

SUSTAINS REPORT OF REFEREE

And Vote Of Small Major ity For T. W. Bax- ter.

A small crowd at Currituck court house this morning heard Judge Whedbee announce his decision that he would sustain the referee's findings in the case of Bray against Baxter, except in one immaterial finding of fact, and leave the result as in that report.

This decision gives the office of register of deeds of Currituck county to T. W. Baxter by a vote of 506 to 503. The crowd was small this morning because it was seen yesterday afternoon that Judge Whedbee in his rulings was following the referee's findings closely. Only six alleged illegal votes were left to be passed upon this morning, those of J. J. Overton, John Duncan, J. J. Doxey, Wallace O'Neal, St. Clair O'Neal and D. E. Saunders.

The case of P. N. Bray, respondent, held the center of the stage at Currituck court this week. A crowded courthouse manifested the general interest when Judge Harry Whedbee on Monday afternoon took the referee's findings and listened to the exceptions filed by counsel on both sides.

It early became apparent that Judge Whedbee would sustain the referee's findings in the majority of cases and that if Bray should get the final decision it would be by the closest possible margin. When court adjourned Monday afternoon, Baxter was still six votes ahead and there were but six more ballots to pass on.

The point that he wanted to pass upon, Judge Whedbee said, and upon which he had not formed an opinion, was the question as to whether the three votes thrown out at Grady because they contained more names of commissioners than the elector was allowed to vote for could be counted for Bray. After the argument and the citation of authorities on both sides Judge Whedbee sustained the referee's findings on this point.

Spite of objections and the noting of exceptions on both sides Judge Whedbee continued to sustain the referee's findings except for the six names already referred to. Bray's counsel made an especially hard fight to throw out the votes of certain electors in North Banks precinct, claiming that they had never registered there, but to no avail.

It is expected that this case will be taken to the supreme court.

CONSIDER NEW INDEXING SYSTEM

At the meeting of the Board of County Commissioners held in the courthouse here Monday morning the new board appointed a committee consisting of C. E. (Continued on Page Three)

CITY PROVIDES FOR SICK POOR

At Meeting Of Board Of Aldermen Last Night Motion Passes

The Board of Aldermen voted unanimously last night in favor of paying \$700 a year for the maintenance in the Elizabeth City Hospital of a ward for the poor.

It seemed to be the sentiment of the Committee appointed to report on this question, that the board for the present was unable to make this appropriation. Aldermen Anderson stated that he knew of several in his ward who needed this help, and he suggested that the board pay the expenses of the poor as it became necessary. Dr. Henning urged that the appropriation be made and laid stress on the fact that the doctors were offering their services free in case the board complied with their request which meant that the board would be giving an average of \$14.60 a week while the surgeons were donating an average of two hundred dollars a week. He gave an instance of working men in town who had no people here and who belonged to no kind of organization—and said that it was the duty of the public and not the duty of the physician to look after them.

The only objection that came from the board seemed to be that the town was unable to pay it at present and that it was the duty of the board to look after them. Dr. Henning stated in answer to this that the money for the hospital was only to be used for the benefit of the town's poor, and a like petition would be presented to the County Commissioners. He also stated that the Hospital would take the concession of taking care of even four or five of the poor in one week and perhaps none in the next, for instance. Finally Aldermen Anderson made a motion that the Hospital Company make suitable contract for the \$700 for the maintenance of one or more beds one half to be paid in May, the other in October. That the mayor and Health Officer determine as to who deserves this support. This motion was unanimously carried by the Board, after which Dr. Henning expressed thanks in behalf of the Ministerial Union and Dr. Saliba in behalf of the Hospital—then came applause from those present.

Nothing else of great importance came up. Considerable time was taken up in the discussion of street paving—whether the town should buy the brick or whether it should leave both the paving and the purchasing to G. W. Switzer and Sons and as to what kind of brick they should purchase. They decided finally to get the brick direct from the Westport Paving Co. of Baltimore and a contract was made with them not to interfere with the new city charter on street paving bond issue nor

DEATH SHOCKS MANY FRIENDS

Much Loved Woman Of Elizabeth City Dies Un- expectedly

The funeral of Mrs. Ella Simpson was conducted on Sunday afternoon at the First Baptist church at half past two o'clock. A wealth of floral offerings, the most beautiful ever seen in this city, covered the casket of the church and surrounded the casket. The soft notes of "Abide with me" opened the service as the pall bearers entered, and after prayer the choir sang "Asleep in Jesus." The service was conducted by the pastor of the church, Dr. B. C. Henning, and the choir sang at its close "Jesus Lover of my Soul." The pall bearers were: Messrs. Frank Grice, Marshal Pool, C. D. B. Pritchard, M. C. Glover, W. H. Weatherly, T. P. Nash, R. W. Turner, M. R. Griffin, and C. F. Smith. The interment took place in Hollywood Cemetery.

The sudden death of Mrs. Simpson at two o'clock last Saturday morning was a blow to relatives and a shock to her many friends in the city and elsewhere.

Mrs. Simpson had been, except for her death, in the best of health until an hour or two before her death occurred. She had been out on Friday evening and seemed entirely well.

Mrs. Simpson was born in Elizabeth City. Her father, Mr. Thomas Bland, lived on West Main street at that time. Her mother was a Miss (Belmont) of the same family. Her father and mother were both deceased.

Mrs. Simpson was married to Mr. J. B. Simpson, who before his death was with the J. B. Flora Company. Her son, Martin Simpson, Jr., survives her, and is a partner of the law firm of Ayde and Simpson. A daughter, Mrs. Harold Overman, also survives her and is a resident of this city.

A member of the First Baptist church, Mrs. Simpson was known for her many excellent qualities and was beloved by a large number of friends. Her death, occurring at the age of fifty seven with scarcely a warning note preceding, was a distinct shock to the entire city.

BOX SUPPER A SUCCESS.

Weeksville, N. C. Feb 27.—The box supper held last night at Newbegin schoolhouse was a complete success. Not only was the occasion a most enjoyable one to the large crowd attending, but the sum of \$20. was raised for improvements up on the school building.

The day in still earlier reported that the city water was fit for drinking purposes, and the great sanitary condition of the town good. He reported a total of three white deaths and ten colored deaths; nine white births and eight colored.

SPEAKER WOOTEN PASSES AWAY

Brilliant Career Of Young Man Comes To Early Close

Raleigh, N. C., March 1st.—After a brave and heroic fight for a week during which time his sufferings were intense, the gentle spirit of Emmett Robinson Wooten, Speaker of the House of Representatives, took its eternal flight Saturday afternoon and returned to the God who gave it. Death came at 3:45 at the Rex Hospital, where he had been since the fatal automobile ride last Thursday night at which time William Aycock, Engineering Clerk of the Senate, and Senator Johnson, of Duplin, and the negro driver of the car were slightly injured.

At the bedside when the end came were Mrs. Wooten, wife of the Speaker, his mother, Mrs. Mary Cobb Wooten, his brother, Mr. Harry Wooten, and his uncle, Mr. D. P. Wooten, all of Kinston, and his faithful physician Dr. Hubert A. Royster, who has been in almost constant attendance on him for several days.

The Speaker was conscious up to a few minutes of the end and fully realized that death was only a question of a few hours at the time. He was told of his serious condition Friday and was resigned to his fate. He died as he had lived, a gentleman and a patriot, and his death was a great loss to the Democratic cause. He was a Democrat, he believed in men and at the same time he was a supporter of Speaker Wooten, and so it goes all down the line. He was a Democrat, he believed in men and at the same time he was a supporter of Speaker Wooten, and so it goes all down the line. He was a Democrat, he believed in men and at the same time he was a supporter of Speaker Wooten, and so it goes all down the line.

Dr. Hubert A. Royster, who had been attending the Speaker since his injury, states that the immediate cause of his death was traumatic pneumonia, which is a form of pneumonia due to injuries. Dr. Royster stated that he stood the operation, which was performed last Saturday, splendidly, and that the wound was in splendid condition and healing nicely. He suffered no further from his kidneys after the operation. Pneumonia developed Thursday night and in his weakened condition the disease could not be combated.

There was no more popular man in the State than Emmett Wooten. Four times he has been a member of the house from Lenoir county, the last time being elevated to the speakership. During the contest for the speakership he was as kind and affable

RECEIVES MEDAL FRIDAY NIGHT

A medal for heroic action is to be awarded young Leslie Hooper next Friday evening.

The presentation address on this occasion will be made by Mr. C. R. Pugh of this city, and the exercises will occur at Blackwell Memorial annex.

On the day after Thanksgiving, 1914, six year old Harold Gibbs playing on the A. F. Tacey wharf fell overboard and but for the instant action of Leslie Hooper would have drowned. Hooper was in the water immediately without hesitation, and soon brought the little fellow up and out, chilled and slightly strangled, but suffering no serious harm. It is for this unselfish and excellent service that Hooper is to receive the mark of heroism Friday evening and many will attend the exercises, no doubt, thus expressing their appreciation of practical heroism.

to his appoints as to those who were his supporters. And after his election he forgot that there had ever been any opposition to him. This can best be illustrated by reverting to his committee appointments. Mr. Dougherty when he named as chairman of the most important committee in the House, finance, was supporting another one of the several excellent gentlemen who were in the race. Mr. Page, who is chairman of another very important committee, was not a supporter of Speaker Wooten, and so it goes all down the line. He was a Democrat, he believed in men and at the same time he was a supporter of Speaker Wooten, and so it goes all down the line.

Emmett Robinson Wooten was born in Kinston, N. C., on October 1, 1875. The son of a prominent family, he was educated in the public schools of Kinston and at the University of North Carolina. He was a member of the law firm of Ayde and Simpson, and was a prominent figure in the community. He was a Democrat, he believed in men and at the same time he was a supporter of Speaker Wooten, and so it goes all down the line.

He was married in 1901, to Miss Nannie Cox, daughter of the late D. P. Cox, a prominent Kinston banker. Two children have come to bless the union, Emmett Robinson Wooten, Jr., and Grace Wooten. These survive with his gray haired mother, Mrs. Mary Cobb Wooten, and brother, Mr. Harry Wooten, of Kinston. His home life was beautiful. On the night of the caucus, when all the other candidates had withdrawn in his favor, his first thought was of his wife, and rushing to the telephone it was she at her home in Kinston. (Continued on Page four)

REFEREE STATES HIS FINDINGS

A Brief Of Judge Leigh's Report As Made Public Last Friday

Owing to the late hour Thursday at which Judge Leigh's decision as referee in the Currituck county election case was given out this newspaper was not able to learn on what findings the decision was based. However, since that time a reporter has examined carefully Judge Leigh's report.

The following are the findings of the referee in the case which are of most pivotal importance:

He finds that the judges of the election at Grady threw out and refused to count four tickets cast for Bray because each of the ballots contained more names than the elector was allowed to vote for. After scrutinizing these ballots the referee decides thatt one of them has no more names than an elector was entitled to vote for.

He finds that Lancelot Poyner was duly elected or appointed registrar for Grady precinct, that the registration books were kept open by him and that no qualified voter in this precinct was deprived of the right to register or vote because of Poyner's failure to keep keep the books open the entire time and at exact place provided by law. This finding overrules the attempt of Poyner's counsel to have the votes returned from Grady precinct thrown out.

He finds that at Narrow Shore precinct two ballots cast for Baxter were thrown out because they were torn in two.

He finds that the county canvassers did not prescribe the size of the ballots to be used in the 1914 election.

He finds that it is admitted by Baxter that Luther Waterfield, J. D. Fisher, Ed. Piggot, W. D. Brunley, James Bowden, and M. Waterfield were duly qualified electors and that their votes should not be deducted from the aggregate cast for Bray.

He finds as to Will Pell no sufficient evidence as to how he voted and leaves his name to be counted as shown in the returns. He finds as to Willie Griggs the evidence as to how he voted so conflicting that his name is left as counted by the Judges of the election.

He finds that the vote of Harry Welsted was not counted and the vote of Avery Woodhouse is left as counted by the judges of the election.

He finds that Richard Waterfield was twenty one years old on the 20th of July 1914, and therefore, was entitled to vote in the election of that year.

He finds that it is admitted by Bray that Will Rest, E. H. Garrenton, T. C. Woodhouse, John Smith, Haywood Banks, Sylvester Donald, W. H. Gal (Continued on Page Three)