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 —Bigger pay roll.  
 —New Hotel.  
 —Renovation of Opera house.  
 —More paved streets.  
 —Chamber Commerce

# The Smithfield Herald

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Forty-fourth Year

SMITHFIELD, N. C., FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 7, 1925

Number 76

## CAPT. RHEM MAKES PRISON STATEMENT

Tells of Charge in Conditions at State Prison During His Connection There For Thirty-Six Years.

### COMMENDS GEO. ROSS POU

(Since this article was set up news comes of the death of Capt. Rhem which occurred suddenly Tuesday at the Caledonia Farm. Capt. Rhem was 79 years old.)

Capt. C. J. Rhem, Farm Supervisor for the State's Prison for nearly thirty-six years, makes the following statement in regard to the change in conditions there during that time which have had considerable bearing upon the financial status of the institution:

Having been a farm supervisor of the State's Prison for more than thirty-five years and having served under every administration since 1886, with the exception of the Russell administration, I feel that I am sufficiently and properly informed to submit to the people of North Carolina a statement with reference to the State's Prison.

Under the administration the News and Observer has written about, no attention was given to sanitation of sleeping quarters, under a part of these no pillows, no sheets, no gowns, no towels, no underwear were given the prisoners. The food and clothing were insufficient. Practically no surgical attention, no dental attention, no attention to other ailments except such as could be given by a general practitioner. Now those things are taken care of by a specialist in each line. In many cases the lash or "Black Aggie"—as it was called, was freely applied. Overseers were allowed to lash men generally, but under my particular charge I never allowed a man to be lashed until his case had been thoroughly investigated. For I have never approved of the lash except in peculiarly extreme cases. The prisoners were driven. The Prison showed a profit. The people were satisfied because a profit was shown.

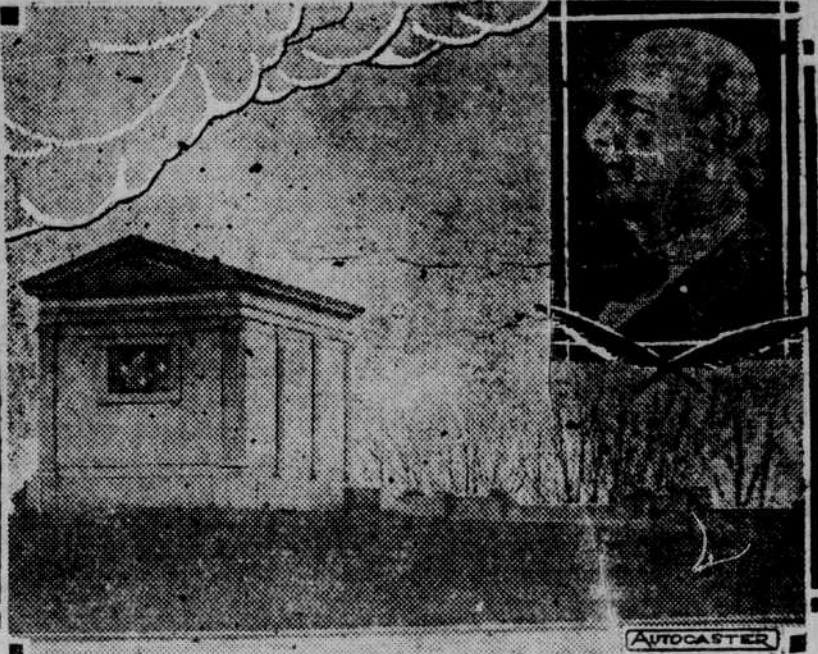
I have not a word of criticism for the splendid gentlemen who presided over the Prison during that "dark age." The public should have no word of criticism for them or for those of us who carried out their instructions. The fault was with the public. The cry was for "profit." Profit even at the cost of human life. Improvements in prison conditions have come slowly. At this present time conditions are by far better in every sense than I have ever known them to be in my long years of service as an officer of the State Prison. The profits that are shown now are by far greater than any that could be written in dollars and cents. A great change has taken place. While the prison has not shown a money profit, read ahead as to what is now being done.

Prisoners are now treated as human beings. They are given a balanced daily ration, they are given clean sleeping quarters, they are given sufficient clothing, they are given smoking and chewing tobacco, they are given proper medical attention, surgical attention, dental attention. Attention is given to the eyes, ears, nose and throat. They are allowed some time for recreation. A band has been organized at my camp and much interest is shown in the Saturday evening ball games, to which only well behaved prisoners are allowed to go. The lash has been abolished. Stationary and stamps are furnished prisoners, a collection of books and magazines at each camp. Each prisoner upon commitment receives a New Testament. Each one receives an aluminum drinking cup. Those suffering with syphilis and other abominable diseases have been removed from the camps and are now segregated upon commitment.

The people should keep in mind that Mr. Pou has served us during a period of business depression throughout the country. It should keep in mind that he has had to build up two dilapidated farms, totalling more than 8000 acres. Farmers think of that. People about Raleigh are witnesses to the wonderful improvements

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## Where Great Commoner Now Rests



Above is pictured the plot in Arlington National Cemetery where the body of Wm. Jennings Bryan is laid at rest. The mausoleum shown is where the body of Admiral Dewey rested for years but recently transferred to a crypt in National Cathedral. This site is the highest point overlooking the Potomac and Washington.

## CITIZENS OF COUNTY ENTER A PROTEST

Folks Down Kenly Way Concerned Over Fact That Wilson County May Not Hardsurface Route 22

Some of our citizens in the northern part of the county are quite disturbed over reports which they regard as authentic that Wilson county does not propose to hard surface its part of State Highway No. 22. Dr. B. H. Hackney, of Lucama, was in the city yesterday in the interest of bringing pressure to bear to the end that Wilson county change its mind. Quite a number of citizens in Johnston who live near the Wilson line have signed a resolution in regard to the matter the text of which is as follows:

We, the undersigned citizens of Johnston county, having heard authoritatively that the Wilson county Highway Commission have voted and passed a resolution recommending that the State Highway Commission expend the Five Hundred Thousand Dollars loaned to it by the county of Wilson, in the hard-surfacing of Highways Nos. 91 and 42, thereby abandoning the idea of hard-surfacing Highway No. 22, which leads to Johnston county, desire to take this method of entering our most solemn protest to the treatment which Wilson county proposes to accord us. It is a well known fact that, heretofore the farmers of Johnston county have sold practically all of their leaf tobacco on the Wilson tobacco market, and this in spite of the fact that they have a home market available at Smithfield, with facilities sufficient to handle their entire crops. It is equally known that the wholesale and retail merchants of Wilson have been favored with no small amount of Johnston county trade; and this, too, in spite of the fact that they had the opportunity to satisfy their need from wholesale and retail dealers in Johnston and other counties. As an appreciation of this treatment, on the part of our citizens, what gratitude does Wilson show?

Suffice it to say, that it results in the construction of three hard-surfaced roads to Nash county, two to Greene county, two to Edgecombe, one to Wayne and NONE TO JOHNSTON.

The members of the Wilson county Highway Commission, and those backing their present plans, are to be the judges as to whether or not such gratitude touches a responsive chord in Johnston county. Let their conscience be their guide.

W. J. Hooks, J. W. Darden, D. T. Crawford, Watson & Alford, A. J. Broughton, G. G. Edgerton & Son, Edgerton Motor Co., O. Y. Edgerton, H. M. Grizzard, W. M. Boykin, Barnes Pope, J. H. Barnes, P. H. Etheridge, mayor, E. L. Etheridge, Etheridge Printing Co., A. M. Godwin, Farmers Bank of Kenly by A. W. Godwin, G. B. Woodard, M. D. and J. T. Ward, R. T. Fulghum, W. T. Bailey & Son, J. D. Bailey, L. Z. Woodard, J. W. Darden & Brother, Darden & Sellers, R. A. Hales, Bailey Auto Co., J. M.

## Five and Ten Cent Store Chain Grows

Mr. N. J. Binning, who is manager of Rose's five and ten cent store here, left Sunday for Oxford where he is having Rose's five and ten cent store there enlarged. The adjacent building has been purchased and the partition is being removed, making the store twice its former size.

Mr. Rose is also opening a five and ten cent store at Edenton and another at Winston-Salem, completing a chain of twenty-six stores. The new store at Winston-Salem is said to be one of the most modern in the United States. Besides its regular stock of goods, it is equipped with a cafeteria and soda fountain. Rose's store here was the twenty-third in the chain. Smithfield is fortunate in having one of these stores located here.

## CARRY ELECTION TO CONSOLIDATE

Consolidated Territory Was Formerly Divided Into Five School Districts.

The Glendale District voting with the Moore's and Watson Districts on Tuesday, August 4th, carried the election for consolidation with 203 votes cast for the consolidation and 126 against. The result of this election is that the consolidated district will pay a flat rate of taxation of 50c, which will displace the special and bond tax heretofore voted in the districts. The Watson school building having been burned recently all the children of this district will be carried to the Glendale school. Moore's district will operate its two teacher school for the primary grades only, and the upper grades, and high school students will go to the Glendale school. This newly consolidated district has approximately 800 children in it.

The development of the Glendale school, which now is in the heart of the county, a school equipped as well as any town school in the county and which will go on the accredited list this year, has been interesting. About fifty years ago the father and grandfather of Mr. J. W. Woodard, who is now a member of the Board of Education, built what was known as the Woodard school. Later in Aycock's day this district was divided and from it was formed the Godwin and Watson districts, which established schools of their own. About ten years ago the Godwin district consolidated with the Woodard district under the name of Glendale. After several attempts a special tax was carried in the new Glendale district. Then about 1917 a two-story wooden building was erected which served the community until the present modern brick build-

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Woodard, Jr., Johnson Brothers, J. G. High, J. T. Edgerton & Brother, H. R. Renfrow, Renfrow & Watson, Ellis Kamman, Kirby Drug Co., A. F. Bowen, Geo. S. Coleman, M. D., J. W. Woodard, Bank of Kenly, E. B. Draughon.

## TOWN PUTS IN NEW ACCOUNTING SYSTEM

Board Passes Emergency Act Requiring All Dogs to be Vaccinated Against Rabies Within Next 60 Days.

The town board of commissioners at its regular meeting Tuesday night approved the new system of accounting recommended by A. M. Pullen & Company, certified public accountants, who have recently completed an audit of the city books. The town finances are in excellent shape and with the new method of keeping record, one will be able to tell at the close of any day's business the financial status. The new system has been installed as of May 1, 1925, the beginning of the fiscal year.

Three main divisions in the accounting plan have been established, namely, General Account, Capital Account, and Sinking Fund Account.

The General Account reflects the transactions in connection with the general operations of the town and is made up of the record of the revenues from taxes, licenses, rents, electric lights, water, etc.

The Capital Account includes transactions in connection with the issuing of bonds, all investments, capital expenditures, town properties and permanent improvements, together with outstanding bonded indebtedness.

The Sinking Fund Account reflects all transactions in connection with the sinking funds established for the purpose of retiring bonds at maturity.

Time books will be kept by the respective department superintendents which, after being O. K.'d by the superintendent and proper commissioner, are turned over to the town clerk who in turn checks before providing necessary funds for the pay roll. These time sheets are filed in the office of the town clerk.

All cash receipts pass through the hands of the town clerk who at least once a month turns over to the treasurer all funds collected. The funds collected are daily deposited in a special account designated as the town's funds.

No changes were suggested in the way of handling electric light bills, water bills, licenses and vouchers.

A special emergency act was passed at the meeting Tuesday night, requiring all dogs to be vaccinated against rabies within sixty days from Tuesday night. Those who fail to comply with this law will be required to pay a penalty of fifty dollars. Dr. Rosser Lane furnishes the dose and administers it to those who wish him to.

There is a law already on the statute books, but which has not been generally enforced, that requires all persons who own cows and sell milk and butter, to have their cows tested for tuberculosis. This law was resurrected and will be enforced. Dr. Lane was designated as city veterinarian.

Another matter which touches the health of the community was discussed, that of mosquito drainage. It was ordered that a survey of the town be made to find probable breeding places for mosquitoes and that all such places be sprayed.

The town board voted to cooperate with the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce in getting out a publication known as the "Tell to World Edition" for East Carolina. Three hundred dollars was appropriated for two pages in this edition. Information comes to us that the other towns solicited did their share and Johnston county is destined to receive quite a bit of advertising over a wide area.

One of the liveliest discussions before the City-Fathers was the paving proposition which is still in an uncompleted state. The board will assemble in an adjourned meeting on August 17, the date set as a final date for deciding about paving the streets of Smithfield. Additional petitions were before the commissioners Tuesday night but all the property owners on the blocks where paving is desired had not been seen.

A motion was carried that the city jail be put in a sanitary condition and this work was delegated to the mayor and chief of police. Another motion was carried to raise the salary of J.

## Mayor Urges Citizens to Help Keep Low Insurance Rate

Mr. J. W. Jones Died Early This Morning

Mr. J. W. Jones, chairman of the board of Johnston County Commissioners, who has been ill for the past three weeks at his home near Smithfield, died this morning at 5 o'clock. The funeral services will be conducted Saturday, August 8th, at the Primitive Baptist church here at 3 o'clock by his pastor, Elder Jesse Barnes after which interment will be made in the old Smithfield cemetery.

## COURT IMPOSES JAIL SENTENCES

Recorder's Court In Session Here Tuesday Disposes of About a Dozen Cases.

### NUMBER OF APPEALS

The Recorder's Court in session here Tuesday, disposed of the following cases in the criminal docket, all of which were jail cases. Other cases in which the defendants were out of bond were carried over.

Ruffin McCoy, negro, was given a twenty-five dollar fine sentence and sixty days in jail for resisting an officer. Road sentence suspended during good behavior.

John L. Blackstone, an aged darkie, of Smithfield, was charged with trespass, he having been caught fishing in Holt's Lake without permission from the proper authorities. He was fined ten dollars and cost from which he appealed to the superior court.

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## OLDEST CITIZEN OF FOUR OAKS PASSES

"Uncle Dave" Ford Died Tuesday Morning; Was First Mayor Four Oaks Had.

(Special to The Herald)

Four Oaks, Aug. 5.—Mr. A. D. Ford, the oldest citizen died at his home here Tuesday morning about nine o'clock.

Mr. Ford was in his 68th year. Even though age and afflictions overtook him he cheerfully submitted. The Saviour of his youth and vigorous manhood was the same in his old age and feebleness. Mr. Ford was a beloved husband and father, or "uncle Dave," as he was commonly called. He was a member of the Four Oaks Methodist church, having held his membership there for a number of years. He was a charter member of Four Oaks Masonic Lodge and had held ractically every office in that Order during his membership. For about thirty-two years he had been a justice of the peace and held this office at the time of his death.

Mr. Ford, as a pioneer citizen, has done much for the town of Four Oaks and vicinity. Moving here in 1886 he served as the first mayor of the town. He was also appointed the first postmaster of the town and served as the first railroad agent, holding the offices of postmaster and railroad agent at the same time.

Mr. Ford leaves to mourn his loss, a wife, one son, A. R. Ford; and one daughter, Miss Annie Ford, one brother, P. T. Ford, all of Four Oaks. Other surviving brothers are Mr. W. H. Ford, Tusculum, Ala.; W. F. Ford, Smithfield; E. D. Ford, Jacksonville, Fla.; and L. A. Ford, of Leighton, Ala.

Funeral services were conducted at the home of the deceased at 3:30 o'clock Wednesday under the joint auspices of the lodge of Masons and the Laymen's Federation, followed by interment in Four Oaks cemetery.

F. Johnson, special night policeman, from seventy-five to one hundred dollars per month.

Says Smithfield is in Danger of Losing Low Rate of Insurance Which Saves the Town \$5000 Annually Unless the Business Houses Clean Up Premises.

### QUICK ACTION IS NEEDED

Mr. H. N. Morgan, Chief of the Smithfield Fire Department has received a personal letter from Hon. Stacy W. Wade, Insurance Commissioner of North Carolina, calling his attention to the visitation of a deputy of the insurance department of the state to Smithfield. In the deputy's report to Mr. Wade on Smithfield's fire hazard in the business district was the apparent carelessness of the merchants in our city with respect in allowing their premises and buildings to be jeopardized by fire by letting rubbish and inflammable materials collect around their respective places of business. The report shows that in Smithfield a great number of buildings in the fire district are encumbered with unnecessary inflammable waste, which could be removed and thereby eliminate this unnecessary dangerous condition.

I am calling on the business houses of this city to cooperate to the end that this condition as above outlined might be eliminated. Smithfield is now enjoying an insurance rate which is on a parity with Wilson, Kinston, Goldsboro and other towns of like size in North Carolina by complying in detail with the North Carolina inspection and rating Bureau which is subordinate to the Southeastern Underwriters Association of Atlanta, Ga. I certainly would regret to see Smithfield lose this rate as we are now enjoying and which saving in round figures is \$5000 a year to the premium payers of our city. But unless we maintain the standard as laid down by the above bureaus we will certainly do so. I earnestly call upon the business interests in Smithfield and especially those in the fire district to look around their premises and see if any of the above mentioned matters are now there, and if so to remedy the situation promptly. The fire district is composed of the following: Starting at First and Bridge Street from Bridge Street to Sixth Street. From Sixth Street to Johnston Street. From Johnston Street to First Street and from First Street to Bridge Street. The above block composes the fire district for Smithfield. I earnestly request your collective cooperation.

JOHN A. NARRON, Mayor.

## SMITHFIELD TOBACCONISTS VISIT DARLINGTON MARKET

Messrs. W. G. Glass and G. S. Staples spent Tuesday and Wednesday on the tobacco market at Darlington, S. C. The market opened there Tuesday and they report tobacco selling well. A hundred thousand pounds were sold on opening day averaging around fifteen cents per pound. The grades sold were mostly primings. Tobacco showing any body brought a good price. Bidding was lively, foreign as well as domestic country being anxious for the tobacco.

## INTEREST IN REVIVAL AT WILSON'S MILLS

Wilson's Mills, Aug. 6.—Sunday is to be a great day at the Christian church at Wilson's Mills. Dr. DeGafferly will preach Sunday morning on the subject, "Heralds of Christ," and at night on the theme "When the chief of sinners was converted." Monday night subject will be "What is your Life?"

Plans are made to have the greatest attendance at Sunday school. The program will begin at 10 a. m. and everyone is invited to be in some class. Let us make Sunday the greatest day in the history of Wilson's Mills.

## SELLS \$200 WORTH OF CANTALOUPE THIS SEASON

Mr. H. W. Talton has sold 5,760 cantaloupes from a half acre of land. He sold them on the local market here and in the various towns near here. They brought \$200, or an average of 60 cents a dozen. Mr. Talton lives on the farm of Mr. J. W. Stephenson just across the river.