

BAXTER WINS BY THREE VOTES

Judge Leigh Yesterday Re- ported his Findings to Counsel on Both Sides

Judge Leigh filed his report as referee in the Currituck election case today.

Judge Leigh finds Baxter the successful candidate by a majority of three votes. This result was not given out until yesterday afternoon just before six o'clock, and the contest is so close that a change of two votes now would turn the tide. Bray's counsel will continue their fight for their client. The decision was given out too late for this paper to go into minute examination of the referee's findings.

In view of the wide attention that this case has attracted and of the interest taken in it in Currituck county a brief review of the facts and of the causes that led up to it may be interesting to readers of this newspaper.

Currituck county elections last year were a scrub race. There was no primary during the summer and as there is only one party in the county it was agreed that the county's offices should be open to all. It was further provided that the names of all the county candidates should be printed on one ticket and that the voters should scratch the names of any candidate for whom they did not wish to vote.

The first report that came from the local polling places in Currituck county on election night showed Bray elected by a small majority, for as the vote was counted by the local election judges he received 513 to Baxter's 507.

When the canvassing board met, however, they threw out the returns from Jarvisburg precinct, where the vote was 47 for Bray and 28 for Baxter, on the ground that one of the judges of the election was not properly sworn in. This gave the office to Baxter by a small majority. Bray at the time was not willing to accept the decision of the county canvassing board but on the advice of his attorneys withdrew from the office and turned the keys over to Baxter until the court could pass on the case. The contest came on for trial at the January term of Currituck court but Judge Justice had an important engagement elsewhere and did not stay this court but one day. He appointed Mr W D Pruden of Edenton referee in the matter and February 17th was set as the day for the hearing. Mr. Pruden not being able to be present, Judge Leigh was appointed in his place and Wednesday and Thursday of last week were taken up with hearing evidence at Currituck courthouse. This week a few additional witnesses who were not able to reach Currituck on account of the weather were examined here and the argument of each side was presented to the referee on Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning.

It has developed since the hearing that there was a good deal of illegal voting on both sides in the election and the contest hinged on which of the two candidates had received the larger number of legal votes. Many irregularities were brought to light. Baxter's counsel wanted the whole Grandy vote thrown out on the ground that the registrar was not properly appointed. (It was shown that the registrar regularly appointed by the board of electors refused to serve and that the chairman and secretary of the board appointed his successor.) It developed that at Grandy four votes cast for Bray were thrown out because the voter left too many commissioners names on his ticket; while one for Baxter was thrown out because it was rolled up in another ticket. Baxter's counsel also contended that Dr. Baum and W C Walker had no right to vote at Grandy because when the Poplar Branch precinct was divided the new boundaries did not include the Baum property. At Narrow Shore precinct a number of votes were thrown out because they were torn in two. Bray claimed two more than were counted for him in that precinct and Baxter claimed one more than was counted for him.

NEW STORE OPENS NEXT WEEK

C A Cooke who has just returned from New York and other northern cities where he has been to purchase goods, is installing his fixtures in his store on Poindexter street and making ready for his stock which has already begun to arrive. Interviewed by an Advance reporter since getting home from the northern markets Mr Cooke said that he expected to be open for business the latter part of next week.

The opening of Mr Cooke's new and up to date stock in this store will add distinctly to the appearance of this block on Poindexter street.

BIG LEAGUER IN CAMDEN.

Tom Sullivan of Chicago, one time big league ball player in northern leagues and manager of the New York Giants and White Sox on their world tour, has made arrangements to purchase a farm in Camden county and expects to be down here with a view to making that county his home.

PUBLIC INVITED SUNDAY AFTERNOON

There will be a meeting of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in Blackwell Memorial Church Sunday afternoon at 3:30. Presiding Elder Adams will make an address and special music will be a feature of the service. It is hoped that a large number will be present.

ing that there was a good deal of illegal voting on both sides in the election and the contest hinged on which of the two candidates had received the larger number of legal votes.

Before the evidence was all in one side or the other made claims of or established the fact of illegal voting in nearly every precinct in the county; and with so many conflicting claims to be passed upon it was impossible to forecast the referee's decision.

REGRET TO SEE HIM LEAVE

Wilmington, N. C., Feb. 24—Mr. Thos. P. Nash, formerly a member of the faculty of the Wilmington High School and for the past year or more connected with the sales staff of the J. G. Wright & Son Real Estate Agency, has resigned his position and returned to his home at Elizabeth City, where, it is understood, he plans to go into business for himself.

Mr. Nash is a clever and capable young business man, and has made a host of friends during the several years he has made Wilmington his home. All of them will regret to see him leave Wilmington, but will wish for him an unbounded success in his new field of endeavor.

HINGERTY-BAUM

Wanchese, N. C., Feb. 24th—There was a quiet but beautiful home wedding Wednesday evening, February 17th at the home of the brides parents, when Miss Minnie Baum was given in marriage to Mr Robert Hingerty of Elizabeth City.

The marriage ceremony took place in the parlor of the home and was witnessed by invited friends and relatives. The ceremony was performed by Rev M W Hester, pastor of Wanchese Methodist church.

The bride is a young woman whose attractiveness and charm has won for her many friends in this section.

Mrs R M Sykes left for Elizabeth City Saturday evening, Feb 20th, to visit friends and relatives.

Mr Gus Montague returned home from St. Vincent Hospital on Saturday, February 20th where he underwent an operation for appendicitis.

Mr E Y Etheridge returned from Norfolk on February 20th where he spent the latter part of last week with his son who is seriously ill in Sarah Leigh Hospital.

Mr Theo. Wescott returned home Tuesday evening, February 23rd from Georgia where he has spent the last eight months in St. Simons Light House.

Misses Dezzie O'Neal and Grace Tillet left for Elizabeth City Tuesday evening, February 23rd to visit relatives and friends.

ROPER BRIEFS

Dr. B. F. Halsey made a brief trip to Raleigh the first of the week.

Mr. J. F. Tarkenton from near Skinnersville was in Roper Monday shaking hands with many friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Blackwood of Belhaven are stopping at the home of Rev. Perry. Mr. Blackwood is employed by the Roper Lumber Company as machinist.

Mr C D Gallop has returned from Norfolk where he has been on business this week.

'Free Instructions' how to make pictures with your 'Kodak' will be given you by ZOELLER the photographer. (adv't)

THINKS BUSINESS GOOD

Mr S M Singer of the Singer Tailoring Company of Baltimore was a visitor in the City Tuesday inspecting his store, that of the Quality Tailors on the corner of the Hinton Building Main and Martin streets.

In an interview given to a reporter for this paper regarding the business conditions throughout the country Mr Singer stated that he has just returned from the west where he operates several stores and that the business outlook for spring was excellent, the railroads are replacing men and conditions in general are becoming normal again.

Mr Singer was also through the south and he said that under the present conditions he could not expect a better business as all of his stores are holding up splendidly.

Mr Singer likes Elizabeth City so well that he anticipates spending a week here and a week at our summer resort, Sags Head, this summer.

His store here is doing nicely and he is quite sure that business will be far above last spring by the time warm weather sets in.

Mr. Singer was the guest of Arthur Burgess Sr his manager, while here.

PARAMOUNT PICTURES NEXT WEEK

Mr. Allen Kramer on Tuesday and Wednesday nights of next week is offering to Elizabeth City moving picture fans some exceptionally fine films at regular prices of admission.

Mr Kramer explains that his reason for doing this is to get the Elizabeth City public's opinion of these films. They are very expensive and are regarded Mr Kramer says as the finest in the world. He will put them in here if increased patronage will make it worth while.

Weeksville Briefs

Weeksville, N. C., Feb. 24th—Mr. T. E. Palmer, Sr., is quite ill with pneumonia.

Miss Trueblood of Durants Neck who is visiting relatives here will return home Sunday.

There will be a masquerade party at Mr Charlie Cartwrights Saturday night, and the young folks are expecting a great time on this occasion.

A box supper will be given at Newbegun school house on Friday night, February 26th. The public is cordially invited.

The dance at Mr Charlie Snowdens on last Friday night was thoroughly enjoyed by all the guests.

There will be a social at Mr W J Saunders Wednesday night. Rook will be the entertaining feature of the evening.

Mr and Mrs W D Saunders were guests of H C Meades of Simons Creek last Sunday.

Mr Caleb Raper of this section is still in the Elizabeth City hospital. He is reported to be convalescing.

Mr Jim Simpson of this section went to Elizabeth City Monday for a shipment of meat.

HAS MOVED BARBER SHOP

Mr. Raynor Pritchard, one of the city's most popular young barbers has changed the location of his shop, moving into the old quarters of the Mercantile Bank which have just been repapered and painted. With handsome new electric light fixtures Mr. Pritchard's shop now presents a most up to date appearance. It has grown to be the largest shop in town and in its new quarters is making a bid for more patronage.

WELL KNOWN FIRM GIVES PRIZES

Chicago, Feb., 23rd—Two prizes out of four were taken by Harvard men in a national essay competition endowed by Messrs Hart Schaffner and Marx of this city.

First prize of one thousand dollars went to Donald Earl Dunbar for a paper entitled: 'A Comparative Study of the Welsh and American Tinplate Industries.' The other Harvard winner received three hundred dollars. He was Richard S Meriam. His topic was 'The Webbs' Theory of Wages.'

Professor J. Laurence Laughlin of Chicago University was chairman of the Committee of college professors making the awards. Albert H Leake of Ontario, Canada, captured the second prize of five hundred dollars, writing on 'Agricultural Education.' The fourth award, two hundred dollars, went to Niles Carpenter, a student of Northwestern University College. His paper discussed 'A Comparison of the Financial Operations of the General Electric Company and the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company during the Panic of 1907 and Period Preceding.'

This was the tenth annual contest held. Essays were received up to June 1st, 1914 and the committee used the intervening time to make careful selection.

WATERLILLY NEWS

Waterlilly, N C Feb 23rd—Mr J S Hampton has been very ill for the past week. A number of friends met at his home Sunday evening and held a prayer meeting with him singing at his request, the old hymns that his mother used to sing.

Mr Richard White, who has been ill for several weeks, is much better.

Captain J L Doxey, who has been working for the Bennett Line, will move his family to Norfolk where he will work for the Bennett Brothers.

Miss Annie Newbern, who teaches at Waterlilly, will spend Saturday and Sunday with her parents at Powells Point.

Miss Julia Ross, who teaches at Barco, will be at home Saturday with her parents.

MAKES FULL RETRACTION

This week's issue of the Independent carries full retraction and apology by W O Saunders for his attacks upon three prominent citizens of the city last week.

GREAT VICTORY FOR GERMANS

Repulse of Tenth Russian Army in East Prussia Greatest Triumph of War

Additional news about the German victory in East Prussia, mention of which was made in the war review published in the last issue of this newspaper, emphasizes its importance and causes one to wonder whether this Russian defeat will not lead to the occupation of Warsaw by the Germans.

Since the brilliant capture of Lodz by Von Hindenburg that general's army has been breaking itself in futile dashes against the Russian front before Warsaw. Encouraged by the failure of the Germans to break down the Russian defense, General Seivers, commanding the Tenth Division of the Russian army, attempted an offensive movement, with Konigsberg and Insterberg, as its goals. If successful this movement would have enveloped Von Hindenburg's left flank.

But the Russian advance gave the German Field Marshall the very opportunity that he desired. Disguising his plans by sending reinforcements to the Carpathians on his right, his sudden lunge in to East Prussia was unlooked for and completely successful—really the first big and sudden surprise movement of the war. Latest newspaper reports put the Russian losses at thirty thousand killed or wounded and sixty thousand captured. This fight will probably go down in history as the Battle of the Mazurian Lakes. It is Von Hindenburg's second great triumph and puts his head and shoulders above any leader upon whom the spotlight of this war has yet fallen.

There is little other news of importance this week except the destruction of another American ship by a mine in the North Sea. This time it was the Carib, loaded with a cargo of cotton from Savannah and bound for Bremen. Whether these were English or German mines is as yet unknown and the country at large, after the first gasp at the destruction of the Evelyn, is taken the situation calmly.

AUXILIARY MEETS TO-DAY

The Ladies' Hospital Auxiliary held its first meeting Monday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Ike Fearing on Main Street. Eighty members were enrolled in the society and an enthusiastic meeting was held.

A call meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Fearing this afternoon. This society has been organized to aid the Elizabeth City hospital. Each member pays monthly dues and the funds secured are donated to the hospital.

ROOMS FOR RENT.

Rooms for Rent in a private family. Apply at THE ADVANCE OFFICE.