

Smithfield Needs:
 -Bigger pay roll.
 -Modern hospital.
 -Renovation of Opera house.
 -More paved streets.
 -Chamber Commerce

The Smithfield Herald

"We Like
 Smithfield---
 You will too"

Johnston County's Oldest and Best Newspaper -- Established 1882

Forty-fourth Year

SMITHFIELD, N. C., FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 10, 1925

Number 68

BUSY TUESDAY IN RECORDERS COURT

Church Official in Trouble; Practical Jokers Appeal From 12 Months Sentence.

CHEAP PISTOL IS COSTLY

The Recorder's Court had a busy day here Tuesday. Several cases on the criminal docket were disposed of and some were carried over to Wednesday.

The cases attracting most attention for the day were as follows:

David Flowers, white, a young man of Wilders township, against whom there were three charges: resisting an officer, disturbing public worship and assault. He was found guilty on every count, but due to this being his first appearance in court judgment was suspended upon payment of costs.

Kelly Peedin, of Clayton township, a church official of some pronounced dignity, was in court on a charge of drunkenness and disorderly conduct. He was found guilty and was discharged under suspended judgment and payment of costs.

Foxey Holder and Robert Hastings, two negroes of Wilders, well known in court circles here, were here this time on a new charge, that of trying to get their good friend, the venerable Tom Wiggins, in trouble by taking a still to his home and asking permission to leave it there while they went in quest of repairs for same. But instead of returning with repairs they notified a local officer that Tom Wiggins was in possession of a "big, fine, bully still." They were found guilty and the prank cost them a twelve month road sentence. They appealed.

Jasper Pleasant from Selma got a sixty day road sentence for carrying the cheapest pistol ever exhibited in court here and called a concealed weapon. He was bound over to the Superior Court on another count, that of larceny.

Eddie Lee, well known darkie of Smithfield, got sixty days in jail for violating prohibition laws. He appealed to superior court where he will be called upon to face another charge an assault with a deadly weapon.

Wright Turnage, an aged citizen of Grabtown, was in court charged with slandering the name of a young girl. He was found guilty but his advance years modified matters in his favor, and he was released under suspended judgment upon payment of costs.

INDICATIONS POINT BUMPER CROP FOR JOHNSTON CO.

The crop reports from the various parts of the county are fairly uniform, and the indications now point to a bumper crop of corn, tobacco, peas and beans. Cotton is growing fine in almost every section of the county, but more general complaint is being made about the boll weevil than we have heretofore heard of this season of the year. In some sections the farmers are dusting, but as a general thing the farmers of this county are working and hoping that weather conditions will again become their ally in their fight against this costly pest.

DENTAL CLINIC AT PRINCETON AND PINE LEVEL

Dr. J. S. Moore, who has been working in this county for the past few weeks under the State Board of Health, will be at the Princeton school building Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, July 13, 14, and 15, to conduct a dental clinic. It is desired that as many children as possible between the ages of six and twelve take advantage of this clinic and have dental defects remedied.

A similar clinic will be held at the Pine Level school Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 16, 17, and 18. Dr. Moore begins his work each morning at 9:30 and closes at 5:30 each afternoon except on Saturday when he closes at 12:30.

The following are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wiggs today at their home on East Johnson Street: Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Brigman and son, of Miami, Fla., Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Williams and Miss Lollie Williams, Mrs. G. L. Sykes, Naomi and Lambert Sykes, and Mr. Robert Henry Lyon, of Salenburgh.

Boy Preacher



Forest Weaver, fifteen-year-old preacher-boy is now in an evangelistic campaign at Wilson's Mills Baptist church with evangelist Roy E. York, of Fort Worth, Texas. The meeting began Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock. Services are held at 10:30 each morning and at 8:00 each evening. The "Warbler Chorus", composed of young people between the ages of ten and fifteen, is an interesting feature of these services. In addition to his part in the regular services, Forest Weaver, the young preacher, will give illustrations and lead the "Warbler Chorus" each morning at 9:00. On Friday he will speak on the "Baby Elephant." Come to these services and bring your friends.

JUNE LOSES OUT AS "MONTH OF BRIDES"

And Fourth of July Makes Poor Holiday Showing; December Is the Month.

Whether it is the heat, the new State tax, or just the high cost of living might be hard to tell, but one thing is certain: June has lost its place in Johnston county as the most popular month for getting married in and the Fourth of July made a mighty poor holiday showing.

Listed as the month of brides, with all the accompanying sentiment, June of 1925 saw only 21 licenses for white people issued from the office of M. L. Stancil, County Register of Deeds. The day before the Fourth only two were recorded. The record for the first seven days of July totaled only five.

"It can't be the raise in the price of license," opined Mr. Stancil, "for the reason, that no man, if he loved a girl, would let two extra dollars stand between him and matrimony. June is a tight month for money and they think before they leap. In December money is a little more plentiful and they leap before they think."

Last June only 22 licenses were issued, and that was before the 1925 General Assembly boosted the price of licenses from three dollars to five dollars.

It just appears that December is the month, and around about Christmas is the day.

Despite the traditions about June, last December saw 54 licenses issued to white people, over double that of June. The number for negroes run well under that for the white people.

The total number of licenses issued last year to white people was 406 and to negroes 149.

FILE PETITIONS FOR PAVING BEFORE 20TH

All those interested in paving should get their petitions under way at once. At a meeting in the City Clerk's office July 7th, it was decided to get all new paving contracts under way as soon as possible.

Mr. George J. Brooks, paving engineer of Beaufort, has been employed and will be on the job July 20th, at which time all petitions for paving postively must be filed in the city clerk's office, according to an announcement made from the Clerk's office Tuesday.

REVISION COUNTY JURY LIST BEGUN

Task One For Caution and De-liberation; Dr. Massey Re-ports Conquey Ditch as Nuisance.

The county commissioners were in session here Wednesday engaged in making the bi-ennial revision of the county jury list. The law requires that none but good and lawful men can qualify for jury duties. The commissioners are making the revision with caution and painstaking, and they find that it is a task which requires a great deal of time. The work could not be completed that day.

Of importance to the town of Smithfield, was the report of Dr. C. C. Massey, County health officer, in which he declared that the Conquey Ditch which drains the town of Smithfield is now a nuisance and menace due to its choked up condition. The Board recommends that said ditch be either filled up or kept open at the west end, so that all accumulations could be drained into Neuse River.

LOCAL CITIZENS DEFEND MR. HAM

Evangelist No Enemy of Education; H. B. Marrow and Judge Brooks Make Statements.

In response to articles appearing in the Greensboro Daily News and the Raleigh News and Observer of July 7th, which attempted to show that Rev. M. F. Ham, evangelist who closed a meeting of four weeks duration here last Sunday night, had exerted an anti-educational influence in Johnston county, Mr. H. B. Marrow, county superintendent of public instruction, denied that he held the preacher responsible for local school troubles.

A later issue of the News and Observer gives publicity to this statement, and also to a statement given out by Judge F. H. Brooks, as follows:

"I do not believe that Mr. Ham's preaching was responsible for the controversy," Mr. Marrow said. "As I said, some men told me that he said that education is bringing about all these modern evils. They declared they were afraid such statements would prejudice some people against education. I don't think Mr. Ham's meeting was responsible for the controversy and I wouldn't want to reflect on the great good he did in Johnston county by saying so. I was busy and didn't attend many of his meetings."

"In a statement to the News and Observer, Judge F. H. Brooks says:

"There is no connection whatever with the school matter here and the Ham-Ramsay meeting. There is no connection with Democratic or Republican politics in Johnston county and the Ham-Ramsay revival, except that the Republican sheriff, Mr. J. P. Parker, and many other Republicans and many Democrats were converted in the meeting; and a great host of people, Republicans and Democrats alike, are praising God for sending the Ham-Ramsay evangelistic party to our county."

"The writer attended every service held by Mr. Ham during his four weeks stay here, (except Wednesday when he was subpoenaed to attend the Wyatt trial in Raleigh), and went with Mr. Ham to Goldsboro, Dunn, Benson, Clayton, Selma and Raleigh and heard him speak but never did he hear Mr. Ham say anything that would justify the article in Tuesday's News and Observer or Monday or Tuesday's Greensboro News. Mr. Ham never criticized the schools of Johnston or any other county, but did refer to the institutions of higher learning which had imported German philosophers who had taught their damnable doctrines which had shaken the faith of many of our boys and girls in the teachings of the Bible and of Christian parents. The cause of education has not nor will be impeded by reason of anything Mr. Ham said while in Smithfield."

"The Laymen's Federation at the

(Turn to page four, please)

Proposed Cut School Budget Threatens County Progress

Conducting Revival at Four Oaks



Rev. T. F. Callaway of Georgia who will be the preacher in a series of Revival Meeting at the Baptist church of Four Oaks, beginning Sunday July 12th. Everybody invited.

BAPTISTS HOLD CHURCH WARMING

100 Testimonies Tuesday Night; 18 Additions to Church; 19 Converts at Pisgah.

(By Cherry Gurley)

Though the Ham-Ramsay party is gone we find the revival for Johnston County has just begun, and those who are on fire for Christ are capable of reaping a great harvest from the seeds of gospel sown by the evangelist here.

On Tuesday night one of the most spiritual meetings in the experience of the church was conducted in the First Baptist church here. Over one hundred persons, representing practically every denomination in the town, testified of the great blessings received during the recent revival, of a clearer vision of the Christ, and a louder call to obey the last great command. This meeting was continued through Wednesday night when a goodly number of converts were baptized. Others will be ready at a later date, and there are still others that need only a word, a hearty invitation from some good Christian, and they will be ready to accept Christ as their personal Savior.

A number of the laymen went out to Pisgah on Tuesday night and reported nineteen converts. They say it was one of the most glorious meetings they ever were in, and many have realized "The harvest truly is plenteous but the laborers are few."

The following were received into the church by baptism Wednesday night: Theodore G. Boyette, Paul V. Brown, Jr., Lemuel V. Creech, Fred Blackman, Trent V. Hunter, Thomas G. Johnson, Thomas Jordan, Jr., Lacy E. Lassiter, J. Furman Stancil, Joseph C. Stancil, James A. R. Stancil, Leo T. Stephenson, D. Jefferson Wallace, William E. Wright, Mrs. J. A. Underhill.

Mrs. H. L. Sellers was received by letter.

Enterprising Turkey Hen

Mr. J. Herman Stephenson, of Smithfield, Route 1, has an old black turkey hen that has laid 2 litters of eggs, making a total of 55 eggs this season, and is still laying. The average number of eggs set under her is 25, and she hatches an average of 18 little ones. She is now carrying a brood of young turkeys and is laying right on.

MUCH PROGRESS IS MADE IN BENSON

Quarter Million Spent in Buildings, Including School; Kiwanis Goes Forward.

(By Cherry Gurley)

Benson, July 9.—The visitor will notice constant changes in the growth and activities of Benson during the past year. One hears the constant beat of the carpenter's hammer. A quarter of a million dollars have been spent in buildings of various descriptions. Including fifteen or twenty brick stores, school building, ice plant, garages, filling stations etc. The casual visitor will notice also new and handsome residences on every street, that have been erected during the year. Benson is surrounded by one of the best agricultural sections in this part of the state. She is furnished by mothe rearth an abundance of natural resources.

The Kiwanis Club celebrated their first anniversary Tuesday evening with Ladies' Night at the North State hotel. Dr. A. S. Oliver, president, read the "History of Kiwanis in Benson". He showed that a great deal has been accomplished in the club's existence of one year. Mr. L. L. Levinson spoke on "Our Ladies". He enumerated women's rights since the early days up to the present time, closing with the statement "You can't live with her and you can't live without her." Special music was rendered by Mesdames A. S. Oliver and J. T. Morgan and Miss Wilhelmina Utley. The main speaker of the occasion was Hon. H. L. Godwin of Dunn. He used as his subject "The Growth and Development of North Carolina", with special emphasis on this section of the State. The speaker was introduced by Judge Ezra Parker. Dr. W. T. Martin acted as Toastmaster. A delightful menu was served by the North State Hotel.

CONTRACTORS BEGIN WORK ON BRIDGE OVER A. C. L. RY.

Watkins and Forline, contractors of Virgilina, Va., have recently pitched camp near Selma, and are at work grading Route No. 10 between here and Princeton. The contractors who will build the overhead bridge over the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad came Thursday and started work at once. The overhead bridge will be placed over the railroad track about half mile west of the corporate limits on Route 10.

County Commissioners Would Cut Budget \$185,000; Amicable Settlement Hoped For July 14th.

MAY FORFEIT STATE AID

A strenuous day for Johnston county officials is expected Tuesday July 13th, when the board of education and county commissioners meet jointly to settle the school budget question. This issue has been in agitation for several months, causing much perplexity and trouble locally, provoking some speculative discussions throughout the State. The proposal of the commissioners to cut \$185,000 off the original budget of \$441,000 as drafted by the board of education is viewed with apparent distress by several of the leading papers, and attention has been called to the effect such a step would probably have on the apportionment of the 1926-27 Equalization Fund.

The following paragraphs from an article in The Raleigh News and Observer of July 7, give a disinterested, if slightly pessimistic, view of the situation:

"Controversies between Republican boards of county commissioners and Democratic School Boards, which developed in Sampson, Washington, and Yadkin counties, have reached their greatest proportions in Johnston county where at present the Republican commissioners are threatening a cut of \$185,000 in the budget of \$441,000 proposed by the Democratic school board.

"The row in Johnston got out into the open when the school board presented a budget of \$441,000 on June 19. The county commissioners employed T. H. Franks, Wake County Republican and former superintendent of the Smithfield city schools, to check over the proposed budget and to draft a substitute. The substitute leaked out and the school board discovered that it was due to additional cost of \$3,000 more.

"Education in Johnston county appears to be in a rather bad fix just now. The finance committee of the county commissioners are alleging that the old Democratic sheriff, W. J. Massey, is \$115,000 behind in his accounts with the school fund. Great difference of opinion exists as to the policies of erecting many school houses throughout the county or a smaller number of consolidated schools at strategic points. Rev. M. F. Ham has just left the county after a revival of several weeks during which he said some hard things of education. Added to all this, last year the tax levied for schools fell \$48,000 short of the amount authorized in the budget.

"The situation in Johnston has caused a lot of worry in State official circles inside of the State Department of Education and elsewhere. The new equalization Fund Commission gave Johnston county \$17,500 out of the \$335,000 increase in the fund voted by the last General Assembly. This gives the State a real interest in the controversy.

Equalization Fund Commission is very much interested and members of the commission have intimated that if the Johnston commissioners cut the budget to such an extent, Johnston county will be left out completely when the next apportionment is made, as it was before the new commission began functioning.

Equalization Committee

In its letter issued when it apportioned that part of the fund left in its discretion, the commission stated: "But if the apportionment is used so as to decrease the amounts to be raised by the counties for teacher's salaries and for lowering the efficiency of the schools, the Commission will take this into consideration when it meets to apportion the fund for 1926-27."

"The county commissioners have wide discretion in some matters relating to the school budget, but in other matters the law intervenes to cut out discretion. The salary of teachers, expenses necessary to the health and comfort of the children, and the

(Turn to page four, please)