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NEW BERN, N. C., SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 26, 1913

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## CHRISTMAS WAS OBSERVED HERE

### General Suspension Of Business And Day Given Over To Recreation.

#### MANY ATTENDED SERVICES

The Poor And Needy Were Liberally Remembered.

Christmas Day in New Bern was observed by a general suspension of business and the day was given over to recreation and pleasure. Unfortunately the weather was very inclement and this partially spoiled the pleasure of the day for many. Early in the morning the downpour began and this continued at intervals all during the day.

Regardless of this fact the occasion was an enjoyable one. At several of the churches appropriate services were held and these were largely attended and thoroughly enjoyed. Following these the congregations adjourned to their homes and partook of the Christmas dinner. The day would, of course, not be complete without an unusually palatable repast and it can be said of all New Bernians that they believe in having sufficient food on hand at all meals to gratify the inner man.

There were a few of the stores open during the day, such as fruit stores, those carrying soda fountains and making a specialty of the sale of cigarettes and cigars, and these were well patronized. At night two of the city's theatres were in full blast and had record breaking audiences.

While everyone was celebrating the occasion, the poor and needy—those who could not provide for themselves, were looked after. On the night before Christmas the Elks distributed two hundred packages among the poor and on Christmas Day the Salvation Army gave out a large number of baskets containing enough dinner to satisfy a large family. In addition to this a number of individual philanthropists opened their hearts, also their purse strings, and played Santa Claus. Taken as a whole the day was one of great enjoyment. There were no serious accidents and everyone seemed to be just as happy as they could possibly be.

#### DR. JONES REMEMBERED.

#### GIVEN "SURPRISE PARTY" BY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

It is the custom of the Knights Templar to meet in their lodge room on Christmas Day, hold a brief service and then go out among the poor and needy and distribute gifts and the necessities of life.

When the local Knights Templar met on Christmas Day, Dr. R. D. V. Jones, Commander and one of the most valued members of the order, was absent, having been detained at his home on account of sickness. At the conclusion of the exercises the members in a body went to the home of the absent member and spent an hour or more at his bedside.

Dr. Jones was not expecting the little "surprise party" given him, but was naturally much pleased. The doctor's illness was not of a severe nature and he was able to be out again yesterday.

## ATHENS

### BIG SHOW FOR LITTLE MONEY

The majestic musical comedy company close their engagement tonight. The act put on by them last night was the best one of the week and will be repeated today. There is plenty of comedy and you will have merry laughs in fifty minutes.

#### PICTURES.

We have four good ones as follows:

- "Twelve Reelers."
- "The White Feather."
- "Father's Choice."
- "All On Account Of Daisy."

Two hours show at 5, 10 and 15c. Matinee at 11c.

Come to the Athens. Write and compare with other theatres.

See advertisement in paper.

Dr. J. E. Foley, one of New Bern's best physicians, was in the city for a few days.

## SERENADER STRUCK BY BULLET FROM RIFLE

### OCCUPANTS OF FAVORED HOME DIDN'T LIKE GOOD SINGING.

(Special to the Journal.)  
Oriental, Dec. 26.—The citizens of Oriental observed Christmas in a very appropriate manner. The weather was extremely inclement but despite this fact the day was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The feature event of the day was the Christmas entertainment given by the Sunday school of the Methodist church. This entertainment, which was given in the magnificent new church, was well attended and proved thoroughly enjoyable.

At the conclusion of a very appropriate program, consisting of songs and recitations, gifts were distributed among the pupils of the school.

A marriage of interest to the citizens of this place and surrounding section took place last Tuesday at New Bern when Lionel Daniels wed Miss Jean Hill, of Newport. The bride has visited here a number of times in the past and has a host of friends. The groom is well known in Pamlico county and has a host of friends.

The marriage came as a surprise to the friends of the contracting parties, and upon learning of the wedding, after the bride and groom had returned home, several of the young men undertook to serenade the happy young couple. The melody (?) rendered by them was of such a nature that one of the groom's relatives poked an air rifle out of a window and turned loose into the crowd with a BB shot. The shot caused but little damage (striking one member of the party on his collar), but had the effect of putting a damper on the serenaders' ardor.

## H. BERT SMITH PASSED AWAY YESTERDAY MORNING

### SUCCUMBED TO A COMPLICATION OF ALL-MENTMENTS.

Falling in his battle for life against a complication of ailments, H. Bert Smith, one of New Bern's well known and valued citizens, fell on sleep at his home, No. 121 Hancock street yesterday morning at 3 o'clock.

Mr. Smith was born at Smyrna, N. C., in 1876, and was a son of Captain M. Burn Smith, who survives him. Early in life he came to New Bern and has made his home here since that time. He has been connected with several influential business concerns during past years, among which was Baugh & Sons Fertilizer Company, he being their local agent and the Norfolk Southern Railway Company's Trent River warehouse, where he was agent.

The deceased has been in ill health for some time, but his condition did not become critical until last Saturday when he was confined to his room. All that skilled physicians and the tender ministrations of a loving family could do for the sufferer was done but the Grim Reaper passed that way and took him as his own.

Mr. Smith was a Mason of a very high degree. He was also a Past Exalted Ruler of the New Bern Lodge of Elks and at the time of his demise was treasurer of that lodge, he was also a member of the Royal Arcanum. The funeral will be conducted from the residence this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, the service being conducted by Rev. B. F. Huske, rector of Christ Episcopal church, and the interment will be made in Cedar Grove cemetery.

Mr. Smith is survived by his wife, one daughter, Miss Minnie Bell Smith; one son, Hynum Smith; a sister, Mrs. C. C. Clark, Jr., and his father, Captain Burn Smith.

## NEW TELEGRAPH OPERATOR ARRIVES IN CITY.

J. R. Shannon, of Gastonia, has arrived in the city and has accepted a position as operator at the local office of the Postal Telegraph Company. Mr. Shannon comes to New Bern, well recommended and will doubtless acquire many friends here.

J. C. Thomas, Jr., left last night for Newport for a few days' visit.  
W. H. Allen, of Goldsboro, passed through the city last night enroute to Clinton.

## EIGHTY KILLED IN CALUMET, MICH.

### Death Stalked Through Festive Hall Where Many Children Had Gathered When False Alarm of Fire Is Sounded.

Calumet, Mich., Dec. 26.—Eighty persons, mostly children, were killed Thursday night at a Christmas celebration of copper mine strikers in an Italian Hall because of a needless panic caused by a false alarm of fire.

While several hundred miners and their wives looked on, the children pressed eagerly towards the stage to receive Christmas presents. At this point a man put his head in at the door of the hall and yelled "Fire!"

The cry was taken up by those in the hall. Everyone started for the doors. The weaker were thrown to the floor and those behind tried to climb over those ahead of them.

The stairway and other avenues or escapes were blocked so effectively that those inside could not get out and those without could not get in to aid the panic-stricken crowd in the hall. It was some time before the panic subsided.

The alarm was spread outside the hall by a few persons who had been near the door and escaped unhurt. A crowd soon assembled and the work of clearing the hall was begun.

The principal exit was a narrow stairway at the back of the hall. When this had been cleared of the bodies that filled it to the top and a quick accounting had been made it was found that 74 corpses had been piled up beside the hall building. It is thought that a dozen others were carried away by friends.

The dead that were piled up beside the hall included 37 girls, 19 boys, 13 women and 5 men. Excited men and women stood about the building, some dazed by the sudden change from holiday festivities to tragedy, others calling hysterically for missing children, and a few even threatening violence to the rescuers for keeping them back from the logg row of bodies.

There was not much work for the many doctors who hurried to the scene as soon as the alarm was spread, for those who were not killed in the first rush were held upright and safe by the very force of the onrush towards the exit. Only three uninjured persons were taken to the hospitals and a few went home, assisted by friends.

For many days the children of the copper mine strikers had waited expectantly for the Christmas tree entertainment that had been arranged by the wo-

man's auxiliary of the Western Federation of Miners. The entertainment was set for the early evening and the hall, which is on the second floor, was soon filled to its limit. The children selected to recite Christmas recitations and sing carols had finished their part of the program and the man selected to play the part of Santa Claus had appeared to distribute the presents that were piled around the illuminated tree.

The children were instructed to march up the aisles to the trees, so that the presents could be handed to them. The aisles were filled with the boys and girls, when a large bearded man thrust his head in at the door of the main hallway and shouted "fire."

The cry was repeated throughout the room in several languages as parents rose and rushed forward to get their children. Many lives were crushed out in almost a twinkling. Then the physical impossibility of further movement brought the panicky persons to their senses. It was realized too late that there was no fire, but most of those in the hall could not get out of the jam they had caused.

Policemen and firemen hurried to the building. Several officers climbed the fire escapes and entered by the windows. In a short time the uninjured and the faint had been pulled from the tangle of human beings and placed in the front of the hall.

Other men began to pull the bodies of the dead and helpless from the stairway and lay them in a row beside the building. This disposition of the crumpled bodies was found inadvisable because of the hysteria it caused among the spectators and the dead were carried back into the hall as soon as it was emptied of frightened spectators. All the chairs were lined with bodies and corpses had to be placed in the kitchen of the hall and beneath the stage.

Within an hour almost every person in Calumet was as near the scene as it was possible to get. The police formed a cordon about the place and kept back the crowd. After much effort a lane was opened through the crowd and the bodies of the children were carried through the ranks of wailing and moaning women to Red Jacket village hall, which was turned into a morgue. It was many hours before all the bodies were identified.

## LITTLE DISORDERLINESS DURING THE HOLIDAYS

### BUT THREE OFFENDERS PLACED UNDER ARREST CHRISTMAS DAY.

The holiday season in New Bern has so far, been marked with but little disorderly conduct. During the past week but very few cases have been disposed of in Municipal Court and in these the majority of the offenses were trivial.

Christmas Day several negroes got "ambunctious" and proceeded to celebrate the occasion in a manner entirely inappropriate. They were promptly taken in tow by a policeman and yesterday afternoon faced Mayor, pro tem Ellis, who was presiding over the court in the absence of Mayor Bangert.

Charles Simmons was the chief offender before the bar. Simmons it is said, took occasion to assault J. H. Taylor with a shotgun. Fortunately his attempts to fill his intended victim with leaden pellets did not prove successful. However, it was not the fault of the man behind the gun that Taylor escaped with life and after hearing the evidence in the case Mayor, pro tem, Ellis bound the defendant over to the next term of Superior Court under a bond of fifty dollars, in default of which he was committed to jail.

Robert Brinson was disorderly with in the city limits and upon being found guilty was found five dollars and fined with the cost of the case.

James Smith was found guilty of an assault upon Henry Johnson and a fine of five dollars was placed on him. He was also taxed with the costs of the case.

## STAG CLUB MINSTREL SHOW WAS GOOD ONE

### STAG CLUB TO AGAIN PRESENT THEIR MINSTREL SHOW.

The minstrel show given at the Masonic theatre last night by the members of the Stag Club for the benefit of the De Graffenried Colony Memorial Fund, was one of the best performances of its kind ever seen on a local stage and those who attended felt fully repaid.

Unfortunately the audience was small but this did by no means put a damper on the spirit of the amateur performers. From the rise until the fall of the curtain they kept the audience convulsed with mirth and there is not the slightest doubt but that every spectator was greatly pleased.

The Stag Club put on this minstrel show for the purpose of helping erect a monument to the founders of New Bern. It is a creditable move on their part and the public should have given them better patronage. On January 2 they will repeat the performance and it is hoped that the attendance will be much better.

The cast of characters in the show is as follows: Interlocutor, Edgar Wallnau; end men, Robert Collins, Sam Small, Jack Miller and Stephen Simpson; circle men Clarence Rigdon, Fred Gillikin, Roy Land, Robert Waters, Tom Sparrow and Eugene Simpson; black face, Jack Willis; straight, Edgar Wallnau; hotel proprietor, Fred Gillikin; clerk, S. Simpson; cigar clerk, Roy Land; bell boy, Robert Collins; Willie Green, Jack Miller; Dr. Skinem, Eugene Simpson; Lawyer Grab It, Edgar Wallnau; Si Perkin, Sam Small; Mrs. Johnson, Tom Sparrow. This cast will be seen in the second presentation of the piece.

## GLAD HOLIDAYS ARE DRAWING TO A CLOSE

### POSTOFFICE EMPLOYEES THANKFUL THAT THE RUSH IS ABOUT OVER.

Christmas has passed by, the holiday season is drawing to a close and the clerks and carriers in the local postoffice are breathing a breath of relief for the first time in three weeks or possibly more.

The amount of mail handled at the local postoffice this season has been larger than ever before. The new parcel post added to their work and, in addition, to this it seemed to the busy force in the office that everybody was trying to send a letter, package or post card or perhaps all three, to someone else.

To add to their other troubles the trains have been running off schedule and this threw the mails all out of plumb and the result was disastrous to the system of the office. However, the clerks and carriers have handled the situation in a commendable and thoroughly satisfactory manner.

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT THE TABERNACLE CHURCH

### WERE WELL ATTENDED AND THOROUGHLY ENJOYED BY ALL.

(Contributed.)

The entertainment at the Baptist Tabernacle was a great success and enjoyed by a large congregation. The pastor and church desire to thank every one who helped in any way to make the service a blessing to the city.

Tomorrow is to be a great day with the congregation. Sunday school 9:45 a. m., J. S. Miller, superintendent. At 11 a. m., Rev. J. B. Phillips, the pastor, will continue the Sunday morning studies of the work of Christ on the Cross. The sermon tomorrow will be a continuation of last Sunday morning's address on "The Great Tribulation Period." Tomorrow night the Tabernacle choir will furnish Christmas music. The song service will begin promptly at 7 o'clock and there will be a number of special selections as well as congregational singing. Pastor Phillips will preach the closing sermons on what he stands for at the close of the song service. The public is cordially invited to each service.

## COMING DINNER A BIG AFFAIR

### Annual Event To Be Given By Chamber Of Commerce Attracts Attention.

#### MANY PERSONS TO ATTEND.

#### Senator F. M. Simmons To Be The Principal Speaker.

Next Tuesday night, December 30, the annual dinner of the Chamber of Commerce will be held at the Gaston Hotel. This dinner will be the most elaborate of its kind ever given in New Bern as is evidenced by the extensive preparations which are being made for it.

This will be the second dinner to be given by the Chamber of Commerce. The first was held last year and the principal speaker of the occasion was Hon. Josephus Daniels, secretary of the United States Navy. At the approaching dinner Senator F. M. Simmons, chairman of the Finance Committee of the United States, Senate will make the principal address.

In addition to the address by Senator Simmons, short talks will be made by Fred N. Tate, president of the Just Freight Rate Association of North Carolina; Edward Britton of the Raleigh News and Observer and a large number of newspaper men from all over the State. Several local citizens will also make short talks.

There will be between two and three hundred guests present and in such a distinguished assemblage which will be comprised of some of the brainiest men in this country, one would naturally suppose that the gathering would be attended by helpful suggestions along municipal development lines that could but be of much worth to this and other cities in the State.

The Chamber of Commerce has as its main object the development and advancement of New Bern and, naturally, the main object of the speakers will be to bring out new and effective suggestions along this line. In order to defray the expenses of the dinner, tickets are being sold by the Chamber of Commerce. These can be secured from J. Leon Williams, the secretary.

## TO HOLD EXAMINATION FOR MANY POSTMASTERS

### CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION ANNOUNCES DATES AND PLACES.

In a circular just issued by the civil service commission, announcement is made to the effect that examinations will be held on the following dates and at the places named for postmasters of the fourth-class offices, whose salary is \$180 or more per annum:

- February 7—Albermarle, Beaufort, Bolivia, Burgaw, Carthage, Clarkton, Columbus, Currituck, Danbury, Garland, Jacksonville, Jefferson, Kelford, Lake Toxaway, Lincolnton, Marion, Marshall, Mocksville, Roxboro, Ruthersfordon, Smithfield, Swanquarter, Warsaw, Williamston.
  - February 9—Yadkinville.
  - February 10—Wilkesboro.
  - February 12—Sparta.
  - February 14—Asheville, Burlington, Chapel Hill, Charlotte, Concord, Danville, Va.; Dunn, Durham, Elizabeth City, Fayetteville, Gaston, Goldsboro, Greensboro, Greenville, Hamlet, Henderson, Hendersonville, Hickory, High Point, Kinston, Lauriburg, Lenoir, Lexington, Lumberton, Monroe, Morganton, Mount Airy, New Bern, Oxford, Raleigh, Reidsville, Rockingham, Rocky Mount, Salisbury, Sanford, Shelby, Statesville, Tarboro, Thomasville, Wadesboro, Washington, Wilmington, Waynesville, Wilson, Winston-Salem.
  - February 16—Boone.
  - February 18—Newland.
  - February 19—Bakersville.
  - February 20—Ashboro, Gatesville, Columbia, Halifax.
  - February 21—Chadburn, Jackson, Mackeys, Manteo, Troy, Webster, Winton.
  - February 23—Franklin.
  - February 25—Bryson City.
  - February 26—Robbinsville.
  - February 27—Murphy.
- Five hundred and seventy offices are to be filled from among the candidates who will stand the examinations.