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# The Smithfield Herald

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VOLUME 46—NO. 43

SMITHFIELD, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 29, 1928

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## Five Men Now In Jail For Investigation

### Death Everett Eason Appears Mysterious — Found On Highway Knocked in Head

Five young men, Paul Pilkington, Carl Childers, Bernice Narron, James Narron and Ausley Pilkington, are in the Johnston county jail pending an investigation concerning the death of Everett Eason, 36-year-old white man, who lived on the farm of James Myatt, two miles south of Smithfield.

About two o'clock Sunday morning Eason was found in a badly wounded condition on highway No. 10 near the Ivanhoe cotton mill. Two men, J. O. Guthrie and P. H. Davis, of Goldsboro, who were passing along the road saw the body lying by the roadside and turned back to Smithfield to notify officers. Nightpoliceman Sutton went to the scene and the injured man was taken to the Johnston County Hospital. Eason never regained consciousness and died at noon Sunday. Examination showed that he had been hit on the head and his brains were found to be oozing out. A whiskey bottle drained of its contents and a hammer were found near the wounded man on the road.

The five men were arrested when it became apparent to officers that they knew something of the affair. They were said to be under the influence of whiskey. They advanced, however, the theory that Eason was struck by a hit and run driver.

A coroner's investigation was begun yesterday afternoon with the following jury impaneled: R. E. Holt, T. C. Jordan, W. J. Huntley, H. D. Ellington, Kirby Rose and Jack Hamilton. It was found that a number of witnesses would have to be examined and the investigation was continued until a time that will be named.

The dead man who had lived on the farm of Mr. James Myatt for two years is said to be a man of good reputation. He is survived by a wife and five children. At the hospital it was stated that there was no indication that he had been drinking.

The funeral was held yesterday afternoon at two o'clock and interment was made at the Eason graveyard near Branch Chapel church. Rev. W. M. Ferrell conducted the service in the presence of a large crowd.

### Attends Louisburg Commencement.

Kenly, May 28.—Miss Emma Matthews and Mr. H. F. Edgerton attended the graduating exercises at Louisburg College Wednesday morning. Miss Miriam Edgerton was among the number who graduated. The exercise was enjoyed by a number in Kenly over the radio through station WPTF, Raleigh.

### TWO FORDS COLLIDE

A collision at the corner of Mrs. J. M. Beaty's residence took place Sunday afternoon between two Fords, one being driven by Mr. J. J. Parrish and the other by a negro. Mr. Parrish's car was overturned pinning the occupants beneath it. Mrs. Parrish, her baby, her mother and Mrs. Eason, were in the car with Mr. Eason. They all escaped with slight injuries.

## Tantalizer

There are exactly enough letters in the line below to spell the name of a person in Smithfield or Johnston county, and if the right one deciphers his name and will present it to the Herald office, we will present him with a free ticket to the Victory Theatre. Tickets must be called for before the following issue.

Tyree Woody recognized his name last issue.

Today's Tantalizer: soolnothempste

### "Big Bill" Passes On



William ("Big Bill") Haywood, former "uncrowned king of the I. W. W." in the United States, died in his sixty-sixth year, Moscow, in his sixteenth year. Haywood had been a fugitive from American justice since 1921, when he came to Russia to escape serving sentence for obstructing the war.

## Dr. Corey Delivers Memorial Address

### Kinston Minister Declares That We Must Forever Abolish War; Appropriate Program Carried Out

"I believe if we are to honor the dead heroes we must forever abolish war," declared Dr. A. E. Corey, pastor of the Christian church at Kinston, who delivered the Memorial Day address here in the courthouse Sunday afternoon to an appreciative audience. Political parties, stated Dr. Corey, are talking about various issues, prohibition, farm relief, and other things, but no party has touched this thing of war, a thing which Dr. Corey thinks is one of the paramount issues before our people.

Dr. Corey stressed the fact that the Memorial Day occasion was observed not only to commemorate the sacrifices of America but of all the allied nations. He closed his remarks with the thought that humanity cannot settle things—it takes God.

Dr. Corey was introduced by F. H. Brooks, who lamented the fact that so few people had gathered to honor the heroic dead. However about 150 persons were present, about twice as many. Dr. Corey said, as was the rule for most such occasions in his experience.

The program of the afternoon opened with the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner," during which members of the American Legion brought in the national flag and the American Legion banner. The invocation was pronounced by Rev. S. L. Morgan, pastor of the Baptist church here, after which Mr. A. M. Calais sang a solo entitled "My Pal." The program closed with the singing of "America" and the benediction by Rev. D. E. Earnhardt.

D. Carlton Stephenson, commander of the Pou-Parrish Post of the American Legion, presided over the meeting.

### CARLTON STEPHENSON PRESIDES OVER MEETING

RALEIGH, May 28.—General Albert L. Cox, State Commander of the American Legion, was the principal speaker at the dinner conference of members of posts of the fourth district here last Friday night at 8 o'clock in the Yarrow Hotel. Carlton Stephenson, of Smithfield, district committeeman, presided.

Other speakers on the program, which was interspersed with humorous skits and music by the Braxton orchestra, were Major O. E. Beezley, William Duncan, and Dr. H. O. Linberger, commander of Raleigh Post.

This dinner, an annual affair, was very largely attended.

The recent rains have been most beneficial to alfalfa, lespedeza and clover but terrible on tobacco and cotton. Farmers of Union county report fine stands of lespedeza.

## U. B. Blalock Speaks On Co-op Marketing

Princeton, Smithfield, and Glendale Schools Win in County-Wide Essay Contest

The county-wide meeting of cotton farmers of Johnston county held at the courthouse Saturday was featured by an essay contest on the subject: "How Does Co-operative Marketing Affect the Farmer." A preliminary contest had been held in eight schools and only the winners in these schools appeared in the contest Saturday. Each of these winners received a fountain pen, donated by business men of Smithfield. Saturday the judges selected three winners as follows: first place, Miss Katie Lee Hamilton, of the Sanders Chapel section, representing the Princeton school; second place, John A. Wallace, of the Smithfield school; third place, Miss Rena Woodard, of the Glendale school. The first prize was \$25 in gold; the second prize, \$15 in gold, and the third prize \$10 in gold. Others besides the winners participating in the contest were: Miss Irene Edgerton, of the Kenly school; Marvin Johnson, of the Meadow school; Miss Cleve Whitely, of the Archer-Lodge school; Miss Claudia Woodall, of the Four Oaks school. Wilson's Mills representative, Miss Ruby L. Dodd, was not present.

The program of the day began with an invocation by Rev. S. S. McGregor which was followed by a recitation of the essays. Mr. U. B. Blalock, general manager of North Carolina Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association, was then introduced, who spoke interestingly about the aims, purposes, and achievements of the cotton association. Mr. Blalock is not discouraged because the association has not made any greater progress than it has, and it is the purpose of its promoters to keep at work until the effects are far-reaching. The association has been interested in securing national legislation to help the farmer, and is at work trying to lower the freight rates in North Carolina. Another aim is to secure the sale of cotton by net weight instead of gross weight.

At the conclusion of Mr. Blalock's speech, Mr. J. A. Smith, field secretary for Johnston county, introduced his co-worker from Wayne, Mr. Jones, who in turn presented Miss Inez Davis of the Eureka high school, champion essayist of Wayne county. Miss Davis recited her essay and was given a generous applause.

Mr. M. G. Mann, in charge of the field service of the association, was then called upon for a few remarks, and he commended highly those who have written and delivered their essays.

At this point, Rev. Chester Alexander gave the decision of the judges and the prizes were awarded. Mr. B. J. Holleman presenting the fountain pens to the winners from each school; Mr. W. W. Jordan, the cash prizes to the county-wide winners; and Mr. F. H. Brooks, the \$10 gold piece to the Princeton school for having the post parents of students present in the meeting. Mr. Brooks also presented a box of candy to Miss Davis of Wayne county. After the presentation of these prizes, the attendance prizes were given away, a small child drawing the numbers from a box. The prizes for the men were awarded as follows: a slicker from the Atkinson company, of Selma, to Mr. Parrish; a pair of work shoes from W. J. Huntley to Mr. Sidney Johnson; ten gallons of gas and a gallon of oil from C. W. Beasley & Son to Mr. Alton Capps. The ladies' prizes were: a porch rocker from Crumpler-Jones Furniture company to Mrs. Howard Oliver; a bedspread from J. D. Spiers Furniture company to Mrs. W. N. Parrish; \$2.50 in merchandise from J. E. Gregory & company to Mrs. E. B. Hales.

At the conclusion of the program in the courthouse, the school children present repaired to the courthouse lawn where they were served ice cream cones with the compliments of the Kiwanis club of Smithfield and the Pine State Creamery. The school children were also given tickets to a matinee at the Victory theatre.

## Disastrous Fire Entails Huge Loss

### Barns and Stables of J. W. Stephenson Go Up In Flames Early Sunday Night

A disastrous fire entailing a loss of around \$15,000 occurred Sunday night about eight o'clock when the barn, stables and shelters on the plantation of Mr. J. W. Stephenson just across the river were destroyed. The church services of the town had just begun when the fire siren went off, and in a few minutes the Stephenson plantation resembled a Johnston county fair from the number of cars parked by the roadside and the number of people who had gathered to watch the blaze. The city fire department was on the scene in a short time, but the buildings were too far gone to render any assistance with chemicals, and there was no way for any water connections.

Mr. Stephenson had nine mules in his stables, and several cows. One mule burned up and two others so badly injured that they were killed yesterday morning. Two milk cows also perished in the flames. Two hundred barrels of corn, a year's supply of hay, about a thousand bundles of fodder, and about fifteen hundred pounds of meat were burned. The meat, however, was not the property of Mr. Stephenson, but belonged to Barney and Richard Davis, who live on the place, and Clifton Beasley who owns a store nearby. A lot of tools were stored in the barn, but the most of them were saved, only about a hundred dollars worth of them being lost in the fire. About a hundred bags of fertilizer stored in one of the houses was saved, but a lot of fodder in the loft of the same building was destroyed. The silo which adjoined the barn was empty and being built of brick, the damage was slight.

During the fire an explosion took place due to a drum of cylinder oil stored in one of the out-houses, catching fire and bursting. The residence where Mr. Davis, the tenant, lives was in danger and all the furniture was removed to a place of safety. The weatherboarding was blistered but the house remained intact when the fire had died down.

Yesterday morning by noon the framework of temporary stables had been erected in order to house the stock that was saved. There was no insurance.

## Township Meetings Are Held Saturday

The township meetings in Johnston county held Saturday by Democrats to nominate township officers and to select the township executive committees, passed off without any friction in spite of the fact that in some instances the Hull-Smith candidates were injected into the meetings. In a number of instances, the crowds were said to be larger than usual due no doubt to the presidential question. Reports from the various townships are meagre, but it seems that in only a few precincts was the matter taken up. In some instances anti-Smith voters were said to have packed the conventions, but the disposition of the matter seems to have been to declare, according to custom in Johnston county, that all Democrats in good standing will be recognized as delegates in the county convention. Such a resolution was passed in the Smithfield township meeting.

Probably a hundred were present on this occasion to transact the business in hand. Mr. W. F. Grimes, chairman of the township executive committee called the meeting to order, and Mr. J. W. Stephenson was made chairman of the meeting. After a few preliminary remarks the members of the (TURN TO PAGE 6, COL. 7.)

## Closing Exercises Four Oaks School

Ninety Seventh Grade Pupils Receive Certificates; Twenty-four Graduates of High School Get Diplomas

FOUR OAKS, May 28.—School closed Friday evening after a very successful year. The commencement exercises this year were especially good, the class day exercises on Thursday night being unique and beautiful.

On Friday night, Rev. Abram E. Corey, of Kinston, delivered an inspirational message on "Be Not Conformed, But Be Ye Transformed."

Diplomas were presented to twenty-four graduates of high school and ninety certificates were awarded to those completing the seventh grade.

The school band, under the direction of Rev. A. L. Brown gave a very enjoyable concert. The audience was deeply impressed and felt an honest pride in their achievement, as this band has only been organized about two months.

The monthly meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Baptist church met Monday afternoon at the home of Mrs. W. P. Massengill. The president, Mrs. J. H. Strickland, presided over the meeting. Circle Number Two with Mrs. G. L. Creech as leader had charge of the program. The subject for study was, "Woman in Missionary History." Those taking part in the program were: Messames J. W. Sanders, S. M. Boyette, J. H. Strickland and Miss Pauline Lee. The hostess served ice cream sandwiches.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Hatcher and the faculty of the school entertained the seniors at the tea Tuesday evening at a lovely party. The rooms were decorated in roses, carrying out the colors of the class of '28. Heart's dice was played at seven tables. Miss Lucile Stanley was awarded high score prize, a memory book. Delicious block ice cream and cake were served.

The two societies of the school, the Vance Senate, and the Aycock Assembly held a joint meeting last Friday night, May 18 in the school auditorium at which time the newly-elected officers for the coming year were duly presented. A short program was rendered. The Vance Senate twice won the love cup for making the most points during the year. Senator C. C. Canaday of Benson presented the trophy.

At the close of the meeting a delightful social hour was enjoyed. Refreshments consisting of punch and assorted sandwiches were served.

### PLACED IN JAIL AS RESULT OF SHOPLIFTING

Ellen Murphey, a colored woman, was placed in jail yesterday by Chief of Police C. R. Cable when she was discovered taking a dress from the Lorraine Shop. She was trying on a hat when Miss Addie Taiton, proprietress of the shop, saw her concealing the garment in her dress. Chief Cable was called and the negro was carried to the lockup. She will be tried in the mayor's court.

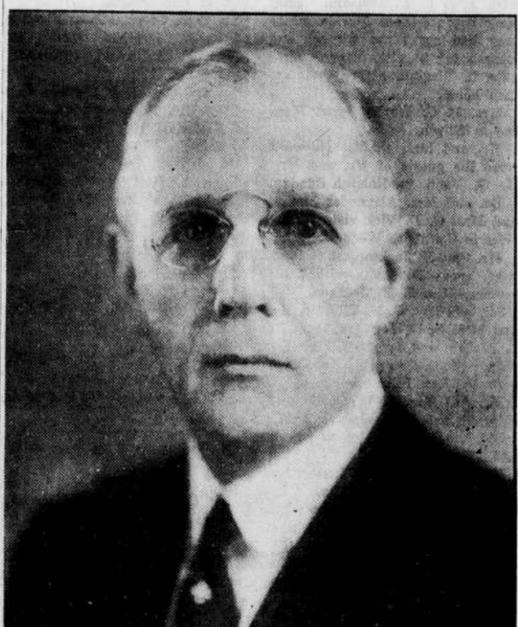
### SHOWS LARGE EGG

Mr. O. Bullock of this city brought a large egg to this office yesterday. It measures eight inches around one way and six around the other, and it weighs a quarter of a pound. It was laid by a Rhode Island Red hen, which was purchased last year in a lot of baby chicks from D. W. Peterson.

### Has Plenty Spring Vegetables.

Mrs. Z. R. Martin of this city has served from her garden this spring two varieties of onions, mustard, kale, turnips and greens, rape, spinach, two varieties of headed lettuce, Irish potatoes, asparagus, two varieties headed cabbage, garden peas, radish, squash and a liberal supply of strawberries, beets and snap beans. Mrs. Martin won in the county-wide garden contest last year.

## EDWARD W. POU



Representative in Congress from the Fourth District for twenty-eight years.

## C. H. Grady Sure Of Tax Reduction

Believes Next General Assembly Will Take Much of the Tax From Real Estate

Taxation seems to be the great question before the taxpayers and voters of Johnston county today. Almost every member of the Democratic party is looking forward to some tax reduction at the coming session of the General Assembly of North Carolina for 1929. The candidates for the House of Representatives and the Senate are all interested in seeing that there is some manner of reduction in the taxes that are levied directly on property. The three candidates for the Senate have all pledged themselves to this program.

Mr. Chas. H. Grady, one of these candidates, feels that experience is the best asset that a candidate can have in securing relief in the General Assembly. Mr. Grady has served two sessions in the General Assembly, and in an interview with a representative of this paper states: "We all know that a tax fight made by the agricultural counties will of course meet opposition from the richer counties. The experienced members of the General Assembly will be placed on the important committees where the real work is done in the General Assembly. The candidate that can secure the best committee appointment will be in a better position to assist the taxpayers in Johnston county than others. Committee appointments are made with a view to the experience that the member has had in the General Assembly."

Mr. Grady thinks that his experience would entitle him to the best committee appointment and would naturally place him in a better position to serve the people than either of the other candidates. Mr. Grady states that he was the first candidate to come out with the proposed tax relief, and he says that apparently this is the best proposition as both of the other candidates have also adopted the plan of indirect taxation as their platform.

Mr. Grady states that he has already secured the assistance of several other members of the next General Assembly who have no opposition in the next election and they together plan to secure enough support to put over the indirect tax system before the General Assembly meets in January.

### ABDALLA BUYS STOCK

SMITHFIELD SHOE STORE  
The Smithfield Shoe Store was sold under bankruptcy yesterday at noon, and Abdalla-Vinson Store company of Selma bid in the stock of goods for \$1,000. The bid will remain open for ten days.

## Member Road Board Tells Of Work Done

C. P. Harper Explains How the Road Board Operates Under County Unit System

By C. P. HARPER, Road Com.

There are many people who have never read the bill which was made a law by the last General Assembly. Changing the road system from a township unit to a county unit. Therefore they do not understand the system under which we are operating. The law divided the county into five districts. A commissioner was selected for each district and while he is virtually in control he must have the cooperation, advice and approval of the other members of the board. The commissioners in the future are to be elected by the people. Assets namely, machinery, money and all records were assembled and machinery and money was distributed throughout the county where it was most needed. The law provides for taking over the convict system, repairing and building of bridges, maintaining and building roads. It abolished the township road tax and in its place provided for a county-wide levy of thirty cents. It provided for the paying of township road bills from funds coming into county treasurer from 1926 taxes. It also provided for the taking over of \$618,000 township road bonds by the county, thereby relieving some of the township of this burden of taxation. Under the law each commissioner receives \$300 per year, a total for the five commissioners of \$1500.

The bill enacted may have its defects, but it was a wise, progressive piece of legislation. The great majority of the counties of the state are adopting the unit system.

On going into office, one of the first acts was to assemble the township records, employ a competent auditor to set up a system of bookkeeping by which to be guided. It was found that the county had very little modern road building machinery. It has been necessary to invest approximately \$32,000 in equipment to be used both in building and maintenance. The commission employed an engineer who is also purchasing agent and general superintendent. His duties are many and cover the entire system. We employed a supervisor or foreman who works with the man and directs the work in each district. We employed a mechanic and established a machine shop at Smithfield. He goes to any section of the county when machinery breaks down or repairs it when it is brought to the shops. We employed capable bridge builder who with his helpers builds and repairs bridges when needed anywhere in the county. We have a competent young lady who keeps our records in our office in the courthouse.

We have a convict system divided into three camps averaging eighteen men to each camp. Our convict boss who is also a practical road builder has direct control of all convicts. Camps are kept in a sanitary condition. Convicts cost approximately \$1.67 per day for each man but we make them work. Many miles of roads have been constructed and straightened. We learned the importance of drainage and many ditches have been cut and others kept open. We adopted a standard width of thirty feet and are widening some of our narrow roads as rapidly as possible. We are hauling sand, clay or gravel as the character of the soil may require. The county has 1,400 miles and the mileage is being slightly increased. We take into consideration the rights of the land owners.

We never damage anyone's property where it is possible to avoid doing so.

We are building a highway system for all the people and the county and not for any one town or community. Politics does not enter into our road building program.

We are operating on a road budget of \$194,000 for the fiscal year and we cannot spend in excess of this amount. The money is proportioned to each district on the basis (TURN TO PAGE FOUR COL. 7)

## Dr. Gulley Makes Address At Micro

Compares the "Good Old Days" With the Present—Other Exercises Feature Commencement

Dr. N. Y. Gulley, dean of the Law School of Wake Forest College, in the commencement address which he delivered at the Micro school Thursday morning, stated that the thing folks must do now is, "to catch step, lock arms with God, and go forward in the building of character."

Dr. Gulley used as his subject, "The Good Old Days are Gone Forever." Since he was celebrating his seventy-third birthday on June 3, he is well qualified to speak on such a subject, and the people of his native county, Johnston, gave him an undivided attention Thursday as he gave reminiscences of the past and compared the "good old days" with the present. He told of the times when the chief text book was the old Blueback Speller. When they had gone through it once, they went back over it again, and again, even up to eighteen times if necessary. He reminded the boys and girls present that those good old days are gone forever. He told them that the little red school house that we hear so much about was not in reality red—it was just a log school house. And oftentimes the pupils had to go to the woods and cut the fuel to keep themselves warm. He reminded the young folk again that those good old days are gone forever.

He told of how in the past if one had a bale of cotton to sell he hitched up early in the morning and started to town. Perhaps Raleigh or Goldsboro was his destination, and it was necessary to camp overnight going and coming in order to make the trip. It was hardly necessary to remind his hearers that those good old days were gone forever. He told of raising cotton in years gone by when cotton was practically all the farmers raised. He pointed out the change that has come about. Farmers cannot now depend upon one crop for a living. They must raise a variety of crops. He spoke of the change in the public school system. For eight or nine years Dr. Gulley has been a member of the board of education of Wake county. He said they started a consolidation program several years ago, and he told of how the movement has grown. In one section of Wake county there were three little schools. These were consolidated and a brick veneer building was erected, necessitating a thirty cent tax. The new building was burned and the board of

Turn to page five, please