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IF IT'S FOR THE GOOD OF
JOHNSTON COUNTY,
THE HERALD'S
FOR IT.

VOLUME 45—NO. 46

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SMITHFIELD, N. C., FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 10, 1927

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\$2.00 PER YEAR

Robert Separk and Parker Are Back In Johnston County Jail

Give Themselves Up; Stephenson Shot and Now In Erwin Hospital; Adams Still At Large

After two days and three nights of carousing over various parts of Johnston County, Robert Separk, and Rosser Parker, two of the four prisoners who escaped from the Johnston County jail Sunday night, returned to the jail and gave themselves up. Mr. Weaver, a courthouse attendant, was aroused about three o'clock Wednesday morning by the two men, whose intoxicated condition was evidence of their carousal. They asked to be put back in jail, and Mr. Weaver with little ado placed them behind the bars again, but it was not until morning came that the second chapter in their sensational escape became known.

Separk stated that instead of leaving the courthouse grounds in a high powered car, as was first thought, that they left walking, he and Parker going in one direction and Robert Stephenson and Paul Adams, the other two men who escaped, going in another direction. Separk said he and his partner walked for about fifteen miles when they were able to secure a Dodge car. He stated that they never left Johnston county. Separk appears to have been dissatisfied with the table d' hote of the Johnston county jail, this being the only reason assigned for his escape. He seems to have found plenty to eat and drink during his sojourn away from confinement, and was in a particularly jolly mood Wednesday morning. He was free to talk of the "good times" he had while out of jail, but was mum as to who took them on their joy ride.

Just before midnight Tuesday, Robert Stephenson was shot by Harnett County officers and taken to the Erwin hospital. Adams, however, was not recaptured. Stephenson bore out the statement of Separk that they had not been together since the escape. The shooting occurred near Neill's Creek church about seven miles from Lillington. The bullet entered the left side of the back of Stephenson, passed through his small intestine and emerged in front. The small intestine was punctured in four places. Dr. William P. Holt, who performed the operation, said that it would be a day or two before it would be known whether the patient would be likely to recover. If peritonitis should set in, his chances would be very slim. Deputy Sheriff Talton is guarding him at the hospital.

Stephenson and Adams were surprised by the officers at a roadside gas tank. It was thought that they were headed for South Carolina, a sack of meat and food-stuffs being found in the car in which they were riding. The men were evidently planning to stop in the woods and make no stops in towns and cities.

Officers engaging in the man hunt were: Sheriff Kyle Matthews, and Deputies Biggs, Upchurch, and Broadwell, of Harnett county; Deputies Ellington and Talton, of Johnston county; and the following township and special officers: Chief of Police Hunnicutt, of Dunn; Lonnie Jackson and L. R. Price, Dunn; and special officer Watson of Smithfield.

Stephenson and Separk were being held without bond charged with the death of "Mighty" Forsythe, who was carried to a Raleigh hospital on the night of November 22 after being dumped out of a run-running car belonging to Separk. After a coroner's investigation in Wake county the case was turned over to Johnston county authorities because the murder was alleged to have been committed in or near Clayton. The trial is set for the special term of Superior court which begins here on June 27.

Without Cents.
"Use the word senses in a sentence."
"Flies senses make a nickel."

Gone Eight Years



Joseph Franklin Stone joined the U. S. Army in 1919, serving in Coblenz, Germany. Last heard from in February, 1921 at Ft. Moultrie, Charleston, S. C. Parents dead. His aunt, Miss Nancy McPhail, Lumberton, N. C., R. No. 5 wants to hear from him. Do you know him? Have you seen him?

Miss Cora Creech Wins Pou Medal

Miss Addie Barber A Close Second During the Four Years Work; Literary Address By R. B. House

Mr. Robert B. House, of the State University at Chapel Hill, delivered the literary address before the members of the graduating class of the Smithfield high school here Monday evening in the school auditorium. A class of thirty young men and women were awarded their diplomas by Mr. James A. Wellons, chairman of the school board, and their superintendent made the statement that it had been a very fine class.

The program opened with a piano solo played by Miss Murphy Hall, a member of the music faculty of the school. Mr. I. W. Medlin sang a solo, after which the invocation was pronounced by Rev. D. F. Waddell, pastor of the Selma Presbyterian church. The class salutatorian was Miss Addie Barber, who extended a cordial welcome to the large crowd that had gathered to do honor to the class of '27. Superintendent Shuford introduced the speaker of the evening as one of his college classmates, who had been a public servant of North Carolina since his graduation from the State University eleven years ago, the very year when the class of '27 began its school career. Commencement occasion, said Mr. House, celebrates the resolute character of the people of North Carolina. This state was settled because of the pioneer spirit. She arose after the Civil War to heights hitherto unknown. Through the years her courageous spirit has been shown. North Carolina is now on the main highway of progress. Schools have been established, but the eternal problem is to make use of the schools. A commencement occasion is evidence that boys and girls are taking advantage of their opportunity.

Since 1920 when Hon. E. W. Pou established the Edwin Smith Pou medal in memory of his son who gave his life in the great World War, this medal has been a coveted honor. It goes each year to the member of the senior class who, over a period of four years, has made the best scholastic record. This year this honor was conferred upon Miss Cora Creech, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. Troy Creech of the Sanders Chapel section. Her average was 94 and 23-32 for the four years. Miss Addie Barber, daughter of Mr. H. M. Barber, of the Polenta section, gave Miss Creech a close race, her average for the four years being 94 and 8-32. This medal was awarded by Mr. H. V. Rose clerk. Turn to page two, please

Three Houses In Benson Entered

Officers Find Stolen Loot In House of Negro at Pine Level; Negro Escapes

Three houses in Benson were entered by a robber Tuesday night, and officers late Wednesday afternoon located the man, who was a negro by the name of Arthur Rogers, but he made a dash for the woods and made his escape. The houses entered were the residences of H. B. Brady, Ed Wall and T. R. Young. The negro entered the room of Miss Thelma Brady and stole practically every article of clothing which she owned together with a wrist watch. He entered the bedroom of Mr. Young and took his trunks into another room, from which he got eight dollars in money. No one was awakened and Mr. Young did not know of the theft until next morning. The thief entered the room of the daughter of Mr. Ed Wall, but she awoke and made an alarm. Her father got up and shot several times.

The man made his escape from Benson in an automobile which he stole from the car shelter of Mr. A. T. Ryals. He came as far as Smithfield in the car, but abandoned it at the cotton mill. The car was reported to the sheriff's office and Mr. Ryals who is a rural mail carrier now has his car back. Mr. Ryals states that his gun has also disappeared, though whether it was taken from his home or his car he does not know.

A bill was found in the car by the officers which was made out by a grocery firm in Pine Level to Arthur Rogers. Constable L. D. Parker, Chief Stevens, Night Policeman Croon, of Benson, and Deputy John O. Ellington went to Pine Level Wednesday afternoon to investigate this clue. They found Rogers chopping cotton for Mr. Watson. He and his wife were in the act of getting on a truck to return to Pine Level, it being time to quit work, when the officers announced that they had a search warrant for Rogers. The negro lost no time in breaking and running. The officers followed in hot pursuit, but were unable to overtake him. The officers then went to the home of Rogers and found the wearing apparel which had been stolen from Miss Brady.

Rogers came to Johnston county with a highway force. Last February he married Mozelle Barnes, a Pine Level negro. He is very black, has high cheek bones, sunken cheeks, prominent eyes, and is a little dish faced. He weighs about 150 pounds and is about five feet and six inches high. When he made his dash from the officers he was wearing a white shirt and blue trousers but no coat.

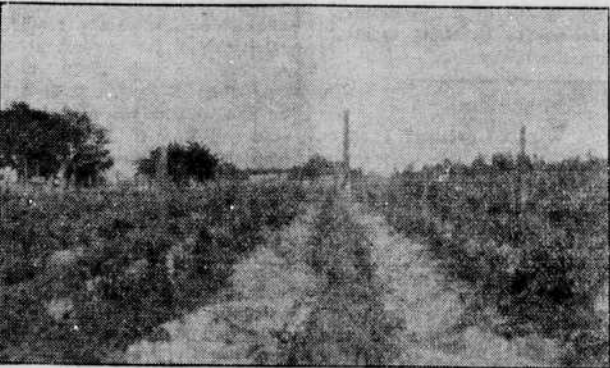
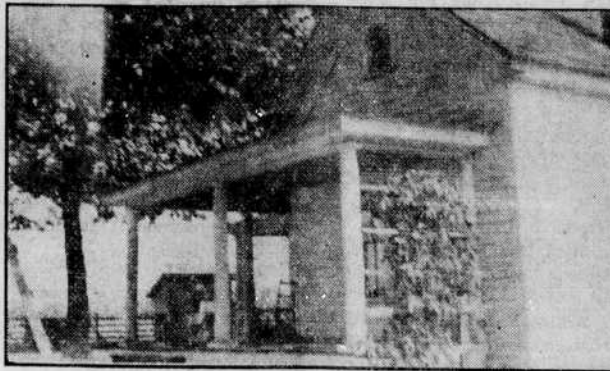
TOWN COMMISSIONERS HOLD REGULAR MEETING

The town commissioners met in regular session at the city clerk's office Tuesday night. Only items of routine business were disposed of. Mr. G. R. Langston was appointed street foreman, Mr. S. E. Hogwood, fire truck driver, and Mr. W. L. Sutton, night policeman. At this meeting the town attorney, Mr. J. A. Wellons, presented a petition asking that the section of the Henderson-Clinton highway between Zebulon and Newton Grove be taken over by the State Highway Commission. The petition will be sent to highway officers.

WORTH BOYETT TAKES SOPHOMORE HONORS

The list of honors given out from Duke University and published in yesterday's News and Observer contained the name of a Smithfield boy, Mr. Worth Boyett, a member of the sophomore class the past year. Mr. Boyett also made freshman honors last year.

FARM SCENES IN MEADOW TOWNSHIP



TOP—Left: Residence on "White Rose Farm," belonging to W. V. Blackman, of Meadow Township. (Right): Flourishing field of Irish potatoes. Cotton is planted between the rows. (Bottom): Mr. Blackman sell dewberries from this acre field in Raleigh, Durham and on local markets.

MEADOW FARMER FINDS DIVERSIFICATION PAYS

Walter V. Blackman Raises A Variety of Crops on His "White Rose Farm"; Puts Business Into Farming

Newton C. Myers, president of the East Tennessee Farmers Convention, in a recent address at Knoxville made the statement that the farmers of that section have withstood the effects of the recent agricultural depression better than any in the United States, and he attributed this to a constructive, diversified program of farm profits and livestock husbandry. Wherever farmers have practiced diversification, whether in East Tennessee or in Johnston county, these are the farmers who have weathered the storms of financial difficulties best.

Johnston county furnishes a splendid example of diversified farming in the farm of Walter V. Blackman, in Meadow township. With hay and grain, hogs and poultry, fruit and truck crops, and a surplus of everything to sell, it has not meant so much to him if cotton and tobacco have sold at low prices.

Mr. Blackman's success in farming, however, does not just happen. He does not depend upon legislation. He does not depend upon a time merchant. He does not depend upon his banker, but he takes hold of the job himself and works his own head to solve his problems. He plans his farming program ahead of time and knows approximately what is to be done before the time arrives to do it.

By the tenth of last February he had his 1927 crop planned to the acre, and if one walked over his plantation today he would find growing crops in something like this: Thirty-five acres in cotton; seven acres in tobacco; thirty in corn; four in peanuts; four in strawberries; two in watermelons; one each in apples, peaches, pecans and dewberries. He also has oats and feed and sweet potatoes. He plants Irish potatoes for market. In addition to pecans he has other nut trees which include the Japanese walnut and hazel nut.

His orchard contains cherries, plums, apricots, pears and figs, besides three varieties of grapes—Concord, James and scuppernon. A year round garden furnishes vegetables for the table and a milk cow and chickens supplement this diet. He raises his own meat, and raises more than enough for home consumption.

This year Mr. Blackman is conducting what promises to be an interesting experiment. Under the direction of Harvey Jordan, of Greenville, S. C., who is promoting the American Cotton Association and Better Farming Campaign, Mr. Blackman has planted two acres in cotton. He planted pedigree Coker Cleveland No. 5, full one and one-sixteenth inch staple cotton seed. The seed were planted on April 16. On one acre he was instructed to use 200 pounds of kainit and top dressing after chopp-

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Grove, released of \$1,500 tax valuation through error.

E. S. Edmundson Writes About Trip

Visits Cotton Growing States and Passes Through Mississippi Flood Districts

Mr. E. S. Edmundson, who recently attended the meeting of the General Assembly of the Southern Presbyterian church at El Dorado, Ark., and later visited his brother, Mr. Wright Edmundson, at Waco, Texas, writes interestingly of his trip. He passed through most of the cotton growing states and through the flood district of the Mississippi Valley on this trip. In an interesting article written since his return Mr. Edmundson says:

"As I've just returned from a trip through most of the cotton growing states I am writing to let some of my farmer friends know what I think of the 1927 crop. Of course we all know that our opinion of the crop at this time of the year cannot be more than a guess.

"The crops in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia are good. I rode something like 3,000 miles through the cotton belt going and coming, and I doubt if any man ever rode this distance and saw any more fields of cotton and corn than I did. The crops in Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana are very poor on account of so much rain and floods.

"I spent about a week in El Dorado, Ark., at a meeting of the General Assembly of the Southern Presbyterian church. El Dorado is certainly a prosperous city. It has a population of about 40,000. Six years ago there were only 4,000 people living there. This rapid growth was caused by the finding of an enormous amount of oil and gas in this immediate section. Every one seems to be prosperous and having a good time and they certainly gave us a good time in return. There is very little farming done in this section of the state as about all they think about is boring a hole in the ground.

"After leaving Arkansas I went over in Texas and spent about a week with my brother, Wright Edmundson, who lives at Waco in the central part of the state. I went to Waco via Palestine and Valley Junction, which is about eighty miles south of Waco. I went this way because I could see more of the crops. From Arkansas to Palestine, Texas, which is about 200 miles, the crop is late on account of too much rain, but around Palestine and on to Waco the crops are good in many places. On the 26th of May the cotton was high enough to hide a rabbit. My brother and I drove out in the country and visited some of the best farmers. They all said that their prospects for a crop were good. West Texas was very dry when I was there. The farmers had not commenced to plant cotton on account of the lack

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Singing Society Again At Benson

Seventh Annual Meeting Will Be Held On the Fourth Sunday in June; About a Dozen Choirs Have Already Entered

The public in this community is asked to remember the annual meeting of the Tri-County Singing Society which meets at Benson on the fourth Sunday in June. This meeting will be the seventh annual meeting of the society and indications are that there will be a larger attendance this year than ever before.

The object of the Tri-County Singing society is to foster and encourage singing both at church and at home to the end that ours will be a happier and more care-free people.

According to a statement by the secretary, Mr. J. B. Benton, of Benson, there are already about a dozen choirs who are preparing music to be rendered that day. Mr. Bob Thomas will be on hand again this year with a super-excellent choir and new music. Mr. J. M. Core, with his Greensboro choir will also be on hand. This choir won the loving cup last year and it is going to make a strong effort to keep it again. Mr. Henry Royall of Tees Chapel, winner of the cup year before last will be on hand with a choir. He has recently returned from West Point Military school, being at home on leave of absence. He is among the best singers in the society and his choir is trained to render only the highest class of music. The Phillips Home choir, Mr. Milton Phillips leader, noted throughout this section for its beautiful renditions of popular and sacred music, will also be present. This year Mr. Phillips has two or three of the most beautiful selections ever heard which will be used on that day.

These are only a few of the choirs which will be present. Last year it was estimated that there were 15,000 people present including local people, coming in a few over 1,600 automobiles. The order was good as always, there having been only one arrest during the seven years existence of the society.

Secretary Benton also announces that the contest for the loving cup will take place immediately after the lunch hour at 12:30, each choir to sing two songs. A piano will be at the disposal of the choirs all day which may or may not be used in the discretion of the leader of the choir.

The exercises will begin promptly at 10 a. m. One of the features of the meeting this year will be the quartet singing by members of the Greensboro and other choirs. This will be worth coming miles to hear. It is also announced that the Higgins sisters of Greensboro, celebrated quartet singers, will be present and take part in the program.

There is every indication that all the music this year will be far above the average.

Services at Brogden

There will be preaching at the Brogden school house at 3:30 next Sunday afternoon by Rev. D. E. Earnhardt, pastor of the Methodist church of this city. The subject will be "The Salt of the Earth."

Advertise in the Herald

AUNT ROXIE SAYS

By Me—
Mi man has a lot uv faith in woman suffrage an fish oil.