

THE COMMONWEALTH

A Family Newspaper: For the Promotion of the Political, Social, Agricultural and Commercial Interests of the People

VOLUME XXXIII.

TWICE-A-WEEK

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1916.

READ IT IN THIS PAPER

NUMBER 56.

"BIRTH OF A NATION" HERE IN NOVEMBER

Mr. R. J. Madry, proprietor of the new opera house, announced this morning that he had booked D. W. Griffith's great photo-play, "Birth of a Nation" for three performances, commencing Monday night, November 6th. On November 6th. On November 7th there will be a matinee. The booking agency through which Mr. Madry has engaged this splendid picture guarantees that the picture will be complete in every detail, even to the twelve-piece orchestra and extra picture machine, with lots of special scenery, etc. It is not announced as yet what admission price will be charged.

In talking with a reporter this morning, Mr. Madry said: "You may tell the people through your paper that my new place will be ready for business not later than September 20th." While there has been nothing definite established yet as to the name and nature of the first attraction, Mr. Madry said that he was considering several good comedies and dramas. "You might say that I am strongly considering Billie Clifford in the celebrated farce comedy, 'Linger Longer Luce,'" continued Mr. Madry. "This troupe, which consists of a lady orchestra and band with a strong supporting company appeals to me."

Among other attractions which Mr. Madry is considering booking this fall are: "Mutt & Jeff's Wedding," "Bring up Father in Politics," "DeRue Bros., Ideal Minstrels," the musical farce comedy, "Some Baby," and Coburn's Greater Minstrels.

It is impossible just yet to fix a date for any of these attractions. But it is practically certain that the "Birth of a Nation" will appear here as above stated.

Regarding the seating arrangements Mr. Madry stated that he had bought the very best obtainable. In fact, to quote him, "I sent all the way to Chicago to get a man to come here and measure for these seats." On the main lower floor there will be 439 chairs of the latest type, exclusive of boxes. There will be two aisles, one on the right and one on the left. All told there will be a little in excess of 700 seats in the house.

Mr. Sauerwald is completing the scenery this week, and same will be hung immediately. All of his work is excellent.

As soon as practicable the Commonwealth will announce the exact dates of the many attractions which Mr. Madry will play at his theatre this fall and winter at intervals of ten days or two weeks.

WAR RISK INSURANCE BUREAU BRINGS PROFIT TO TREASURY

More Than 1,500 Policies Issued Since Its Establishment.

Washington, Aug. 23.—Since its establishment nearly two years ago the bureau of war risk insurance has brought a net profit to the Treasury Department of \$2,237,859. Secretary McAdoo announced today in making public reductions in rates on several classes of insurance for American steam vessels and non-contraband cargoes.

More than 1,500 policies have been issued by the bureau, covering a total of \$141,415,302 insurance. Known losses have amounted to \$771,329, and of this \$58,811 has been recovered in salvage. At present the bureau has outstanding total risks of about \$11,000,000.

CLAIMS ALLIES' NAVAL LOSSES ARE GREATER

Berlin, August 22, via London, Aug. 23.—The German admiralty issued today a statement asserting that the losses of the British and the French navies in line of battleships and cruisers to August 1 comprised seventy-two vessels, with a total displacement of 496,050 tons.

The German losses in the same classes during the same period were twenty-five warships with a total of 62,667 tons.

It was stated that the list of the British and French warships included only those losses which definitely had been established.

WOMAN IS EXECUTED AS SPY IN MARSEILLE, FRANCE

Paris, Aug. 23.—The execution of a woman as a spy is reported today in a Havas dispatch from Marseille.

According to this information, Felice Pfaat was put to death yesterday at the Lighthouse Shooting Range, having been convicted of espionage by the council of war of the fifteenth region.

Waynesboro, Va., Aug. 23.—Mrs. Grant Herring, and Nelly Gardner, a child, were killed by the same bolt of lightning during an electric storm here late today.

FORD SERVICE STATION FOR SCOTLAND NECK

The Commonwealth has just learned that a Ford Service Station will be opened up here on Sept. 1st under the firm name of Scotland Neck Motor Co. This new enterprise will be a branch of and under the supervision of the Barnes-Gregory Motor Co., of Weldon, and Mr. J. C. Tilghman of Weldon will be the local manager.

It is also announced that the Ford Motor Company is now making a new model car. In fact, the model is so much changed that the new car will hardly be recognized. The 1917 model will have stream line hood, black radiator and nickel radiator cap, the radiator being much larger than the old brass type which has caused so much criticism. No brass will appear on the new car, the hub caps even being nickel plated.

In connection with the Ford line, this new concern will handle the New Oakland Light Six, and will carry in stock a large supply of genuine Ford parts and accessories.

NO COMMUTATION FOR MILLER AND WIGGINS

Graham County Murderers to Pay Death Penalty Sept. 1.

Asheville, N. C., Aug. 23.—Governor Craig today denied the plea of commutation of sentence for Merritt Miller and Hardy Wiggins, under sentence of death for the murder of Phillip Phillips, of Graham county. The men had been granted reprieve until September 1, and will be executed on that date, unless the Governor grants another reprieve. The prisoners were said to have belonged to a gang of which Ed. Williams, son-in-law of Phillips, was the leader. Williams is serving a life term for the murder of three other members of the Phillips family.

Governor Craig issued a lengthy statement giving his reasons for refusing to commute the sentences of the two men, his principal reason being that Phillips, after being shot, had tied the mule he was riding, and when his daughter found him, told her that it was no use to go for a doctor, that he was dying and that Merritt Miller and Hardy Wiggins had attacked him, Miller shooting him. He described where they had stood, and repeated his assertion on several occasions before his death. This, coupled to the fact that he was shot from behind a log where the assassins were concealed, and that blood hounds trailed the two men to some extent, followed by their conviction and the refusal of the Supreme Court to set aside the verdict, the Governor says, leads him to refuse to commute the sentences of the two men to life imprisonment.

ODD FELLOWS TO MEET IN DURHAM NEXT YEAR

Grand Encampment Elects Officers and Adjourns.

Raleigh, N. C., Aug. 23.—Durham gets the 1917 session of the North Carolina Grand Encampment, I. O. O. F., that city having been selected in the closing hours of the convention here today. New officers elected and installed were:

Grand Patriarch, T. A. Greenleaf, Elizabeth City; grand high priest, Col. J. C. Besant, Winston-Salem; grand wardens, J. D. Berry, Raleigh, and John L. Wade, Fayetteville; grand scribes, L. W. Jeanneret, Asheville; grand treasurer, John E. Wood, Wilmington; grand marshal, O. W. Jones, Winston-Salem; grand sentinels, Winston Davis, Raleigh and T. W. Phillips, Washington; grand representative, W. B. Bagwell, Durham.

The grand encampment turned over to trustees of the Odd Fellows' Orphanage, Goldsboro, funds raised for erection of a modern dairy barn.

With Grand Patriarch W. B. Bagwell, of Durham, presiding, the sixtieth annual grand encampment of the North Carolina Odd Fellows convened in Odd Fellows hall here last night and completed the preliminary work ready for the business of the session to be taken up this morning. The encampment will be in progress through Friday of this week. There was the conferring of the degrees on a number of candidates last night and also the appointment of the working committees for the convention. The Encampment is meeting here instead of Asheville, on account of the flood damage to railway transportation.

Returned from the West.

Mr. N. E. Winslow and family have returned from Kansas City, Mo., where they spent two months with relatives. Mr. Winslow says crop conditions out there are fine, but that the people of the middle west are experiencing one of the hottest summers yet. His brother, Mr. J. E. Winslow, of Greenville, also was out for a visit to his parents.

MRS. DORSETT FROM NORTH CAROLINA IS PERFECT AS MODEL

Daughter of Mountain Farmer Is Much Sought After By Artists.

Washington, Aug. 24.—Mrs. Samuel T. Dorsett, whose husband came here from Asheville several years ago, is described in the Washington Times of today as a model for artists. The local paper prints a striking looking picture of Mrs. Dorsett.

"American womanhood for American allegorical figures in art appears to be the slogan of the artists of the country," said the Times.

"This statement is made in view of the fact that has just come to the light revealing the identity of the model for the Junosque figures in Paul Bartlett's pediment for the House of Representatives wing of the Capitol building as a North Carolina farmer's daughter who is not a professional model.

"Mrs. Dorsett is the model. She is the wife of a prosperous Washington real estate broker and makes her home in this city. Because of her majestic figure and perfect proportions she has attracted the attention of many artists and has posed for them to be preserved in marble or on canvass, as the case may be, several times.

"Mrs. Dorsett is the daughter of Captain John Milton Thrash, of North Carolina, and she was reared on a farm on the sides of Mt. Mitchell the highest mountain on the American continent east of the Rockies.

"The section of the country from which Mrs. Dorsett hails is called the 'Sapphire Country,' because many gems of that kind are found there and the deep blue flash of the sapphire is reflected in the clear blue eyes of the young woman whom artists have called a living Brumhilde—a 'Daughter of the Gods.'

"Mrs. Dorsett is just an inch short of six feet tall. Artists have said she is perfectly proportioned. Her full figure adorns the diplomas of award bestowed by the Panama-Pacific Exposition as the majestic allegorical figure of Panama. This was made from a photograph and engraved by the head engraver of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing here.

"Mrs. Dorsett lived in the 'Sapphire Country' most of her life—and she is still well in her twenties. She grew up on the farm. She knows how to ride and shoot and has spent most of her life in the open. A few years ago she went to Florida for a winter visit and at one of the big hotels was introduced to a foreign nobleman, an artist, who was painting pictures in this country. He was struck by her beauty and her unusual figure, and requested her to pose for him. She complied more as a lady than anything else. The picture was a great success.

"After her marriage, Mrs. Dorsett met the late Max Weyl, the landscape painter, and Mr. Weyl, asked her to pose for him. He was painting a picture of her to prove his ability at figure painting and portraiture. He was engaged on this picture when he died. Paul Bartlett, the sculptor, met her through another artist, and asked her to pose for the figures to be used on the House of Representatives pediment. She appears as the great figure in the center of the pediment and as the woman sitting at the spinning wheel in the center of the left of the pediment.

"While these figures were being made S. Y. Turner, the mural painter, met Mrs. Dorsett and at his request she posed for a number of figures in his famous mural decorations for the State capital at Madison, Wisconsin."

Mrs. Dorsett is well known here and in North Carolina.

SIX CAR-LOADS MATERIAL AT R. R. STATION

Warrenton District Sunday School Conference Methodist E. Church South Weldon, N. C. September 11-12, 1916.

Six solid car loads of material, consisting of cast-iron pipe, galvanized pipe, pig lead, jute, pumps, and many other accessories for the Scotland Neck waterworks and sewer system, arrived yesterday and will be unloaded as soon as practical.

As stated in these columns some days ago, the superintendent of construction, Mr. W. A. Coates, was here and will personally superintend the work of getting the material in shape, so as to proceed with the work as soon as the necessary tools arrive. It is said that the giant ditching machine will be here in a few days at the very latest, and that the work of excavating will be started.

Other material will arrive from time to time and the work will be pushed rapidly to completion. A large force of workmen will also arrive from other towns where the J. B. McCrary Co. have been installing similar systems.

It is not known definitely as yet just where excavation will begin.

MURDERER IS CAUGHT AFTER FORTY-FOUR YEARS

Andy Wise, Charged With Killing Man in Buncombe 44 Years Ago, Arrested.

Asheville, Aug. 24.—After eluding the officers for 44 years, Andy Wise, a white man, charged with the murder of John Rogers, father of Steve Rogers, of this county, has been arrested at Williamson, W. Va., according to a telegram received by Sheriff E. M. Mitchell this morning.

Immediately after the alleged murder, Sheriff Mitchell states, Wise was arrested by Sheriff Plemmons, who was sheriff of Buncombe county at that time, and was brought to Asheville to be placed in the county jail. Sheriff Plemmons drove up to the old county courthouse with his prisoner, and as he was preparing to hitch his horse to the hitching post, the alleged murderer made a break for liberty, and had not been seen nor heard of since by any of the succeeding sheriffs in the intervening 44 years, until Steve Rogers, the son of the murdered man, rushed into Sheriff Mitchell's office on April 1st, stating that Andy Wise, the man who had killed his father, had been seen in the French Broad neighborhood. Sheriff Mitchell procured an automobile and hastened immediately to French Broad township, only to find that Wise had caught the train out of Alexander the morning before. After getting a good description of Wise, from the persons who saw him on his brief stay, Sheriff Mitchell had a large number of circulars printed and sent them into the surrounding States, resulting in the arrest of Wise at Williamson, W. Va., by Sheriff W. G. Hatfield. One of the deputies, it is stated, will leave immediately for West Virginia to bring back the prisoner to trial.

All preachers, teachers, superintendents and organized Bible class workers are invited and urged to attend. Names should be sent immediately to Rev. F. M. Shamburger, Weldon, N. C. so that entertainment may be provided.

SAYS ENEMY MUST ASK FOR PEACE

No proposals Have Been Made to Great Britain, War Trade Minister Declares.

London, August 23.—No peace overtures have been made to Great Britain, declared Lord Robert Cecil, minister of war trade and parliamentary under-secretary for foreign affairs, in the House of Commons today.

Lord Robert's statement was made in response to a question.

"No overtures have been made for peace," said Lord Robert. "There is only one way in which overtures for peace could be made, and that is from an enemy. If any such overtures were made the first thing we should do would be to consult with our allies, but no communication of the kind had been made."

WINTERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL BURNED WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Lightning Struck Administration Building, Which Was Destroyed in Less Than an Hour.

Winterville, N. C., August 24.—During the severe electrical storm that swept over this section for several hours last night a bolt of lightning struck the administration building of Winterville High School at Winterville, about one o'clock and within an hour's time the entire structure was a mass of ruins.

The citizens of the town and the student body of the school responded promptly to the alarm of fire, but owing to the location of the fire and the fire company's inadequate equipment nothing could be done except to set to work to save what furniture and fixtures that was possible. The flames originating on the top of the building sufficient time was given to save the contents of the first floor. On the second floor there were three pianos and a very costly fifteen hundred volume library, which was destroyed with the building.

The seventeenth session of the institution had just opened on Tuesday of this week, with promise of the most successful year in the school's history. And though the work will be considerably handicapped for some time, Prof. F. C. Nye, president of the school stated this morning that not one day would be lost in the progress of the school work, as the other buildings would be used until further arrangements could be made.

The building was valued at \$5,000 and fixtures at \$1,500 with insurance of only \$1,000.

The trustees of the institution are in session today when it will be decided as to what steps to take for the rebuilding. It is very likely that the Baptists of the State will realize the existing conditions and a modern structure will replace the one destroyed.

CHARLIE, AGED FOUR, IS A GREAT SMOKER

New Bern, August 22.—Charlie, aged 4, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Edwards, of Greenville, came to town yesterday to see a physician about being treated for the after effects of an attack of infantile paralysis, which he suffered some time ago.

Now, ordinarily there is nothing unusual about a 4-year-old youngster coming to New Bern, but with Charlie it is different and he is proving to be the talk of the town.

Charlie, despite his tender years, claims the distinction of being the second Walter Raleigh when it comes down to a question of being an expert smoker.

Last night Charlie propped himself up on a prominent corner down in the business section of the city, located a Havana in one of his pockets, asked a neighboring lounge for a match and proceeded to fire up. When pedestrian passing that way saw a little tot with smoke belching from his mouth they started to yell "fire" and call the police but Charlie put a stop to this by calmly observing that it was a fairly good weed that he was smoking and proceeded to inhale it to the end.

According to Charlie's parents, who came over from Greenville with him, he has been smoking since he was two years of age. Three and four strong cigars a day is about his limit during the summer time but during the cooler weather he thinks nothing of burning up a half dozen a day.

Charlie will probably remain here for several days in order to see what the local medicals can do toward putting his constitution in trim once again.

PICNIC AT LAWRENCE'S

There was a grand picnic held yesterday by the Episcopal congregation of Tarboro at Lawrence's, Edgecombe county, formerly called Kill Quick. Many people from this section went over to attend and report a most enjoyable day.

WARRENTON DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE METHODIST E. CHURCH SOUTH

Monday Night
8 o'clock Devotional Service
Address "The Wesley Bible Movement"—Rev. W. C. Owen
Address "The Teacher's Ideals"—Mr. J. M. Way.
Appointment of Committees
Tuesday Morning
9 o'clock Devotional Service
Sunday School Work in the Warrenton District—By Rev. J. D. Bundy
Elementary Work—Miss Minnie E. Kennedy
Open Conference—Led By Miss Kennedy
Organized Bible Class Work—Mr. Owen
Open Conference—Led by Mr. Owen and Mr. Terrell
Teacher Training Past and Present—Mr. Way
Open Conference on Teacher Training—Led by Mr. Way
Tuesday Afternoon
2 o'clock Devotional Service
One Minute Reports from Schools and Classes
Elementary Work in the Country—Miss Kennedy
The Pastor and the Sunday School—Mr. Way
A Definite Plan for Our Work—Mr. Brabham
Organization of District Sunday School—Mr. Owen
Tuesday Night
8 o'clock Devotional Service
Address "The Teen Age Girl"—Miss Kennedy
Address "Our Twentieth Century School Movement"—Mr. Way
Adjournment

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RAILROAD MEN STILL TRYING MANY PLANS

Washington, August 24.—Objections which developed tonight at a meeting of railroad presidents and managers, to points in the tentative plan developed by the committee of eight presidents considering ways to avoid the threatened strike, resulted in a further postponement of final action.

The conference adjourned to meet again tomorrow, and, as one president phrased it, the situation is such "that it may be settled in twenty minutes or the matter may go over till next week."

A statement issued by the railroad executives tonight summed it up this way:

"At the invitation of President Wilson, Messrs. Hale, Holden, Judge R. S. Lovett and Daniel Willard went to the White House at noon and held a short conference with the President.

"A conference of the railroad executives was held at 3 o'clock and a new phrase of the situation of some importance was laid before the conference by the special committee.

"After considerable discussion without definite action, an adjournment was taken until 11 o'clock tomorrow morning. In the meantime the special committee of the presidents will continue its labors."

Danville, Va., Aug. 23.—Alice Wickman, aged 23, an Atlanta school teacher, was yesterday morning removed from train No. 38 upon receipt of a series of telegrams from the Atlanta authorities, charged with kidnapping Mary Warnock, aged 18, also from Atlanta and reported to be the member of a well known family. Both girls, handsomely dressed and of independent means, strongly resented being taken from the train and asserted that they were on their way to New York to visit relatives. Subsequent investigation showed that Mary Warnock has no relative living in the metropolis. The local police being asked to arrest any man found in company with the two girls asked Miss Wickman if she had any friends on the train. She said that William Oldknow, of Atlanta, connected with a moving picture company, was the only person she knew on the train. He was awakened and interrogated but claimed ignorance of the identity of the girls. He was allowed to proceed.

Son after being questioned another message came from Atlanta asking the police here to put the girls under surveillance and not to place them in jail as they would be sent for immediately. Neither girl would speak for publication.

TWO ATLANTA, GA., GIRLS ARE DETAINED IN DANVILLE

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HALIFAX SUPERIOR COURT.

State Docket Cleared Thursday—Civil Docket Taken Up Friday.

The following are the cases disposed of on the State docket:

Andrew Long, liquor. Defendant waived bill and pleads guilty. \$10 fine and costs.

Will Taylor, e. c. w. Defendant pleads guilty. 6 months on county roads.

B. Nedder and William George, selling wine. Defendants plead guilty, and pay a fine of \$5 each and costs.

Eulus Smith, liquor. Defendant pleads guilty. 6 months on county roads.

Geo. Givens, larceny, jury trial—verdict not guilty.

Jesse Bonny, resisting officer. Plead guilty. 6 months on county roads.

Jim Bullock, e. c. w. Jury trial, Verdict not guilty.

Frela Smith, e. c. w. Jury trial, Verdict not guilty.

David Deans, liquor. Plead guilty. 6 months on the county roads.

Weldon White, a. and b. Jury verdict, guilty. 6 months on the county roads.

Joe Lizzie Smith, liquor. Defendant pleads guilty. Fine \$10 and costs.

Matilda Fenner, liquor. Jury trial, verdict not guilty.

Horace Fields, larceny. Defendant pleads guilty. 4 months on county roads.

Philip Davis, e. c. w. Defendant pleads guilty. \$15 fine and costs.

W. W. Loyd, a. and b. Guilty. 4 months on county roads.—Weldon News.

Berlin, Aug. 23, by wireless to Sayville.—The Tageblatt says that the favorable crop forecasts are being borne out fully and that excellent yields of all cereals are being obtained throughout Germany. Fodder also is plentiful. The potato crop, however, has suffered from the excessive rains. Sugar production has increased.

"Let me, before taking leave, to meet you again by the mercy of God, in December, hold it out to you and through all of you to the constituents which you represent in the earnest hope that it may silence this unjustifiable and unbecoming cry of sectionalism, even as it once heralded the receding waters of the deluge."

ALLIES MAKING SLIGHT GAINS ON SOMME FRONT

London, Aug. 24.—Striking simultaneously, the British and French have made substantial gains in the Somme region, according to Paris and London. Maurepas has fallen to the French who have pushed forward more than 200 yards beyond the town on a front of a mile and a quarter. The British report a 300 yard advance of Thierval and the capture of many prisoners.

No change is reported in the East, though the Russians offensive in Armenia is apparently assuming powerful proportions.

WANTS NEW RAILROAD BUILT; STANDARD GAUGE

Goldsboro, Aug. 23.—With the hope of inducing the Virginia Box and Lumber Company to take favorable action in the plan for the standardization of its road being built from this city to points in Duplin and Lenoir counties, M. R. Beaman, commercial secretary of the Goldsboro Chamber of Commerce is today in conference with President Neuffer at Pittsburgh. Mr. Beaman has been corresponding with President Neuffer relative to the project since the plan was proposed last week. He thinks his trip to Pittsburgh will assure prompt action.

CANDIDATE HUGHES REBUKED BY TILLMAN

Washington, Aug. 19.—Senator B. R. Tillman, in a speech in the senate today, severely rebuked Charles Evans Hughes, candidate for the presidency on the Republican ticket, for waving "the bloody shirt" of sectionalism throughout the country in his efforts to get himself into the White House.

After expressing the sentiment that he had believed, with the War between the States gone these 50 years, there had come a broad peace between the people, it had remained for Mr. Hughes again to stir the fires of the 60's. Senator Tillman said: "I read in one of our newspapers yesterday of a 'one man parade' up Pennsylvania avenue—a lone union veteran, unheralded and alone, marching in celebration of his own enlistment in the Civil War. While I accord full credit to him for the patriotism that prompted him to respond to the colors then, and can understand any excuse the vanity even of it today, I could not but be reminded of that other lone figure that has gone parading and shouting about the country, a veteran of neither side in any way, waving the banner of 'sectionalism' before the people who are trying to forget; if, indeed, they have already forgotten."

"But in contrast with this 'one man parade' I foresaw another parade that is to take place on Pennsylvania avenue next spring, when at the invitation of the Grand Army of the Republic they and the Confederacy that was shall march shoulder to shoulder, no longer foes but friends and fellow citizens of a reunited country. I ask you, senators and fellow countrymen, if we may not in spirit at least march with them to the greater glory of God and our loved country?"

"It must have shocked and surprised you senators," said the South Carolina senator, "to find that 51 years after Appomattox a candidate for the high office of president of these reunited States should have thought it necessary to drag forth that old blood and mud bespattered banner of sectionalism and wave it over the heads of the present generation of Americans."

He declared that if the majority of the leaders in congress were from the South they had attained to their present rank through long service just as he had done.

"I did not earn the nickname of 'Pitchfork' on account of my partisanship," continued Senator Tillman. "It was due to the bluntness and frankness with which I spoke. My mother taught me to despise hypocrisy and lying above all else and I owe this personal characteristic to her. If I ever did hate the Northern people—and I confessed to that the last time I spoke here—that hatred and partisanship have died out of my heart, and the pitchfork, if it was considered the emblem of it, has long since been buried. From its grave an olive tree has grown and I am tending the olive branch, claiming to represent the South in doing so, to all Northern people."

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HALIFAX SUPERIOR COURT.

State Docket Cleared Thursday—Civil Docket Taken Up Friday.

The following are the cases disposed of on the State docket:

Andrew Long, liquor. Defendant waived bill and pleads guilty. \$10 fine and costs.

Will Taylor, e. c. w. Defendant pleads guilty. 6 months on county roads.

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