

NEWS WITHOUT  
BIAS  
VIEWS WITHOUT  
PREJUDICE

# THE ADVANCE

OFFICIAL PAPER  
OF  
CURRITUCK  
COUNTY

VOL V

ELIZABETH CITY, NORTH CAROLINA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1915

NO 6

## FATHERS SCORED BY BOETTCHER

Public Accountant Wants  
To Know Why City  
Spent Money To Em-  
ploy Him

Mr. Wm. Boettcher has addressed the following letter to the mayor and board of aldermen of Elizabeth City:

GENTLEMEN:—

"When I made my report a week ago today I stated to you gentlemen, in answer to Mr. Anderson's question who was to blame, that it was the lack of system, and that you were the ones on whom the blame rested. "On page 4 of said report I stated as follows:

"I have made several copies of same (referring to 4 copies of the Delinquent list) so that you gentlemen at your leisure go over the names and see how much can still be collected. By giving your assistance to the Tax Collector, and telling him where some of the people can be found, you will enable him, I am sure, to collect several hundred dollars which otherwise would not be collected." I left those four copies on your table, and I noticed that some of you gentlemen glanced over same. But, much to my surprise, I found out last night before last that these papers were left in the custody of the tax collector, who has no use for them as he has his own lists.

"My work in regard to the Delinquent list will be in vain if you gentlemen do not follow my advice, and each of you go over these copies and let the tax collector know what, in your opinion, is still collectible. I made four copies so that four people could use these papers at the same time and then hand them to the others for the same purpose. Several of you gentlemen are business men. Would you, in your own affairs, wait six months after the fiscal year is over and then, without going over an itemized list especially prepared for you, charge off to Profit and Loss some 475 bad accounts? I am sure not one of you would do this, but you would scrutinize each separate item and see whether or not it can be collected. You would go further than this! You would, in your own affairs, take steps to prevent such losses in the future as far as they can possibly be prevented. Now why not do the same thing in Town matters? Are they not as important to you as your own business affairs? They should be, because the tax payers who elected you are looking to you to do all in your power to see that any and all funds belonging to the Town are collected.

"I showed you plainly in my report under the heading 'Recommendations' how you can avoid such a large Delinquent list. My recommendation was as follows: 'In regard to the delinquent list I have already in my report made the recommendation that the dif-

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## NORFOLK TALENT AT ALKRAMA

Red Acre Farm Will Be  
Presented Under Auspices  
Baraca-Philathea Union Soon.

Much interest is being taken in the play 'Red Acre Farm' soon to be presented at the Alkrama. 'Red Acre Farm' is a rural comedy-drama filled with stirring pathos and rich comedy.

Josiah Armstrong the owner of Red Acre Farm, on which there hangs a mortgage, has two daughters, Nellie, the beautiful little school teacher and bread winner of the family, and Laura, who only wants fine clothes and to see the pleasures of life. Amanda, Josiah's wife, decides that she will give her valuable heirloom, the necklace, that was given her by her great grandmother, to Squire Harcourt to pay off the mortgage.

Laura, whose ambition is to get to the big city, steals the necklace and sells it to get money to buy fine clothes and get to New York. The theft is discovered, and the blame placed on Nell who is driven from home. Nell goes to New York where she becomes one of the best actresses on the stage. Laura steals away from home and goes to New York with Harry Harcourt, a man of the world, but is found by Nell in time to save her. Laura meets the man to whom she sold the necklace and marries him, and receives the necklace as a wedding present. Nell, who has married Dick Handall, wishes to have the matter set aright with her parents and she with her husband takes Laura and her husband back to Red Acre Farm, where Laura confesses to the theft, and gives the necklace back to her father, just as Squire Harcourt is about to drive her father and mother from Red Acre Farm.

Josiah Armstrong is played by Mr. L. D. Sullivan who is assisted by Miss Helen Twiford as Amanda. Miss Myra Ackiss, one of Norfolk's most talented amateurs takes the part of Nellie, while Miss Marietta Shaffer, a student under the well known elocutionist, Miss Francis Starr, whose readings through the State have been crowned with success takes the part of Laura. Mr. Walter E. Jackson takes the part of Dick Randall, the hero, while Mr. R. B. Proctor takes the part of Harry Harcourt, the villain. Mr. Jas. E. Woodhouse is the traveling salesman, Tom Bushby, who holds the Mortgage on Red Acre Farm. The comedy is portrayed in the richest type by Miss Annie East as Junior and Mr. Earl Twiford as Jonah. Mr. J. B. Anderson is the village gossip, Mrs. Strutt, and Mr. C. N. Baeile takes the role of Col. Barnaby Strutt.

Red Acre Farm is one of the most successful amateur plays ever presented in Norfolk, and received the highest praise from the press. It is a play presented by church people in the interest of the Church work for the pleasure

## BUSINESS OPENS ON WATER STREET

Stevens Jobbing Company  
Have Leased Building  
Now Occupied By  
Burgess & Aydtlett

A new firm is to open up about the first of March in the store now occupied by the wholesale Grocery firm of Burgess and Aydtlett. The new concern is the Stevens Jobbing Company and is composed of Mr. B. M. Stevens and Mr. J. H. Cartwright, both of this city.

The Stevens jobbing company will do a wholesale business in wood and willowware, house furnishing goods and notions. Mr. Stevens has for thirty years been identified with the wholesale dry goods and notion business of the city and was a member, until he began making preparations to start this new venture, of the C. H. Robinson Company. Both Mr. Stevens and Mr. Cartwright are now in northern cities making purchases of stocks for their business.

J. J. Hughes has bought Mr. Stevens interest in the C. H. Robinson Company.

## IT'S A LONG WAY TO SOUTH SEAS

But This Letter Comes To  
The Advance All The  
Way From Distant  
Samoa

Editor THE ADVANCE:—

I am a native born Pasquotank County citizen, though my father now lives in Perquimans; here, as far as I am way down here in the South Seas where the Germans and British are operating quite freely, having been appointed here by the Secretary of the Navy to the position of Private Secretary and first clerk to the Governor.

When I received orders from the Secretary of the Navy on August 2nd, 1914 to proceed to San Francisco and there take passage on a steamship of the Oceanic Company on September 1st for American Samoa, I began to wonder at once under what flag this ship was sailing, since war talk at this time was occupying quite a prominent place in the topics for discussions, and I knew full well that ships flying the American flag in trans-oceanic service were few and far between, so imagine my delight when I learned the Samoa was an American ship, stoutly built, and using oil fuel and being of 10,000 tons gross tonnage, and 13 years old, but still good for 300 knots each 24 hours.

At two o'clock in the afternoon of September 1st we untied from the dock and proceeded out the beautiful San Francisco bay and through the Golden Gate; here viewing on the left the famous Cliff House and the Seal Rocks upon which were perched quite a few of those sturdy inhabitants of the sea, as well as all the other natural beauties of this most inviting spot; then we turned towards the Hawaiian Islands and we passed through some cold and tough weather before we sighted Diamond Head in all its statelyness and grandeur, proudly waving the American flag and guarding with an ever watchful eye our possessions in the Pacific. I was told that this fortification is ten times stronger than Ayden and favorably compares with Gibraltar since its armament is more modern than that in use in the Gibraltar fortifications.

At 8:00 a. m., on the morning of September 7th we docked at the wharf in this tropical city of Honolulu, immediately descending the gang plank and proceeding to the world renowned Waikiki Beach, where we had a surf bath in the Pacific which was most invigorating to a person who had spent seven days and nights on board a ship at sea in anything but pleasant weather.

A fact which quite clearly impressed me as to our being in the tropics was a spider about three inches in diameter, which was gorgeously ornamenting the wall of the room assigned me in the Moana Hotel bath house. He was the first thing to attract my attention.

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## SCHOOL CHARTER TO BE CHANGED

And Cotton And Hosiery  
Mills To Be Exempted  
From Paying School  
Tax

A bill amending the graded school charter has been introduced into the General Assembly by Senator W. L. Colman which will be of considerable interest to the people of this city and its suburbs.

Section 1 of the bill changes the bounds of the graded school district, making the district conform to the corporate limits of the town and provides that "no pupils shall be admitted into the schools of this district without the payment of tuition unless their parents are residents within the corporate limits of the town." Besides withdrawing from some tax payers living outside of the city the right to send their children to school here without paying tuition this bill in its present form would relieve the hosiery and cotton mills of the graded school tax.

The third section of the bill is intended to prevent the city tax collector from reserving commissions from the graded school tax which he collects. The office of tax collector was some time ago put on a salary basis but the graded school charter in its present form allows the collector commissions on the graded school tax in addition to his regular salary.

The fourth section of the bill has to do with the election of the graded school trustees and provides that the board shall consist of ten members, two trustees from each of the four wards of Elizabeth City and two trustees at large, both of whom shall be women. The trustees from the various wards are to be elected for a term of four years while the trustees at large are to be elected for a term of six years. Four of the male trustees are to be elected every four years but both women are to be chosen every six years and further Miss Lillie Grandy and Mrs. A. B. Houtz are named as the first two trustees at large who are to hold office until 1921.

The bill also provides that the chairman of the county board of education shall be constituted chairman ex-officio of the board of school trustees and that no person "who is related to any member of the board of trustees of the graded school to a degree that would disqualify one to serve as a juror shall be eligible to employment as a teacher in the graded school."

### FIRST SHAD COME FROM TYRREL

The first shad of the season went through the city last Saturday consigned to Kingsland and Comstock of New York. They were caught by Messrs. Godwin and Holloway, Tyrrel county fishermen.

## LITTLE HOPE OF BETTER NEWS

Though Bodies Of Those  
Who Went Down With  
'Julia' Still Remain Un-  
found

The bodies of the three persons who lost their lives in the explosion of the yacht Julia last Friday morning have not yet been found.

The only surviving passenger, Mrs. J. W. Murray, has not been able to give a comprehensive account of the disaster, but so far as she remembers, the explosion occurred about one o'clock Friday morning ten miles off Long Shoal Point in Long Shoal river. There was a lighted match, the ignition of vaporized gasoline, a flash and next Mrs. Murray found herself clinging to a floating timber from which she was picked up by a fisherman who saw the explosion. Mrs. Murray was taken to Englehard and given medical attention.

The three passengers who lost their lives were J. W. Murray, president of the Piedmont Trust Company of Burlington; Gustavus Dodson of Norfolk; and Mrs. W. H. Porch of Beaufort. The Julia was making the trip from Norfolk to Beaufort piloted by Mr. Dodson, who was experienced in handling craft of this size and type.

Mr. Dodson was in Elizabeth City last Wednesday, stopping among other places in town at Pool's barber shop.

Mrs. Murray will be taken to her home in Burlington as soon as she is able to make the trip and search for the missing bodies will be continued as long as there is any hope of finding them.

### CHRIST CHURCH

The Men's Dinner next Saturday night promises to be a pleasant affair. Mr. B. E. Finney, general secretary of the south for the Brotherhood of St. Andrew will speak of this work. Mr. W. S. Copeland of Newport News, Va., editor of the Times-Herald newspaper will talk of men's Bible Classes. Mr. Copeland is the teacher of a large class in Newport News, the Rev. C. P. Parker of Hertford will speak of a layman's responsibility. Beside this some of the men of the church will be called on. Good music is being arranged as a part of the program.

The Rt. Rev. T. C. Darst, D. D., Bishop of the Diocese, goes to Windsor, Winton, Gateville and Mufreesboro the first week in February and comes to Christ church on Sunday, February 7th.

ZOELLER, the Photographer, is prepared to make Banquets, Card parties, Family gatherings, anywhere and any time, night or day.

STUDIO on North Poindexter St