

ANOTHER SENSATION IN THE POSTOFFICE

Rumored That Discharged Clerk Will Be Reinstated

POSTMASTER KEEPS SILENT

Says The Public Can Get No Information From Him

It seems that sensations in the local postoffice will never cease. At midnight last Saturday Postmaster J. S. Basnight, who is himself awaiting an investigation of charges preferred against him, took advantage of the opportunity afforded him by, as he thought, the postal regulations to discharge night clerk R. E. Smith who was on six months probation and incidentally who is the man who instigated the charges against the Postmaster.

Last night there was a well founded rumor on the streets that the postmaster had received a communication from the department, ordering him to reinstate Mr. Smith. As soon as this rumor reached the Journal a reporter was sent out to investigate. The postmaster was not in his office at the time but was found on the street. When questioned in regard to the authenticity of the rumor he replied that he was not giving out any information, and that if anything relative to the matter was learned that it would be from other sources.

Mr. Basnight has, all along, adhered to the rule to keep his mouth shut in regard to the postoffice squabble when talking to newspaper men and he continues to stick to this plan. However, it was evident that the postmaster was perturbed, and the opinion is that he has been ordered to reinstate Smith.

After attempting to get an interview with the postmaster the reporter saw Mr. Smith at his home on Pollock street. Mr. Smith had heard that the postmaster had received the message above referred to but had received no notice from him to report for duty.

George Howard, who has been selected to fill the vacancy caused by the dismissal of Mr. Smith, was at his post of duty last night and took care of the incoming mails.

If the postmaster received a message to reinstate Mr. Smith, it is more than probable that this will be done to day and the public is awaiting developments with keen interest.

Press dispatches received here last night were to the effect that Senator F. M. Simmons had become interested in the New Bern postoffice muddle and intended to clear it up if possible. Yesterday he visited the Postoffice Department and before leaving was assured that an inspector would, this week, be sent to New Bern to investigate the charges which have been instituted against Postmaster J. S. Basnight.

Congressman Faison has, for several weeks, had this matter in charge and, while he has given the matter much of his time, he has so far failed to accomplish the desired result.

H. S. HANCOCK AWARDED THE CONTRACT.

At a meeting last night of the Board of Trustees of the New Bern Public Schools, H. S. Hancock was awarded the contract for the erection of the new building to be used in connection with those now in use. The contract, however, is conditional with the sale of the bonds recently issued for this purpose. There were several bidders but that of Mr. Hancock, which was about \$12,900, was the lowest.

BRADHAM'S NEW DRUG STORE OPENS TODAY.

C. D. Bradham's new drug store, located on the corner of Broad and Middle streets, will be opened to the public today. This is one of the finest stores in the State and every citizen of New Bern should pay it a visit of inspection. The ladies of the City Beautiful Club will have charge of the fountain during the day and all money received from the sale of drinks will go to that organization.

MARINE NEWS.

The gas freight boat Nickel, of Atlantic, arrived in port yesterday with a cargo of oysters.

The two masted schooner Venus arrived in port yesterday with a cargo of cotton and corn.

The gas freight boat Charmer, of Swansboro, arrived in port yesterday and is taking on a cargo of general merchandise for merchants of Swansboro.

The freight boat Worth Bagley arrived in port yesterday with a cargo of pigs from Carteret county.

The gas freight boat Lena arrived in port yesterday with a cargo of cotton and cotton seed.

The freight boat Bernice Cree, of Stella, arrived in port yesterday with a cargo of cotton and cotton seed.

The gas freight boat Bessie May arrived in port yesterday with a cargo of cotton and cotton seed from North Harlowe.

FIRST N. S. TRAIN TO RUN INTO CHARLOTTE

MANY OFFICIALS AND NEWS-PAPER MEN WERE ON BOARD.

Charlotte, Dec. 2.—The first regular train, No. 30, to run over the newly built Norfolk Southern road from Raleigh to Charlotte, came in yesterday at 1:55 o'clock, five minutes ahead of time. On the train were many of the prominent officers of the Norfolk Southern, including vice president E. C. Duncan; General Superintendent W. A. Witt; General Passenger Agent H. S. Leard, and B. E. Rice, general industrial agent. With the party also, were Ed. Britton and V. C. Moore, of the News and Observer; John Prak and Col. Fred Olds, of the Daily Times. The party will be in Charlotte until morning. A banquet will be served on the party's private car to leading business men of the city.

The new road is a great thing for this city. It taps a country that has hitherto had very poor railroad facilities indeed. In some portions of Stanly county there is no road for 20 miles on either side of the newly built Norfolk Southern.

Prof. Horner, of the Horner Military Institute of Oxford, writes that he will be in the city tomorrow relative to the moving of his school from Oxford to this city. A committee composed of the alumni of his school and members of the Greater Charlotte club will meet Prof. Horner at the train tomorrow. Wednesday night there will be a meeting in the offices of the Greater Charlotte Club to discuss the proposition of moving the school.

AN ALLEGED RETAILER SENT TO SUPERIOR COURT

DEWITT McCOTTER CHARGED WITH VIOLATING PROHIBITION LAW.

Mayor Bangert had only a few cases on his docket yesterday afternoon but one of them, that in which DeWitt McCotter was charged with retailing spirituous liquors, proved quite interesting.

McCotter, of course, declared that such an idea that he would sell whiskey was preposterous. However, after hearing the evidence in the case the Mayor held him for Superior Court under a bond of two hundred dollars.

In addition to the charge of retailing which had been lodged against McCotter there was also one charging him with assaulting a companion. Probable cause was found in this case also and a bond of fifty dollars required.

Joe Gordon was found guilty of being disorderly and fined twenty dollars and the costs of the case.

A new theatrical sketch is called "Fixing Dad," and three weeks to Christmas, everybody's playing it.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR N. CAROLINA

More Than Three Quarters Of A Million Dollars To Be Distributed.

NEW BERN TO GET SHARE

Fifteen Thousand Dollars For National Cemetery Road.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 2.—Department estimates on which are to be based the appropriations by Congress for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1915, carry more than three-quarters of a million dollars of items local to North Carolina, most of which, however, are for completing projects already under way or for maintenance of public improvements already completed. The following items gleaned from the estimates do not include the pay rolls for the government in the State, or other fixed expenses. The amounts for special purposes in North Carolina asked from Congress are as follows:

Gastonia, continuing public building, \$5,000; Greenville, completing building, \$29,000; Hickory, completing building, \$10,000; Rocky Mount, continuing building, \$27,000; Tarboro, continuing building, \$23,000; Harbor of Refuge, Cape Lookout, continuing construction, \$30,000 (\$500,000 used last year); improving harbor at Beaufort, \$5,000; improving Beaufort Inlet, maintenance, \$10,000; improving harbor at Morehead City, \$2,000.

At Bay River, \$1,000; continuing work of constructing locks and dams on the Cape Fear River above Wilmington, \$91,000; below Wilmington, \$115,000; maintenance of improvements of Contentnea creek, \$2,000; on Fishing Creek, \$1,000; Meherrin river, \$1,000; Neuse and Trent rivers, \$37,000; New river and waterways to Beaufort, \$28,500; improvements in Northeast, Black and Cape Fear rivers, \$13,000; in Pamlico and Tar, \$18,500; Roanoke river, \$2,000; Scuppernon, \$2,000; Shallot, \$1,000; Smith's creek, \$2,000; Swift Creek, \$500; waterways from Pamlico Sound to Beaufort Inlet, \$4,000; fish cultural station, Edenton, repairs, etc., \$3,500; Marion Biological Station, Beaufort, \$5,000; road to National cemetery at New Bern, \$15,000.

Only three North Carolina Congressmen, Webb, Small and Faison, failed to answer the roll call when the regular session of Congress convened today. Messrs. Small and Faison will probably be here in time to hear the President's message tomorrow. Both Senators are here, and today Senator Overman re-introduced his bill providing for an annual appropriation by the government of half a million dollars, for the building of post roads in each State, provided the States in each case put up an equal amount. If all States took advantage of this it would mean an annual expenditure for post roads of over forty million dollars.

KING AND GIBBS PRESENT

CORINNE KING AND COMPANY FEATURING "THE SONG BIRDS OF THE SOUTH."

At the Athens today in a complete change of program, presenting a roaring Western comedy entitled "Price of the Lone Star Ranch." This company, composed of eleven people is one of the best ever seen here. Excellent singing and dancing—everything said or done being new and original.

PICTURES.
We have today a special release picture in two reels, by the Essanay Co., entitled:

"Broken Threads United."
This strong melodrama shows the dangers that beset the pathway of kind, confiding rural folks while visiting a city.

It portrays the startling contrast between the simple country life and the wickedness of a city.

Be sure to see this great character study. Then we have two other pictures, both very funny comedies, by Kalem.

"The Burglar and the Baby," and
"One Best Bet."

We give you a big show for a little money. If you can't come at night, come to the matinee where you see all for 5c. for children and 10c. for adults, the very same show we have at night.

FEDERAL TROOPS FACE STARVATION

Compelled To Evacuate Chihuahua City In Order To Live.

REBELS TO MEXICO CITY

General Villa And Governor Carranza To Fight Further South.

Juarez, Mex., Dec. 2.—Rather than endure starvation, the Federal troops have evacuated Chihuahua City, according to advices received tonight by General Francisco Villa, the rebel leader. The evacuation leaves the city open to possession by the rebels. The town was invested by Federal troops weeks ago.

The reports received by Villa state that Salvador Mercado, military Governor of the State, with 2,000 troops had left on foot for Ojinaga, on the United States border, near Maria, Texas; that Generals Jose Ynez Salazar and Pasquale Orozco, with more than 1,000 Federals, had retreated to the mountains west of the city, and that hundreds of civilians, including women and children, who were on the verge of starvation had started out to walk to the United States border.

Besides being the capital of the State, Chihuahua, with a population normally of 35,000, is the second city of Northern Mexico. Neither in the Madero revolution nor in the present uprising has Chihuahua been taken from the Federals. Its garrison and the command positions for sharpshooters and machine guns, heretofore has presented a formidable barrier to invaders.

Conditions in the city were said to be such that life there was no longer endurable. The Spanish viaduct which conveyed water from the mountains, was reported to have been destroyed, and the food supply exhausted. General Villa tonight telegraphed General Carranza, at Hermosillo, that the proposed advance of the rebels Southward to Mexico City now would be expedited.

"The report of the capitulation of Chihuahua is authentic," said Villa. "It came to me in an official despatch which said the city was evacuated on Sunday."

"It is my purpose now to send a force to intercept Mercado, who is fleeing to Ojinaga, and also to capture Orozco and Salazar."

"Our main body probably will concentrate at Chihuahua, preparatory to the advance Southward. We will be nearing Mexico City within a month. Vera Cruz, Dec. 2.—Four hundred infantry embarked tonight on the Mexican gunboat Zaragoza. The destination of the soldiers was not revealed, but it is probable they are bound for Tuxpan, in the vicinity of which rebels have recently appeared in increasing numbers.

The remainder of the Federal force recently concentrated here will have to wait for transports, as the Zaragoza is the only vessel at present available for this purpose.

John Lind, President Wilson's representative, who recently went to Tampico, on the battleship Rhode Island, will arrive in Vera Cruz tomorrow morning.

THE "BUTTON" COMPANY ELECT NEW OFFICERS

HELD REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING ON MONDAY NIGHT.

The New Bern Steam Fire Engine Company held their regular monthly meeting Monday night and at the close of the regular business meet the following officers were elected:

Engineer, L. A. Tucker; foreman, F. A. Gaskill; assistant foreman, Jack Simpson; captain of the hose, E. S. Mitchell; financial secretary, Sol Lipman; secretary, Murray Pugh; treasurer, O. A. Kafer; representatives, T. D. Davis, O. D. Sparrow; house committee, E. J. Pate, F. H. Lane.

At the close of the meeting a luncheon was served and this was greatly enjoyed by all present.

Some satisfaction probably in knowing that the new session of Congress is to be regular.

This administration certainly has a quiet way of distributing patronage.

THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEET

Chairman Of Finance Committee Says There's A Leak Somewhere.

BELIEVES IN SQUARE DEALS

Many Matters Of Importance Disposed Of During The Evening.

That there is a leak somewhere in the city treasury was the statement made last night by A. T. Dill, chairman of the Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen, at the regular monthly meeting of the Board.

The events leading up to this statement on the part of Mr. Dill are numerous and of long standing. Several months ago the City Physician had secured the services of Masters C. Bartling and Hawk to distribute them.

The bulletins were distributed and the young men put in a bill for \$20.50. The Board thought it was entirely too large an amount to pay for the work and turned it down. Several times since has it been brought up but has each time been delayed. Last night it was brought up again and Alderman Dill stated that he believed it should be paid. He said that bills which were much larger than this were passed without the least contention and that he was in favor of paying the young men.

Mr. Dill's remarks brought on considerable discussion which ended in a vote being taken on the matter. Every member, with the exception of Alderman Dill, voted to refuse to pay the full amount, but they were willing to give the young men half the money asked. The matter was brought to a close by the city paying half the amount and Aldermen Ellis, Bangert, Hyman and Satterthwaite contributing the other \$10.25.

Railroad Matter Continued.

D. E. Henderson, who is acting as attorney for the citizens living along Queen street who have petitioned the Board to take some action in regard to the Atlantic Coast Line Railway Company using that street as a shifting yard, appeared before the Board and asked if they were ready to make some disposition of the matter. The committee appointed to investigate this matter have not been able to get in communication with the railway company's attorneys and further time was asked for and granted.

L. J. Taylor, one of the managers of the Athens Theatre, told the Board that there was an exposed sewer in front of the theatre that was giving them much annoyance, and was a menace to the health of the people in that section. Alderman Ellis stated that he had inspected the sewer in question and some time ago gave H. H. Tooker, superintendent of the street force, instructions to examine and remedy the defect but so far he had failed to hear from Mr. Tooker in the matter. W. B. Blades stated that he was, in a way, familiar with the cause of the trouble and that, in his belief, the main sewer pipe along that section was not large enough and that it would necessitate the laying of a larger pipe down as far as Hancock street. The matter was referred to the Streets and Pumps Committee for investigation and action.

Colored Pastor Presents Petition.

Rev. Edward C. Miller, pastor of the colored Presbyterian church, presented a petition to the Board signed by a large number of reputable colored citizens, asking that body to pass some ordinance prohibiting colored women from carrying whiskey through the streets of New Bern. Upon motion the City Attorney was given instruction to make an investigation of the laws and find out just how stringent this ordinance could be made and to then draw up the same and present it to the Board for their consideration.

R. R. Eagle has recently completed a map of the city of New Bern and its subdivisions and the Board ordered that this map be known as the official map of the city. While it will take an act of the legislature to make the map official, it will have the sanction of the entire Board. The city also purchased ten of these maps.

Want Money From Bonds.

A committee from the Board of Trustees of the New Bern Public Schools appeared before the Board and stated that they had awarded the contract for the erection of the new building to be used in connection

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR FARMERS

County Farm Demonstrator Urges Them to Go to A. and M. College.

TUITION WILL BE FREE

Craven County Has Taken Steps To Better Agricultural Conditions.

Beginning on January 9 and continuing until February 9 there will be a special short term course given the farmers of the State at the North Carolina Agricultural and Mechanical College. Farmers from all over the State will be in attendance and much will be learned by them.

J. W. Sears, Craven County's farm demonstrator has addressed the following letter to the farmers of this county who want to make good:

"There has never been a time, when agricultural interest was so high as now. Therefore, we all should take advantage of every opportunity to learn more about agriculture than ever before. I would like to know how many farmers will attend a month's course at the A. & M. College at Raleigh this winter.

"Tuition will be free and your board and lodging will be small compared with what you will get out of the course. The course is a special one, given to farmers on scientific but practical methods of farming, and will begin January 9th. It will help you and your neighbors if you will put it in practice when you get back home.

"Craven county has taken a great step towards better agricultural conditions, so let's keep up the good spirit, by a large attendance at Raleigh this winter.

"Go there and see your State College if you have never seen it, and also the State capitol, for it will do you good. But if you cannot attend the course at A. & M., we will like for you to attend the short course here at Vanceboro, beginning on the third Monday of January, and lasting for five days.

"If any one will go to the A. & M., and will drop me a card at Vanceboro, I will gladly write Dr. Hill and make all necessary arrangements for you. And those who expect to attend the Farm Life School send in their application to Dr. J. E. Farrington, J. W. Sears, County Demonstrator, Vanceboro, N. C."

This is an opportunity of which the farmers of the county have long been awaiting and it is believed that this section will be well represented.

GOOD SHOW AT THE ATHENS THEATRE THIS WEEK.

In Corinne King and "The Song Birds of the South" the Athens theatre this week has one of the best musical comedy companies ever seen in New Bern. This company opened a week's engagement here Monday night and since that time have been drawing packed houses. The show presented by the company is clean and attractive and is very different, in many respects, from that usually seen in vaudeville houses. Tonight they put on an entire change of act and there will doubtless be another packed house.

with the present set of buildings and that they would like to have the money from the bonds recently issued. Upon motion the city clerk was ordered to advertise for bids for these bonds.

Alderman Satterthwaite, chairman of the Ordinance Committee, made a motion that an ordinance be passed compelling public drays, hacks and transfers of all varieties to display their license and vehicle numbers in a place where it would be an easy matter for any one to see them. This was ordered done. Alderman Satterthwaite also made a motion that the license tax of automobiles used as a public transfers be as follows: One seat machines, \$15; two seat machines \$20; large touring cars \$30. This was ordered.

No Action In Union Point Matter.

The committee who have the Union Point project in charge stated that they were not ready to report and asked to be allowed until the February meeting to continue their investigation. This request was granted.

The report of the auditor who has been auditing the books of the city is almost in readiness and will be made at a special meeting of the Board which will be held at an early date.