ticket being put out.

After a mayor was nominated, the chairman Mr. H. B. Marrow, announced that the crowd would assemble themselves according to wards and proceed to nominate the town aldermen. The result was soon announced as follows: first ward, Mr. W. H. Lassiter, the only old member of the board to be nominated; second ward, Messrs. W. F. Grimes and R. P. Holding; third ward, N. B. Grantham and W. D. Hood; fourth ward, Dr. Thel Hooks and Mr. J. D. Underwood. The only hitch in the convention was in the fourth ward which is by far the largest in the town, and here it was necessary to take two ballots in order to select the two aldermen. Others besides the successful nominees voted for were L. G. Patterson, T. C. Jordan, W. Ransom Sanders, J. H. Wiggs, W. S. Ragsdale and D. H. Creech.

The Sixth Annual Convention of the North Carolina Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs will be held in Charlotte at Hotel Charlotte on June 12th and 13th.

Six years ago business and professional women from five or six cities in North Carolina met in Charlotte to organize. Now twenty-three cities and towns have a club—four new ones having been organized this year: Maxton, Oxford, Reidsville and Rocky Mount.

Rev. D. H. Tuttle of Elm City, was in the city Friday with relatives and friends.

Miss Bettie Vinson has been spending several days in the city with relatives.