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CHAS. R. THOMAS IS IN THE RACE

Prominent New Bernian Makes His Formal Announcement.

WANTS TO GO TO CONGRESS

Numerous Friends Have Pledged Him Their Support.

Hon. Charles R. Thomas, one of New Bern's leading attorneys and who for twelve years represented this section in Congress, will again be in the race.

Mr. Thomas has been in the Western part of the State for several days visiting relatives. It had not been his intention to announce his candidacy for nomination until after the first of the year, but the other candidates have "come out" and Mr. Thomas is doing the same.

In a telegram sent the Journal last night from Winston-Salem Mr. Thomas says: "Announce my candidacy for Democratic nomination for Congress. More formal announcement when I reach New Bern."

It has been understood all along that Mr. Thomas would be one of the candidates for this office and his numerous



HON. CHARLES R. THOMAS

friends in this section have pledged him their support and it is mainly at their solicitation that he is again entering the race.

For twelve years Mr. Thomas represented this section in Congress and his record during that time was one of which any man might be proud. One of his friends stated yesterday that the good work he had done for this district well merited his return even if there was no other cause.

The fight for this office bids fair to be one of the warmest ever waged in this section. Ex-Judge Owen H. Guion last week announced that he would be among those in the race, Jno. M. Faison, of Faison, the present incumbent will also be on hand and George E. Hood, of Goldsboro, will be a candidate.

Each of the above-named gentlemen want the place and their friends want them to have it, and intend doing their utmost to put their respective candidates in the office. The campaign will begin shortly, probably during the early part of January.

REMAINS OF H. B. SMITH LAID AT REST.

The funeral services over the remains of the late H. B. Smith were conducted from the residence on Hancock street yesterday afternoon by Rev. B. F. Huske, rector of Christ Episcopal church, and the remains interred in Cedar Grove cemetery. Members of the various lodges of which the deceased was a member, accompanied the remains to the cemetery.

RAPIDLY RECOVERING FROM ATTACK OF APPENDICITIS.

It will be a source of gratification to the numerous friends of Mrs. Thomas A. Crowell to know that she is rapidly improving from a recent attack of appendicitis and will, in a few days, be able to leave Stewart's sanatorium where she has for some time been undergoing treatment.

STATESVILLE BAKER TAKES HIS OWN LIFE

CHARLIE MILLER DRANK HALF AN OUNCE OF CARBOLIC ACID AND DIED IN TEN MINUTES.

Statesville, Dec. 27.—A suicide occurred here this morning about 10 o'clock when Charlie Miller, head baker at the Home Bakery drank a half ounce of carbolic acid and died in a few minutes. Mr. Miller seemed rather depressed when he went to work this morning and remarked to another baker that he would just about as leave be dead as alive, but his companion did not consider the statement seriously. Proprietor Johnson of the bakery was concerned about Miller, however, and kept an eye on him during the morning, fearing he would get more whiskey or do something desperate. About 10 o'clock Miller stepped from the rear door of the bakery and walked to a nearby drug store where he secured an ounce of carbolic acid on the pretense of wanting it for disinfecting purposes. Returning to the bakery in a few minutes he went to the basement of the building Horace Thompson, one of the bakers, saw Miller go down the stairway and an instant later when he caught the odor of carbolic acid Thompson dashed down the stairway and found Miller with the bottle to his mouth. Knocking the bottle from Miller's hand, Thompson then ran to the drug store to get a doctor. Miller followed him up the stairs and asked an assistant baker for some sweet milk. Miller did not wait for the milk but walked on through the building to the street, where he fell on the pavement. He was hurriedly carried back into the building and within a few minutes two doctors were working to save his life, but all in vain, death coming within 10 minutes.

GRIEF STRICKEN FAMILIES HAVE REFUSED AID

RELIEF WORKERS UNABLE TO GIVE AWAY A CENT OF MONEY.

Calumet, Mich., Dec. 27.—Relief workers today were unable to give away one cent of the \$25,000 collected for the families stricken by the Christmas eve catastrophe in Italian Hall, in which 72 persons were killed.

Members of every bereaved household that were approached said they had been promised adequate aid by the Western Federation of Miners.

Members of the relief committee selected at yesterday's mass meeting attributed this unprecedented condition to the rumor that the man who started the panic among the striking copper miners' children wore the emblem of the Citizens' Alliance, an organization opposed to continuance of the strike. To combat this sentiment they obtained from Anthony Lucas, prosecuting attorney of Houghton county, a statement that he was satisfied from the progress of his investigation that the man who raised the cry wore no insignia of any kind.

Despite the evident determination of the stricken families not to accept non-union aid, the committee was not without hope of overcoming the prejudices, and held another meeting tonight to consider various plans for getting rid of the fund. Fifty-four families were on the list as needing possible aid, and each was visited by a subcommittee. The federation's members were no less active. The proffers of union help were accepted in nearly all cases.

Efforts to establish the identity of the man who started the panic met with some success today. Several persons gave long affidavits to Prosecutor Lucas, investigators and it was hoped that an arrest may be made soon. More important in the mind of the local community was the refutation of the report that the miscreant wore a Citizens' Alliance button. Mrs. Thera Sizemore denied that she had ever said she saw such an insignia when she grasped the man by the shoulders and tried to force him into a seat.

R. A. M. MEMBERS TO MEET TOMORROW NIGHT.

There will be a special convocation of New Bern Chapter No. 46, R. A. M. Monday night at 7:30 o'clock. There will be work in the lower lodge degree and every member is requested to be present.

"I AM HIS SLAVE" SAYS ATTORNEY'S AFFINITY

"All That Is Mine Belongs To Him" Reads Document Found By Daughter Of Dead Lawyer--Expected To Die First Miss Branch Declares

Monticello, N. Y., Dec. 27.—Miss Adelaide M. Branch, who was the affinity of former District Attorney Melvin H. Couch, secreted herself for three years in a closet-like room in the rear of Couch's law office in the Masonic Temple, willing to him all her little property.

The document written by the woman which was found this afternoon by the lawyer's daughter, Miss Louise Couch, who since her father's sudden death last Sunday morning has taken charge of his affairs, revealed that the lawyer so completely dominated his captive that she was willing to give her life for him.

Miss Branch hoped that her death would come before that of her "master." She believed that, although he was sixty-five years old and she was twenty-five years his junior, his remarkable vitality would give him at least twenty years more of life.

"Mel, at his age, was stronger than the average man of thirty years," Miss Branch told Dr. John F. Curlette. "I never dreamed that his heart had weakened so as to cause instant death. It is true that he complained of not feeling quite well the night before he died, but he seemed as strong as ever when he returned from the room of John H. Smith, who lived in the Temple.

The determination to begeth her property, which, so far as is known, consists of mortgages aggregating \$642, three suits of clothes and a few books, was reached just before Miss Branch left Couch's room last July to seek for a few days the companionship of a woman in Ellenville, N. Y.

"I loved him all through and to him rightfully belongs everything I possess in this world," Miss Branch wrote in her will, according to Sheriff Kinnie, who took possession of the document. "I only wish that I had more than I possess to give to him. I am his slave and what is mine belongs to him."

Sheriff Kinnie declined to make public the entire contents of the will, but

said Miss Branch designated every bit of her clothing, as well as the mortgages in the paper, which did not bear the names of witnesses.

Miss Louise Couch spent most of the day rummaging through papers in her father's private safe. She came upon the will when she accidentally upset a letter file.

Miss Couch failed to find a will signed by her father, but she is confident his legal widow will have no trouble in obtaining possession of his property, which amounts to less than \$5,000, according to the family's estimate.

"Mel never spoke to me about a will and I made this one eagerly because I loved Mel and wanted to leave him something in case I should die when he had become an old man," Miss Branch said to the Sheriff today. "Mel fascinated me more than any person can imagine. His presence was the joy of my existence. All I desire now is to be left alone with my grief and to get away from the prying public, which cannot realize how much I have loved and lost."

Miss Branch's only joy was the return of a photograph of Couch which had been taken from her effects in the attorney's office. Mrs. Couch got possession of it and refused to give it up, but Miss Branch pleaded and threatened, and late this afternoon Mrs. Couch sent the picture to her.

"It is the only thing I care for on earth," Miss Branch said tonight. "It is the best Christmas present I could have received."

Sheriff Kinnie's wife who has been in almost constant attention on the woman, told Miss Branch that she might expect her brother Herbert to visit her tomorrow. Branch, who is postmaster of Hartwick, N. Y., a village near Cooperstown, notified the Sheriff today that while he would come to the aid of his sister, he will not make a home for her.

THE BEST COMPANY THIS SEASON AT THE ATHENS ALL THIS WEEK

Commencing tomorrow, Mr. Frank King presents his "Winning Girls," in a repertoire of high class musical comedies.

We have a special message from the Grand theatre in Raleigh stating that this is the best show they have had this season. They carry beautiful electrical effects. Pretty girls and good comedians. You get fifty minutes of fun and song besides which we have one of the best picture features ever seen in New Bern.

"The Wheels of Fate." A wreck at Sea Rights Two Wrongs. In Two Reels.

Upon circumstantial evidence, an unhappily married, though rising, young author is convicted and sentenced for a brutal murder. Through a strange chain of circumstances, which reached its climax in a sensational ship wreck at sea, the innocent man is saved from death in the electric chair.

"The Wheels of Fate" employs wireless to carry the confession of the guilty man to the death chamber in the prison. Arriving in the nick of time, this message not only liberates the innocent but joins two happy hearts.

"The Wheels of Fate" one of the most trenchant photoplays ever photographed. A two reel feature, dramatic in the extreme. Strikingly original in conception of plot and denouement. Teeming with tense situations, sensational episodes and ingenious incidents. Do Not Fail to witness this Dramatic Masterpiece.

Still another good one.

"Matrimonial Monstrosity."

Featuring Maurice Costello and Winifred Nash.

Introduced to a titled gentleman she proposes to him. Her nephew and his lordship are friends. Her ambition is costly.

Our pictures are the best. They are

projected perfectly. They do not cause the eye strain that some pictures cause. Our screen is twenty-five feet from the nearest seat.

Our big vaudeville companies are the best that can be secured. Our theatre is the best in the South. What more could you want for 5, 10 and 15c.

Our matinee at 3:15 is only 5 and 10c. First show at night 7:30.

We have the place, we have the show. Come!

No advance in prices.

REVENUE CUTTER TO LIGHT KEEPER'S AID

THE PAMLICO MAKES TRIP TO BRANT ISLAND IN QUICK TIME.

Early Friday morning the revenue cutter Pamlico was sent scurrying out of her berth at this port to go to the aid of Alonza J. English, veteran keeper of the light house on Brant Island, a mere dot in Pamlico Sound, eight or ten miles from the mainland.

English was ill and without attention except such as could be given him by his assistant upon whom fell the twenty-four hours a day watch. In going down the river the cutter ran aground just opposite Union Point and was delayed for a short time. However, she soon managed to get out in the channel and then, sailing under forced draught, made all possible speed to Brant Island.

The aged keeper was taken on board and the return trip began. Early yesterday morning the Pamlico anchored off Union Point and the sick man was taken ashore and carried to a local hospital for treatment.

Let us never waste our time. It may come in handy to apply on a jail sentence later.

The man who is able to deliver the goods never has to carry a good luck charm.

SOME CHANGES IN THE PARCEL POST SYSTEM

WILL GO INTO EFFECT ON NEXT THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 1.

On next Thursday, January 1, another change in the parcel post system will take effect. At present the weight limit on packages sent to distant points is eleven pounds. At that date the weight limit will be increased to twenty pounds. The limit in the first and second zones (at present twenty pounds) and that will be increased to fifty pounds, the size of the packages (excluding boxes) must, however, remain as at present.

Assistant Postmaster T. D. Hewitt yesterday received the following orders relative to the proposed changes and these are being reproduced for the benefit of the patrons of the local office: "Changes in Weight Limit and Postage Rates for Fourth-Class Matter."

"On and after January 1, 1914, the limit of weight of parcels of fourth-class mail for delivery within the first and second zones shall be increased from 20 to 50 pounds and in the third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth zones from 11 to 20 pounds.

"The rate of postage on parcels exceeding 4 ounces in weight in the third, fourth, fifth and sixth zones shall be as follows:

"Third Zone: Six cents for the first pound and two cents for each additional pound or fraction thereof.

"Fourth Zone: Seven cents for the first pound and four cents for each additional pound or fraction thereof.

"Fifth Zone: Eight cents for the first pound and six cents for each additional pound or fraction thereof.

"Sixth Zone: Nine cents for the first pound and eight cents for each additional pound or fraction thereof.

"All regulations or parts of regulations in conflict herewith are hereby rescinded."

Another order says:

"Rates of Postage on Books."

"On and after March 29, 1914, the classification of articles mailable under Section 8 of the Act of August 21, 1913, authorizing the establishment of the parcel post service shall be extended so as to include books, the rate of postage on books weighing 8 ounces or less shall be one cent for each 2 ounces or fraction thereof and on those weighing in excess of 8 ounces the regular zone rate shall apply.

"All regulations or parts of regulations in conflict herewith are hereby rescinded."

For the purpose of determining rates of postage on fourth-class, or parcel post mail, a guide for 55 cents and a map for 20 cents may be purchased, together or separately (the two are used jointly in computing postage), by sending a money order for the proper amount payable to the Third Assistant Postmaster General, Division of Finance, Washington, D. C. Postage stamps are not accepted. The guide is applicable to all postoffices, but a separate map is required for each one of the 3,500 squares or units of area into which the country is divided, and it is, therefore, necessary in ordering a map to state at which postoffice it is to be used.

WORK ON THE CITY HALL WILL BE COMPLETED SOON.

Blalock Brothers, the contractors who have in charge the work of remodeling the City Hall, state that the work will be completed by January 10, provided inclement weather does not interfere with operations. The improvements at the City Hall will add much to the appearance of that place.

PROMINENT COUPLE TO BE MARRIED SOON.

The Journal acknowledges the receipt of the following invitation: Mr. and Mrs. David Sprague Congdon will give in marriage their sister Sara Bolton to Mr. Robert Bain Atkinson on Wednesday evening the fourteenth of January Nineteen hundred and fourteen at nine o'clock New Bern, North Carolina The pleasure of your company is requested. No cards in the city

J. LEON WILLIAMS IS INTERVIEWED

Secretary of Chamber of Commerce Talks to Newspaper Man.

TALK OF APPROACHING DINNER

Also Boosts New Bern and Its Public Organizations.

J. Leon Williams, secretary of the New Bern Chamber of Commerce, was in Raleigh Thursday and in interview given the News and Observer, he says:

"The big noise in our part of the country now," said Mr. J. Leon Williams, secretary of the New Bern Chamber of Commerce, yesterday, "is the annual Chamber of Commerce dinner to be given at the Gaston Hotel on the evening of December 30. Senator F. M. Simmons will deliver the principal address.

"There will be present as invited guests representatives of the business organizations and newspapers of the State and several of them have been requested to make addresses. We expect to make it a great occasion and we count on our members, as a result of it, starting out in the new year with quickened enthusiasm and firmer resolves than ever to keep New Bern right in the forefront of North Carolina cities."

"The fact is," continued Mr. Williams, "I don't believe there is a more active Chamber of Commerce in the State than that at New Bern. I don't say this because I am its secretary, but because New Bern has some of the best, broadest and biggest business men to be found anywhere and with these as leaders the rank and file of us are inspired and stimulated to our utmost when we have our annual luncheon and dinner and the organization is growing all the while. We have recently embraced Mr. M. A. Bevilacqua, a freight rate expert, to devote his whole time to solving New Bern's freight rate problem with a view of enabling our organization to arrive at an intelligent and feasible program of action looking to better freight rate facilities. We expect to get results from this venture.

"And while I am on the subject of New Bern, I will say that in our great city utility, New Bern leads the State. I refer to its smoothly paved streets. I see that Chicago's postmen are delivering mail on roller skates as they can make better progress that way. Well, New Bern postmen could do the same thing if they wanted to—the streets are smooth enough.

"New Bern is enjoying now a great suburban real estate development. Numerous lot sales are being held and the next few years will see many men occupying their own homes who have lived in rented houses.

"The whole eastern section is looking upward to the native energy of the people, their fine natural advantages, and in part, to the feeling that the completion of the inland waterway and the launching of the big Government operations at Cape Lookout will mean a great boost for commerce and industry of all kinds.

Mr. Williams was returning home from Charlotte where he and his wife spent Christmas and where Mrs. Williams will be for a week or more before returning to New Bern.

RACING THURSDAY.

Speed Tests To Take Place Out At Fair Grounds.

Next Thursday, January 1, is the day on which the much talked of horse races are to take place out at the Eastern Carolina Fair ground race track, and it is expected that there will be a large number of spectators on hand to witness the event.

There will be two races and valuable prizes are being offered to the winners. A small admission fee of twenty cents will be charged and admitted the holder of a ticket of admission to a seat in the grandstand at extra cost.

FIRE DESTROYS COLOR MAN'S HOME.

Fire of unknown origin destroyed home of Carrie Spillars, No. 47 Chapman street. Practically the entire building were destroyed.