

The News - Journal

THE HOKE COUNTY NEWS

THE HOKE COUNTY JOURNAL

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RAEFORD, N. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1930.

\$1.50 YEAR, IN ADVANCE

FRANK GRAHAM SPEAKS HERE

President of University Tells Audience That Crisis Proves Quality of Citizenship—Praises Constructive Heroes of South.

President Frank Graham of the University of North Carolina, coming to Raeford as a guest of the Woman's Club, spoke to an interested audience at the High School building Wednesday night, November 26. The engagement to speak here was made by President Graham in the Spring before the high honor of presidency of the University was conferred upon him, but Raeford friends and admirers were glad to find that he has not become too busy to fill the engagement.

Mrs. P. P. McCain, president of the Raeford Woman's Club, was in charge of the meeting. Before the address of the evening a vocal trio, "The Bells of St. Mary's" was given by Mrs. Marshall Thomas, Mrs. W. R. Barrington, and Mrs. Ins. Bethune. Mr. John W. McLaughlin introduced Dr. Graham to the audience, commenting upon the service that he and other members of his family have contributed to North Carolina education.

Beginning with remarks upon the subject near to the interest of all his hearers, Dr. Graham presented the challenge of the present depression. In comparing the present crisis with that in the South subsequent to the Civil War, he told of the trying times at Chapel Hill, describing to the audience the scenes at the University when a body of colored soldiers were in charge of the town, when cattle and swine grazed on the campus and cavalry mounts were stabled in the dormitories. The future of the University was the problem on every heart and, although the history books do not tell it, the guiding spirit of the restoration of the University was a woman, in whose heart burned a spark of love and determination.

Continuing his theme that a crisis brings out the latent courage and heroism of men and women, Dr. Graham told in a few words the stirring stories of the heroes who supplied the vision and the energy for the restoration of the South; Lee, whose honor and retiring spirit refused money and honor to spend his last days in educational work; Coker, who came back from the Civil War with a shattered hip, yet laid the foundation for the Southern agricultural revolution; Duke, who contributed so greatly to the rise of the South to industrial independence. Each man in turn was shown to be a man whom hard times worked a miracle of development and each man was one who realized the value of books, "not bookish men, but men who had taken the knowledge and inspiration that books will yield to every boy."

Speaking of the County Library Program which is being inaugurated all over the State, Dr. Graham told of the achievement of Mecklenburg county, where one of the first complete county library programs has recently been carried out, where six sub-stations carry the books from the central library throughout the county. He pointed out also the eagerness of the county people for access to a library, recounting an incident of library work in Durham. "The North," said Dr. Graham, "has gotten rich upon the cotton that has made us poor here in the South. Ever since the plantation in the South has been supplanted in power by the corporation in the North, the South has been tributary to the industrial North. In North Carolina 1,500,000 people have no local access to libraries. In Massachusetts, there is not a soul who does not. The resourceful mind is trained on books. We must make books available to the boys and girls of North Carolina."

"I believe," Dr. Graham concluded, "that Hoke County will have a library, but you must be patient in getting it. Things of this sort do not come overnight. You will have a library and it will be a county-wide library. It will call out the inventive genius, the love of beauty, and the heroism of four boys and girls. It will lead to a more economically sound and more spiritually beautiful civilization."

Dr. Graham's talk was enjoyed by a medium sized audience, most of whom remained after the meeting to meet and talk to him. After the meeting he left for Charlottesville, Va., to see the Carolina-Virginia football game.

NEW CO. OFFICERS TAKE HOLD MONDAY

F. F. McPhaul Elected Chairman of New Board of Commissioners—J. W. Currie Re-Elected Co. Attorney—Board of Education Dis Not Meet.

The affairs of Hoke County passed into the hands of the officers elected for the next two years on Monday when the new officers were sworn in. The retiring board of county commissioners met and wound up their affairs for the term and about noon retiring Clerk of the Court W. L. Poole administered the oath of office to the new board of commissioners. This new board organized by electing F. F. McPhaul chairman and J. W. Currie County Attorney. They then swore in all of the other county officers and proceeded with regular business. J. A. McGoogan, who has been auditor for a number of years, was retained in this position for the remainder of the fiscal year which expires on July 1st, 1931.

J. A. McPhaul, Jr., was named as County Tax Supervisor. The board adjourned to meet again tomorrow (Saturday) afternoon. No action was taken with reference to the County Road Superintendent.

The County Board of Education did not have a meeting on Monday, as was erroneously predicted in these columns last week, this board serving in office until next Spring.

MR. J. S. JACKSON, NEAR ARABIA, LOSES HOME BY FIRE

Tuesday morning about eleven o'clock Mr. J. S. Jackson, who lives near Arabia, lost his home by fire of undetermined origin, though it is thought that it caught from the kitchen stove flue. The house and all its contents together with his smoke house and a quantity of meat were a total loss. It is not known whether or not Mr. Jackson had any insurance.

CUMBERLAND SEEKS \$300,000 FROM GASTER BONDSMEN

Efforts of Cumberland County to recover more than \$300,000 from David Gaster, former county treasurer, and his bondsmen are expected to reach a head this month with a hearing here before a referee, Judge J. C. Clifford, of Dunn. Fifteen or sixteen bond signers are involved. Trial of Mr. Gaster on criminal charges resulting from his administration of the county finances over a period of 10 years recently resulted in a hung jury and a mistrial.

The civil action against Mr. Gaster and his bondsmen is expected to be even more complicated and technical than the criminal action because there have been many different sets of signers on the different bonds given by Mr. Gaster from year to year.

Not only will the county be obliged to prove the alleged shortages to the satisfaction of the referee but the county must also allocate the alleged shortages to the different years of Mr. Gaster's tenure of office in order they may be charged against the bond signers for those years.

It is expected that the cost of the recent mistrial of Mr. Gaster in Cumberland superior court will amount to about \$3,500. This does not include the cost of the audit on which charges Mr. Gaster were based. The audit cost around \$40,000.

Duncan Shaw, county attorney, and W. C. Downing are expected to represent the county in the referee's hearing here. The date of the hearing has not been announced but every effort is being made to have it set this month.

FAYETTEVILLE Y. M. C. A. VERSUS BATTERY F

Friday night at the Armory, Battery F. will meet the strong basketball team from the Y. M. C. A. of Fayetteville.

This will be the second game for Battery F. They were defeated the first time by the All-Stars. Since then they have been practicing hard and are in better shape. They hope to come out victorious over Fayetteville.

The game will start promptly at eight o'clock and the public is urged to come out and root for the home team.

PRIVATE KILLED AND ANOTHER WOUNDED

Fernand Gonz, of Texas, Believed to Have Shot Herschel Moses and Then Killed Self—Tragedy is Being Investigated.

Fayetteville, Dec. 1.—Private Fernand Gonz, El Paso, Texas, is dead from a self-inflicted bullet wound and private Herschel E. Moses, Cherryville, is in the Station hospital with three wounds, apparently from the same weapon, as the result of a mysterious shooting affair which occurred at Fort Bragg last night.

The tragedy is being investigated by a military board appointed by the commanding officer.

Gonz and Moses were battery mates, both being members of battery D, 16th field artillery. Moses was walking post in the stable area when he saw a suspicious shadow under a gun shed, he stated from his hospital bed today. When he advanced to investigate he heard his name shouted and a gun flashed. The sergeant of the guard found Gonz in civilian clothes, dead with a bullet between the eyes. Beside him was a .45 calibre pistol, stolen from a supply room, from which four bullets had been fired.

Captain Samuel White, provost marshal at Fort Bragg, declared the motive for the shooting has not been ascertained.

WAGRAM PASTOR FATALLY INJURED

Dr. J. M. Arnett, Pastor, Spring Hill Baptist Church, Jumps or Falls From Moving Truck and Fractures Skull.

Dr. J. M. Arnett, pastor of Spring Hill Baptist Church at Wagram, was fatally injured on Tuesday of last week when he jumped from a truck loaded with tobacco at Ashley Heights. It seems that he was riding in this truck with his feet wrapped in a robe and that the robe was ignited from the exhaust of the engine. In trying to extricate himself from the burning robe he either fell or jumped from the truck and his skull was fractured. He was carried to Aberdeen for first aid and then to the Moore County Hospital at Pinehurst where he succumbed to his injuries that night.

Dr. Arnett was 58 years of age and a native of Moore County. He had been serving the Baptist church at Wagram for a number of years and was well known in this section. He was also a teacher of Bible in Bolling Springs College. He was a graduate of Wake Forest College, and had studied at the Southern Baptist Seminary and at the Duke University of North Carolina.

Funeral services were conducted from the Spring Hill Baptist Church last Thursday at eleven o'clock, with Rev. J. R. Miller, of this place, Rev. John Arch McMillan, of Thomasville, and Rev. J. L. Jenkins, of Bolling Springs, officiating.

WILLIAM HAIGH OWEN KILLED BY ACCIDENT

Cumberland County Farmer of 71st Township, Dies When Gun Discharges While Scaling Fence—Charge Enters Heart.

Fayetteville, Dec. 1.—William Haigh Owen, 65, one of the foremost farmers of Cumberland county, accidentally shot and killed himself this afternoon when a shotgun he was carrying was discharged while he was climbing over a fence on his farm in 71st township. According to members of his family, Mr. Owen had started to go down to his cow pasture, in company with one of his negro farm hands.

He had decided to carry his gun with him, saying that he might get an opportunity to shoot some birds. The gun was an old one, and Mrs. Owen remonstrated against his taking it, as she did not believe it was safe.

As he attempted to scale the fence the gun went off, and the charge entered his heart, killing him instantly. The accident occurred about 4:30 o'clock.

Mr. Owen is survived by his wife, formerly Miss Katie Shaw, three sons, Dr. Duncan Owen, of Baltimore, Haigh Owen and John Ray Owen, and one daughter, Miss Catherine Owen. He also leaves one brother, John M. Owen, of this county, and a sister, Mrs. Maggie Blue, of Aberdeen.

MISTRIAL ORDERED IN GASTER CASE

Jury Failed to Agree After Having Case for Seventeen Hours—Gaster Was Former Cumberland County Treasurer.

After being out for nearly seventeen hours a Hoke County jury Sunday reported to Judge R. A. Nunn in the superior court in Fayetteville that they were unable to agree on a verdict concerning the state's charges against David Gaster, former Cumberland County treasurer, and the jurors were discharged by the judge and the case declared a mistrial.

The issues were given to the jury Saturday night at 11:10. After holding the court in session for an hour without a verdict, Judge Nunn ordered the jurors locked up for the night, and adjourned Sunday morning the jurymen came into the court and asked for further information on one point. This concerned the alleged excessive payments totalling \$196,000 which the state charged that Gaster made to himself. The foreman asked if the state had to show "where the money went." Judge Nunn then charged the jurors, as he had done before, that the state must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant converted this money to his own use.

It was close to 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon when the jurymen returned again with the report of failure to agree. They were discharged at 3:55 p. m., the jurymen stood 9 to 3 for acquittal.

Whether or not the case will be tried again depends on the solicitor.

The hearing started Tuesday afternoon, on the second day of a special term of Cumberland Superior court. A special venire of fifty men was drawn from Hoke County for the selection of a jury, on motion of Solicitor T. A. McNeill, the defense relating the motion and maintaining that a fair trial could be given by Cumberland county jurors.

The State charged misapplication and misappropriation of public funds, the indictment resting on the public officials statute. The principal state witnesses were the auditors who spent a year in auditing the county record. The defense contented itself with character witnesses and the testimony of two auditors who claimed to find large discrepancies in the figures presented by the state's accountants.

The following twelve men from this county were members of the jury: L. M. Andrews, Arch Graham, T. B. Lester, Luke McFadyen, Henry Gordon, N. A. Wright, H. V. Guin, A. V. Ray, W. W. Maxwell, John Davis, Lacey McNeill and D. P. Gillis.

AGED COLORED WOMAN DIES THANKSGIVING DAY

Katie McDougald, colored, aged 71, died in McLaughlin Township on Thanksgiving Day, November 27th, her death being due to heart trouble. Her remains were buried at Galatia last Friday.

LOVETT BRATCHER, COLORED DIED LAST SATURDAY

Lovett Bratcher, a colored man who lived on Mrs. Sarah McNeill's farm near here, died last Saturday of heart trouble at the age of 59. His remains were buried last Sunday at Silver Grove cemetery.

Following it into the home of Daniels where he placed Daniels under arrest. Taking Daniels with him, he pursued the truck for some time longer, finally losing the trail on the hard surfaced highway between Red Springs and Maxton. One of the parties losing control stated that if the sheet that he lost could be located that he could identify it by its having some burned cotton in it. When shown the cotton at Daniels' house he immediately pointed out the sheet and when opened, this sheet contained burned cotton. Defense witnesses sought to prove that some of the cotton which Daniels had in his possession was burned and a hard fight was made by the defendants for acquittal but he was found guilty on all three counts and sentenced to the county roads for three months. Counsel gave notice of appeal to Superior Court and bond was fixed at one hundred dollars in each case.

A case against Junius Siler, Willie and Arch Blue was not pressed with leave, Blue having evaded arrest so far.

A case against J. C. Jordan charging the disposal of mortgaged property was disposed of the same way.

County School News

ROCKFISH SCHOOL NEWS.

Rockfish, Dec. 2.—Thanksgiving interruption is past now and indications are that our third month of school is going to be one of marked improvements over the preceding two. We are expecting the enrollment to climb up considerably and the attendance to be much better.

Our children are doing fine work and we feel that there is not a finer bunch in the county. The little "tots" remind you of real merchants in the way they sell their goods and compute their accounts behind their toy counter. And as one passes by the wigwams of the third grade he looks for the little papooses, but to his surprise there peeps out the ever alert boys and girls. The grammar grades, besides carrying along their regular work, are busy preparing and rendering society programs. Early in the school year these boys and girls organized a literary society, and it is operating nicely under the leadership and direction of the following officers: Howard Wood, president; Elizabeth Croley, secretary; Hazel Wood, vice-president; Willie E. McKeithan, supervisor; Tracie Monroe, chorister; Dazie Mae Adcox, pianist. This society meets, regularly twice per month on Friday afternoon. The next and last regular meeting before the Christmas holidays will be on the 12th of December. The leading number on this program will be a debate by the sixth grade, on the query: Resolved, "That good roads are more beneficial to the farmers than to the city people."

The social which the teachers had been planning for some time for the patrons and citizens of the district came off in good style on last Wednesday evening. There were about fifty or sixty fathers and mothers and several young men and women present. After a word of welcome by the principal and a short response by the chairman of the local committee, the crowd was entertained by stunts and games interspersed by string music of local talent. Every one present enjoyed the occasion, and we feel that the school is bigger and the community closer together by our having had this meeting.

On or about the 18th of December the teachers with the assistance of several young men and women of the community are planning to give the "Hay-Deacon Dubs" for the benefit of the school. This is an exceptionally good play and we trust that we may have a large crowd to see it.

RAEFORD SCHOOL

Scholarship Honor Roll, Third Month
First Grade—Lola Alexander, Mildred Campbell, Marjorie Campbell, Lester Baker, Thomas Gilley, Lewis

McFadyen, Robert Matheson, Lonnie Teal, Jr., Homer Thames, Helen Patricia Stewart, Annie Lee Campbell, Mary Tomas Carswell.

Second Grade—Yvonne Baucum, Patsy Blue, Mary Lewis, Emma Brooks Tapp, Christine McQueen, Howard Baucum, Dan Cox, Jr.

Third Grade—Tom McLaughlin, Kathleen Campbell, Douglas McNeill.
Fourth Grade—William McKay, Jimmy Green, Lawrence Campbell, Ben Campbell, Agnes Mae Johnson, Mary Shaw McDiarmid, Robert Veasey.

Fifth Grade—Watson Gillis, Frances McFadyen, Flora Alice Peterson.

Sixth Grade—Mary Elizabeth McBryde, Lena Blue McFadyen.

Seventh Grade—Allie May Davis, Nannie Russell Harris, Irma Jordan, Deane Matheson, Robert Weaver.

High School—Elaime McInnis, Sarah Yarborough, Mary Ana Clark, Ethel Epstein, Margaret Kirkpatrick, Christiana McFadyen, Dora Snead, Gray Currie, Thaddeus Koonce, Billy Maxwell, Junius Riley, Glennie Cook, Caroline Parker, Mary Isabella Ray, Doris Robinson, Ruth Scull, Jack McDuffie, Mabel Akins, Margaret Koonce.

Book Week in the Seventh Grade.
November 16-22 was book week in the United States. The seventh grade joined with other grades in observing the week. We observed it in various ways.

During the first of the week we studied some quotations about the value of reading good books. Then we wrote compositions on, "The Value of Good Books."

Our teacher helped us to observe book week by reading, "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm" to us. We enjoyed the book and wanted her to read it very sparely.

During drawing period we made book marks and posters. Prizes were offered to the boy and girl who made the best posters. Sam Morris and Allie Mae Davis won the prizes.

We enjoyed book week and we think our observation of it was profitable.

Miss Andrews Honored.

Misses Mary Elma McFadyen and Mildred McDuffie delightfully entertained in honor of Miss Lorena Andrews at the home of Miss McDuffie Thursday, Nov. 27, the occasion being the birth-day of Miss Andrews. Dancing and bridge were enjoyed during the evening after which a delicious sweet course was served. Those present were: Misses Lorena Andrews, Mary Morris, Mary Monroe, Lily Cox, Dora Snead, Libby McBryde, Margaret Morris, Florencia Campbell, Mary Elma McFadyen and Mildred McDuffie. Mebera Malcolm Campbell, Gaston McBryde, Marlon Gatin, Babe Bethune, William Gullett.

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