

The Smithfield Herald

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COTTON CONDITION THROUGHOUT SOUTH

Harry P. Stevens Gives Comprehensive Report Based on Personal Observation, Telegrams and Letters

BELOW NORMAL IN TEXAS

There is no more interesting topic to farmers and business men alike than the condition and prospects of the cotton crop. Mr. Harry P. Stevens of this city has furnished us with information in regard to the condition of the cotton crop as of May 25, based upon his personal investigation following a trip through several southern states. His report is as follows:

North Carolina.
The Coastal Plain region shows an increase in acreage of 3 percent. Planting completed, and 16 percent of the acreage replanted. Weather has been unfavorable, too cold, causing poor germination. Greatly delaying the crop especially in the heavier lands from Wilson North East. No Weevil reported this area. Condition 79 percent.

Eastern Piedmont region shows an increase acreage of 2 percent. Planting completed. Temperatures have been low, causing poor germination. 15 percent the acreage has been replanted. Rainfall has been sufficient this belt, except Anson, Union, Mecklenburg, Gaston and Cleveland counties. Condition 77 percent.

South Carolina.
Eastern half of state, South from McColl via Hartsville, Columbia and Aiken, shows 4 percent increase in acreage. Planting completed and 14 percent acreage replanted. Weather has been favorable. Crop about 5 days early. Sufficient rains. Weevil appearing over wide territory. Condition 80 percent.

Western section state shows 5 percent increase in acreage. Planting completed. 77 percent crop replanted. Weather favorable. Sufficient rains. No weevil as yet. Condition 80 percent.

Georgia.
North Georgia, acreage increased 6 percent. Planting completed. Very little replanted. Weather favorable except in Eastern part this belt, where it is exceedingly dry and infestation of weevil becoming heavy. Condition 80 percent.

Central Georgia, acreage increased 5 percent. Planting completed. Lack of moisture caused poor germination, result fifteen percent replanted. Crop 10 days late. Weevil appearing wide area. Condition seventy.

South Georgia, acreage increased 20 percent. Crop 10 days early. Rains light, some sections germination poor. Weevil appearing wide area. Condition 78 percent.

Alabama.
Eastern Alabama shows 6 percent increase in acreage. Crop 10 days early. Sufficient rains. Each report shows appearance weevil. Condition 77 percent.

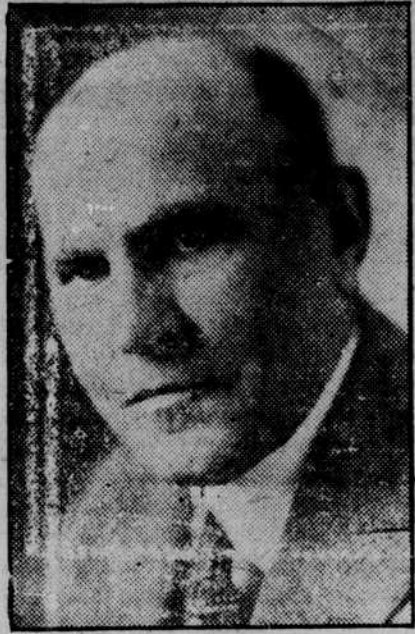
No report Western Alabama.
HARRY P. STEVENS.
Telegrams and letters from big growers and exporters in other southern states give further light on the condition of the cotton crop.

Vicksburg, Miss., May 27: "Cotton crop prospects throughout our section exceedingly favorable. Stand is good, crop clean, well advanced."

Dallas, Tex., May 28: "All sections Texas progressing satisfactorily, although cool nights north Texas retarding growth slightly. Except south central, southwest and south Texas where rain is badly needed, crop going backward and unless rain soon considerable acreage will have to be replanted. Rio Grande valley progressing fine. Corpus Christi section needs rain badly. Temperature rising."

Waco, Tex., May 27: "Texas crop very spotted. Is fair to good condition as to grass, weeds and cultivation. To the inexperienced observer it looks good. To the practical grower it is very unfavorable, because of lack of moisture, no general rains since September fifteenth last. Continued daily very low humidity, air very dry and moisture evaporating very rapidly. Unless Texas gets excess of rains (Turn to page four, please)

WM. J. RAMSEY



Mr. Ramsey will have charge of the choir during the Ham-Ramsey revival which begins here tomorrow night.

JOHNSTON COUNTY HOSPITAL ASSURED

County Commissioners Subscribe Eight Thousand Dollars To Provide County Ward

DR. RANKIN BEFORE BOARD

The Johnston County Hospital is now an assured thing. The County Board of Commissioners did the magnanimous thing yesterday and voted a subscription to the amount of eight thousand dollars for this most worthy project. This money will provide a ward in the hospital which shall take care of the poor who look to the county for their support, and the contribution may ultimately mean help from the Duke Foundation in caring for other indigent patients.

Dr. W. S. Rankin, who until yesterday has been secretary of the State Board of Health for about 16 years, put in his first day in charge of the Duke Hospital fund, with far-reaching results to Johnston County. Dr. Rankin, representing the State Health Department, was instrumental some time ago in securing for the county a whole-time health officer, and the people are due to thank him again for speaking another word in behalf of life and health to the commissioners in session here yesterday. His words, as he told of medical progress as only a part of general progress, as he pointed out how hospitals are necessary to up-to-date practice of medicine, as he recited the economic value of such an institution located between Wilson and Fayetteville and Goldsboro and Raleigh, were convincing, so convincing that the commissioners could not do less than take a part in this humane undertaking. The chairman of the county board will ex officio be a member of the board of directors of the Hospital.

Dr. W. J. B. Orr introduced Dr. Rankin and others who spoke in behalf of the proposition. After Dr. Rankin's speech, were: Mr. R. C. Gillette, Mr. Will Upchurch, a former member of the county board, Mr. H. C. H. Jones, members of the present board.

The hospital fund of \$60,000 is now within five or six thousand dollars of completion, and the committee will now push forward to sign up every cent necessary for a modern building. The blue prints are being made, and bids will soon be advertised to let the contract.

Negro Arrested Near Clayton

Andrew Sanders, colored, was arrested and three other negroes put to flight Sunday afternoon when Messrs. C. Q. Stephenson and J. J. Batten and Mr. Franks, deputy marshal, appeared on the scene where whiskey was in evidence. The negroes were found near the home of Mr. Dock Hill, a few miles south of Clayton. It is said that these men had been under suspicion some time and when a search was made a quart of whiskey was found in their possession. Sanders was brought to jail here, where he will remain until the case is tried in Recorder's Court. Three colored men who were with Sanders at the time of the arrest made their escape.

Two Tragic Events Near Bentonville

Negro Seriously Injured By Gun Shot and Baby Badly Hurt in Automobile Accident

THREE NEGROES IN JAIL

Bentonville township was the scene of two tragic events on Sunday, May 31, both of which came near resulting in the death of some of the parties connected with them.

There was a vocal union—all day song service at Pauline Baptist church which attracted an attendance of some two thousand people; and at the same time there was a Sunday school celebration in session at the Disciple church for the colored people at Bentonville. The two churches are about two miles apart.

About one p. m. a disturbance of an unknown origin started between some negroes at the negro church. According to statements made by some attendants of this celebration, one Amos Bronson, while in an infuriated frame of mind, rushed to his car, got out his shot gun and fired twice at John Roberts Kornegay, both loads taking effect in the right arm near the shoulder. The wounded man was immediately rushed to Newton Grove for medical attention, but so grave was the condition of the wound that Dr. Wilson advised immediate removal to the hospital. When Bronson was advanced upon by some of Kornegay's friends, he leveled his gun on his assailants and calmly defied any interference. He made his escape but was arrested later in the afternoon by Deputy Sheriff Edgar Powell and others, who took him to Smithfield where he was lodged in jail.

The shooting affray at Bentonville seems to have caused a commotion among the negroes present. Some two hours later a Ford car driven by one negro and occupied by two others, passed Pauline Baptist church where the white people were holding their vocal union. The car belonged to a negro by the name of Lezar Wilson, who resides at Newton Grove in Sampson County. The car was driven by Dalmon White, another negro of Newton Grove. Eye witnesses to this accident stated that White was driving past the badly crowded church yard at a rapid rate, and that at the same time a car driven by Mr. Robert Justice collided with the car upon which the negroes were riding, breaking the radius rod in the negroes' car, and driving it into another car which was occupied by a Mrs. Carl Register, of Meadow township. Both Mrs. Register and her baby received a severe shock and the baby received injuries which necessitated medical attention. Dr. J. H. Stanley, of Four Oaks, attended the baby, and reports indicate that no permanent injury will result. Immediately after this unfortunate collision, the occupants of the car driven by the negro, Dalmon White, were arrested. They were found to be partly intoxicated and one was carrying a pistol concealed about his person. They were brought to Smithfield a few hours afterwards and lodged in jail.

Reputable citizens of the county have stated that it is of common occurrence to see negroes in this section going to the places of worship on Sundays with shot guns in their cars. There is usually enough whiskey in the hands of this type of negroes to create a disturbance, and it is not surprising to learn of such affrays as this one.

DEAN GILGORE RESIGNS

Dr. B. W. Kilgore, dean of State College, submitted his resignation at a recent meeting of the board of trustees, which was accepted. Some sort of disagreement between Dean Kilgore and President E. C. Brooks is said to have caused the resignation. No statements, however, in regard to it were given out.

COUNTY LOAN FOR ROAD HELD VOID

Attorney General Gives Opinion at Request of Highway Commissioner On Advances To Counties

ADVANCES TO 43 COUNTIES

An article published in Saturday's News and Observer will be of interest to Johnston County citizens in that it gives the ruling of the Attorney General which affects the contract recently made between this county and the State Highway Commission. The contract called for a hard-surfaced road through this county north and south, the county to lend \$500,000 to the Highway Commission to be paid back by the State from future appropriations for roads. The article referred to is in part as follows:

"All loans by counties to the State Highway Commission to be repaid out of subsequent road bond issues are illegal and void, according to an opinion rendered yesterday by Attorney-General Dennis G. Brummitt in response to a resolution asking his opinion on the question passed at the meeting of the State Highway Commission here on Wednesday.

The matter of county loans has been attracting considerable interest recently due to pending loans of \$1,500,000 by Halifax County and \$850,000 by Wake County which were opposed by Commissioner John Sprunt Hill, of the Fourth District, on the grounds that the commission would be unable to repay the counties out of the next bond issue. He stated that it would require a \$100,000,000 bond issue to repay Halifax County. Advocates of county loans have held that with many counties expecting to be repaid large bond issues would be voted by sessions of the General Assembly.

"Forty-three counties have already advanced \$10,608,944 to the Highway Commission for road construction work, according to figures of the commission compiled as of May 30. All of these counties have not made 'loans' to the commission, some of them donating sums for use inside their borders. The majority of cases, however, are 'loans', it was stated. A few of the county advances include roads already built and turned over to the commission later. The majority of the advances were made under contracts with the commission whereby the county was to be repaid out of its share in subsequent bond issues.

"Even if the money is a gift from the county to the Highway Commission the Attorney-General declares that 'In accepting and using money so advanced by a county, the Commission should be careful not to abdicate its discretion or to fail to exercise the powers conferred upon it by the law. A failure to exercise powers conferred would be as contrary to public policy as the exercise of authority not given. It is for the Commission in the exercise of its reasonable discretion to determine the order in which roads should be built, the rapidity with which construction should proceed, and the type of road to place in any particular link of the State system.'

"State Highway Commissioner Frank Page yesterday refused to be quoted on his reaction to the opinion. 'Mr. Brummitt in his opinion holds that the powers of the Highway Commission are limited to those given in the act creating it and amendatory acts. He does not believe that this power was granted in any of these acts. He holds that the contracts between the counties and the commission are beyond the authority of the commission to bind itself and the State and are therefore 'ultra vires and illegal.'

"In the light of Mr. Brummitt's opinion, it would appear that not only future contracts but contracts already entered into and acted upon are illegal and void."

Circle No. 4 To Meet

Circle No. 4 of the Methodist Missionary Society will meet Thursday afternoon at four o'clock with Mrs. S. R. Brady. All members are urged to be present.

S. S. Holt Is Killed by Raleigh Officer

WILL TEST LEGALITY OF LOANS

In order to test the validity of the ruling of Attorney-General Brummitt made last week that all loans by counties to the State Highway Commission for the construction of roads are illegal, Mr. T. C. Young, of this city, will bring suit before Judge Frank Daniels in the Wake County Superior Court, in an action to restrain the Johnston County commissioners from paying to the Highway Commission any part of the loan of \$500,000 made by this county. The loan on which the suit is based was entered into by highway and county authorities several weeks ago, the loan being the amount of \$500,000 to be used for paving route 22 passing north and south through the county. The suit will be brought before Judge Daniels today and will be sent immediately to the Supreme Court for final determination. The suit is a friendly suit, brought purely for the purpose of testing the ruling.

GRADUATING CLASS HEARS DR. BAGBY

Delivers Fine Discourse on "The Finished Product of Manhood and Womanhood."

ANTHEMS BY UNION CHOIR

The commencement exercises proper began Sunday evening with the baccalaureate sermon in the high school auditorium preached by Dr. A. Paul Bagby, of Wake Forest.

The service was opened with the Doolittle, immediately after the thirty-three graduates had filed into the auditorium and taken their places. Rev. Chester Alexander, pastor of the Presbyterian church, offered prayer and then Dr. Bagby read the Scripture Lesson. The choir composed of singers from the various churches sang two lovely anthems: "Seek Ye The Lord", and "Hark, Hark! My Soul". Miss Frances White and Mr. A. M. Calais sang the solo parts. The closing prayer was offered by Rev. S. L. Morgan, pastor of the Baptist church.

The preacher was introduced by Supt. Franks, who commended his wide-awake church in Wake Forest, one of the reasons for inviting him to Smithfield. Dr. Bagby announced his text, Col. 2:10, "Ye are complete in Him," and then proceeded to picture to the graduating class an ideal, well-rounded life. "The Finished Product of Manhood and Womanhood" is what he called his subject, and before he was through he made his audience realize that there is something in every individual that is infinitely great.

In discussing what is a finished product, he used the negative style of proving his point. "The finished product," said Mr. Bagby, "is not physique, whether of brawn or of beauty." That which is finished must last. The finished product is not brain. Physique is good, knowledge is good, but they do not constitute the finished product. Neither is the finished product a matter of morality. The devil forged his brag lie when he whispered that a young man must sow his wild oats. Dr. Bagby believes in morality, but it alone does not make the finished product.

"The finished product," stated the preacher, "is a matter of religion." It is a matter of vital union with God. It is a matter of service, a matter of eternity. He closed his discourse with the story of Alice McKinley, niece of President McKinley, who chose as she graduated from Wellesley, to spend her life as a missionary rather than become the adopted daughter of the White House.

Watch the date on your label and don't let your subscription expire.

Smithfield Shocked When News of the Awful Tragedy Was Heard.

A tragedy that shocked all Smithfield occurred yesterday afternoon on the Raleigh-Smithfield road not far outside of Raleigh, when a plainclothes man, Jesse Wyatt shot at an automobile and killed almost instantly Stephen S. Holt, of this city.

According to the best information at this writing, the chief of police of Raleigh together with Wyatt, a detective in plainclothes, were riding out of Raleigh. As they neared the Walnut Creek bridge they saw the cars stopped by the roadside one of which was the car in which Mr. Holt, Mr. Dock Woodard, of Boon Hill and two other men, were in. One of the officers remarked to the other that they looked like cars that transferred whiskey into Raleigh. Passing on several yards they stopped and started back to the parked cars. About this time Mr. Woodard's car moved off. Mr. Wyatt signified the car to stop. Instead of stopping, the driver speeded up, the officer fired at the auto and a shot struck Mr. Holt at the base of his brain causing almost instant death. The cars were searched but no evidence of any whiskey was found. The men started back to Raleigh with the injured man but he died before the hospital was reached. The body was taken to Brown's Undertaking Shop.

Mr. Holt left Smithfield early yesterday morning going to Raleigh to represent some clients in Federal Court. Court had adjourned for the day, and he was returning home when the accident occurred.

Funeral arrangements have not been made at this writing, but it is expected that the funeral will be this afternoon.

The deceased was a prominent lawyer in this city being the senior member of the firm Ward & Holt.

He leaves a wife, three daughters, Mrs. Nat Pierson of Enfield, Mrs. Roscoe Bass and Miss Tama Holt of this city. He also leaves an aged mother, Mrs. E. J. Holt, a sister, Mrs. H. D. Ellington, and two brothers, Messrs R. R. and W. N. Holt.

The sympathy of the community goes out to the family in their hour of bereavement

YEARLING JUMPS INTO CAR

Mr. Leonard L. Ennis had a unique experience Sunday afternoon on the Raleigh road near Wright's farm. It seems a yearling belonging to Mr. Wright had broken out of the pasture and Mr. Wright had set the dogs on him. The yearling in his efforts to escape the dogs, landed in the back seat of Mr. Ennis' touring car as he was passing by. Some slight damage was done to the car, and the yearling suffered a hard blow on the pavement.

STATE BUILDING CONTRACTS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO GOV.

Raleigh, June 1.—Governor McLean requests the heads of State institutions to submit all building contracts to him before taking final action. This is in harmony with the budget law which contains a provision that "each State institution receiving appropriations for permanent improvements under the Act of 1925, shall budget their requirements and present same to the director of the budget before any of such appropriations shall become available."

Necessary estimate forms have been forwarded to department and institutional heads with requests for permanent improvement estimates. Around four million dollars in bonds was authorized by the Legislature for permanent improvements and will be available on the first of July.

Deserved The Job

Employer: What can you do, boy?
Boy: Anything, sir.
Employer: Can you whee la barrow full of smoke?
Boy: Certainly, sir, if you will fill it.—Good Hardware.