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Grim Reaper Claims Prominent Citizens

Capt. W. D. Black, of Williston, and Dr. E. W. Ellis, of Dunbarton, Died Sunday.

Williston, Jan. 5.—Capt. W. D. Black, 66, farmer, banker, real estate operator and for more than a score of years one of Williston's most outstanding and substantial citizens, died at his residence here Sunday morning at 7 o'clock, following an extended illness. Funeral services were conducted Monday morning at 11 o'clock at the graveside in the Williston cemetery, with Dr. W. M. Jones, of Barnwell, officiating.

Active pallbearers were: M. M. Player, C. K. Ackerman, John Miley, W. P. Wise, W. G. Thompson and Q. A. Kennedy, Jr. Honorary: Board of trustees of the Williston high school, members of the Barnwell County legislative delegation, members of the Barnwell County board of directors, Dr. A. S. Blanchard, Dr. O. D. Hammond, Dr. J. L. Smith and Herman Brown.

Captain Black, who was born near Millettsville (now Allendale County), took a leading part in the financial life of this community, as well as in farming, and also spent much of his life in public office. He was a former mayor of Williston and at one time served Barnwell County in the State legislature. He was a member of the board of county directors and at the time of his death had served for more than 20 years as chairman of the board of trustees of the Williston high school. He was a candidate for Congress from the Second District in 1924, losing by a small margin in a field of several candidates.

Captain Black was twice Worshipful Master of the Williston Masonic Lodge and was one of the order's most able and active members. He was a devoted member of the Williston Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, the former Miss Sarah Bailey; one son, Harvey M. Black, of Williston; two daughters, Mrs. Byron Wham, of Blackville, and Mrs. Fred P. Wiggins, of Birmingham, Ala., and seven grandchildren. Another son, Edward W. Black, preceded him to the grave by only three days.

The sympathy of the entire community is extended to the grief-stricken family in their hour of bereavement.

Dr. E. W. Ellis.

Dunbarton, Jan. 5.—Dr. E. W. Ellis, age 74, for 40 years one of this community's best known physicians and citizens, died Sunday morning at 6 o'clock in an Augusta infirmary where he had been ill for the past four weeks.

Funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the Dunbarton Baptist Church. The Rev. J. W. Flowers, of Dunbarton, officiated and interment followed in the family burial plot near Martins.

Active pallbearers were Silas Rountree, T. A. Cook, H. H. King, P. J. Hiers, C. O. Meyer and Ham Dicks.

Honorary, H. S. Anderson, Jack Snelling, Charlie Turner, Dixie Dunbar, Hal Buford, Claude Buford, Dr. H. A. Gross, Dr. Marshall, Dr. C. F. Brinkley, Dr. Paul Culbreath, S. J. Martin, Willie Townes, Dr. Brown and H. A. Moody.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Mabel Walker Heath Ellis, of Dunbarton; a daughter, Miss Marian Ellis, of Dunbarton; seven sons, A. W. Ellis of Meyer's Mill; E. W. Ellis, Jr., of Fort Valley, Ga.; B. D. Ellis, of Barnwell; G. F. Ellis, of Bamberg; C. M. Ellis, of Florence; R. A. Ellis, Jr., of Dunbarton, and J. K. Ellis; two grandchildren; two brothers, C. B. Ellis, Sr., of Martins, and R. A. Ellis, of Barnwell; three sisters, Mrs. C. B. Dunbar of Millett, and Mrs. Livia Ellis and Mrs. Julia Ellis, both of Martins.

Dr. Ellis, a native of Martins (Barnwell County), attended the Georgia Medical College in Augusta and returned to this section to practice his profession faithfully for two score years. He was a member of the Meyer's Mill Baptist Church and the Dunbarton Masonic lodge.

T. M. Willis.

Williston, Jan. 6.—T. M. Willis, 66, a member of a family for which the town of Williston was named, died early Monday morning in a Columbia hospital, after an illness of ten days.

Mr. Willis, a prominent planter, is survived by his wife, the former Miss Leila Sawyer, of Johnston; one daughter,

Real Estate Sales Totaled \$16,000

Master, Judge of Probate and Sheriff Sell Farm and Town Property at Auction.

Master's sales totaling nearly \$13,000 and a Probate Court sale topping \$3,000, for a grand total of approximately \$16,000, together with a number of tax sales by the Sheriff, featured January sales day here Monday.

Sales made by G. M. Greene, Esq., master in equity, were as follows: B. F. Storne vs. Mrs. Mary Wengrow, et al., lot in Blackville, bought by Blatt and Fales, attorneys, for \$1,700.

Eliza J. Baxley, et al., vs. Luther L. Birt, three tracts of land, bought by D. O. Fanning for a total of \$1,055, divided as follows: 56½ acres of land, \$65; a lot in Blackville, \$300; a lot in Blackville, \$400.

N. Blatt vs. Kate Still, 25½ acres of land, bought by Blatt and Fales, attorneys, for \$250.

N. Blatt vs. Mrs. Ada Cochran, et al., Cochran "Home Place," bought by Blatt and Fales, attorneys, for \$250.

Pauline P. Mathews vs. Audrey Mathews, et al., bought by Blatt and Fales, attorneys, as follows: 73 acres of land in Williston township for \$3,900.01 and a group of lots and buildings in the town of Williston for \$1,670.

Federal Land Bank vs. Mrs. Agatha M. Harrison, 320 acres of land in Great Cypress township, bought by Thos. M. Boulware, attorney, for \$3,000.

Federal Farm Mortgage Corp. vs. B. L. Easterling, 127.6 acres of land in Bennett Springs township, bought by Thos. M. Boulware, attorneys, for \$1,500.

Reuben J. Rountree vs. Mary Givens Williams, 40 acres of land in Rosemary township, bought by Reuben J. Rountree for \$539.88.

Under an order of the Probate Court, three tracts of land in Great Cypress township, totaling 319 acres, were sold in the case of J. W. Sanders vs. Mary C. Thomas, et al. The three tracts were bought by J. W. Sanders for \$3,005.

In addition to the above, Sheriff J. B. Morris also auctioned off a number of pieces of real estate under tax executions.

Governor Says Term Will Be "Short One"

Johnston Sees No Reason for General Assembly to Hold "Long, Drawn Out" Session.

Columbia, Jan. 1.—Governor Olin Johnston declared today that the approaching session of the general assembly should be a "short one," saying "I see no reason for a long drawn out session."

The governor, at the State house despite the holiday, asserted that "social security legislation will probably be the 'big thing' before the two houses."

"But I see no need for holding up the session," he continued. "The members know what is just and right and there will be no need for delaying action."

Asked if he would make any recommendations on highway safety, Johnston said "it is a disgrace and shame the way our people are being killed and crippled in highway accidents. I may suggest the appointment of a committee to study the situation, see what we can do and what other States are doing and submit findings."

Until the legislature meets Tuesday week, the governor said he would be engaged in preparing his annual message to the general assembly. He plans to go to Washington Sunday, returning here Wednesday.

The Johnson Hagood Chapter, U. D. C., will meet with Mrs. F. S. Brown on Friday evening of this week at seven-thirty o'clock. All members of the chapter are urged to attend this meeting.

Advertise in The People-Sentinel.

ter, Mrs. Winchester C. Smith, Jr., of Williston; one sister, Mrs. J. L. Shuler, of Williston, and three grandsons.

Funeral services were conducted at three o'clock Tuesday afternoon at the residence.

XMAS IN REVERSE!



Annual Meeting of Credit Association

Stockholders of Barnwell Organization Will Gather Here Today to Elect Directors.

The annual stockholders' meeting of the Barnwell Production Credit Association will be held in the Court House here this (Thursday) morning, beginning at ten o'clock. Chas. M. Chitty, secretary-treasurer of the organization, urges all members of the organization to be present, saying in a letter addressed to the members, that "an interesting and constructive program will be presented and your Board of Directors and Secretary-Treasurer will report on operations of the Association for the year ending December 31, 1936. Directors will be elected, in which election each holder of Class B stock, regardless of the number of shares owned, will be entitled to one vote. Rules and Regulations governing the Association prohibit voting by proxy. All stockholders are, therefore, requested to be present.

"After three years' operation, your local Production Credit Association has proven beyond a doubt the value of the service which it offers, and with the continued cooperation of deserving farmers and efficient operation by its management your Association will grow and increase in its service to agriculture. It is your privilege to invite to this meeting farmers who are not already members of the Association in order to better acquaint them with our Association.

May Seek En Banc Term of High Court

Greenville Official Circles Talk of Having Supreme Court Hear Orangeburg Case.

Greenville, Jan. 1.—Discussion of the advisability of seeking an en banc session of the State supreme court and circuit court judges to review the recent Orangeburg County case involving the constitutionality of local acts providing for straight salaries for county officers was heard today in Greenville County official circles.

Since the supreme court held that such local acts were unconstitutional because they constituted local legislation where the general law would apply, two suits have been brought against Greenville County by former officials. It is understood that several other former officials and possibly some present officers may bring similar actions to recover fees collected by them and turned over to the county.

The total amount which could be sought might possibly reach \$150,000. Some officials feel that because of the importance of the court ruling in this and other counties, an en banc session would be justified.

Veteran Editor of Kershaw Ends Life

John W. Hamel, Prominent Citizen, Was Father of Mrs. A. B. Hair, of Blackville.

Kershaw, Jan. 4.—John W. Hamel, 77, chairman of the State pardon board, veteran newspaper editor and former legislator, stroled into the rear room of a barber shop here Friday, and, a coroner's jury found killed himself with two shots from a pistol. Coroner W. V. Hagler, of Lancaster County, in which portion of Kershaw the death occurred, said there was no evidence as to the cause of the act. He said letters left for Dr. Opp Gregory and Dr. Honest Braisington, lifelong friends, plainly indicated suicide intentions.

Witness said Mr. Hamel walked into the barber shop shortly before noon, greeted several persons and disappeared into the rear room. The shots followed.

Mr. Hamel, a native of Charlotte, N. C., came here about 40 years ago and had published the Kershaw Era ever since. He was a member of the State Constitutional convention in 1895, served in the legislature in 1905 and 1906 and had been chairman of the board of pardons since 1927.

In Columbia Governor Olin D. Johnston described the death as a great loss to the State.

Survivors include his widow, the former Miss Molly Clark, of Lancaster, and four daughters, Mrs. A. B. Hair, of Blackville, Mrs. H. B. McGill, of St. George, Mrs. Sam Buist, of Whiteville and Miss Inez Hamel, of Kershaw.

The funeral services were held Sunday morning at 11 o'clock at the Kershaw Methodist cemetery in charge of Abney Masonic lodge.

Edward W. Black.

Williston, Jan. 2.—Edward Wallace Black, 42, died at his home near here at 4 o'clock Thursday morning. He had been in ill health for the last three years. Mr. Black was graduated from Clemson college in 1917. He was a member of the Williston Baptist church.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Elmira C. Black, the following children: Nancy, a student at Winthrop college; Sara, Elmira, Edward Wallace, Jr., and Louise, all at home; also his parents, Capt. and Mrs. W. D. Black, of Williston, and the following brothers and sisters: H. M. Black, of Williston; Mrs. Byron Wham, of Blackville, and Mrs. Fred T. Wiggins, of Birmingham, Ala.

Funeral services were conducted at the graveside in the Williston cemetery Friday morning at 11 o'clock by Dr. W. M. Jones, of Barnwell, assisted by the Rev. G. M. Rogers, of Williston.

Soil Conservation Payments Arriving

Checks for the First Applications Being Received and Delivered to Farmers.

Applications for grants under the Soil Conservation program are being completed and sent to Columbia as fast as possible, reports Harry G. Boylston, county agent, and within the next few weeks practically all of these applications will have been sent in. It is interesting to note that practically all farmers who made work sheets in the spring, fully complied with the program so that they may receive benefits. There are probably less than 30 farmers who overplanted their base acreage of cotton and it was found that not more than three failed to grow a sufficient acreage of cow peas, velvet beans, or other legumes to qualify them for a grant.

Checks for the first applications have been received and are being delivered to the farmers. Others are expected from time to time. The county agent requests that farmers wait until they receive a card notifying them that the check is ready for delivery. It will not be necessary to inquire about the check, as notices will be sent out promptly as the checks come in. By waiting until a notice is received it will save some confusion and loss of time if so many inquiries are not made before checks are ready for delivery. It is hoped that by the end of January the majority of the checks will have been received.

From information received it is expected that the program for 1937 will be somewhat similar to that of last year and farmers will be able to make their plans with this in mind. More stress will be put on soil building crops and practices than in 1936.

Cold Ahead Is Seen by Weather Prophet

W. P. Houseal, of Columbia, Predicts That Hard Winter Is Still in Store.

W. P. Houseal, of Columbia, "The Dutch Weather Prophet," was in Charleston yesterday, and predicted that despite the warm Christmas season, the icy hand of winter yet will clutch at South Carolina. Four snows will fall on Columbia, Mr. Houseal said, and Charleston will get plenty of cold weather, too, though he did not mention the snow.

Mr. Houseal's weather predictions are famous, and he differs with the government weather bureau on several major matters.

The plantes have great influence on the weather, Mr. Houseal believes. For instance, he says that we are in the Jupiter cycle, which makes for fog and rain. He said that in 1938 or 1939, we are in for the coldest weather in 200 years.

In that connection, Mr. Houseal recalled the story of a man in Charleston in 1757 who took two hot water bottles to bed to keep his feet warm. The water in both bottles froze and the bottles were burst before morning.

Mr. Houseal, a proof reader for The State for the last 30 years, has an encyclopedic memory for facts, dates and names. He never forgets an initial, and he rattles off the day of the week, month and year of events he recalls more than half a century ago. He is eighty years old.

Besides the weather, Mr. Houseal is an election prophet. He cited several accurate prognostications he has made. His son, Edward B. Houseal, general manager of the Detroit News, is following in his footsteps as a prophet. Mr. Houseal said the son had predicted on October 26th that Roosevelt would carry every State but Maine and Vermont, and had collected 107 election bits as a result.—News and Courier, Dec. 29.

Gets Legislative Position.

Friends of Miss Kate Woodward, of Barnwell, will be interested to learn that she has been appointed by Attorney General John M. Daniel to a position as stenotypist in the engrossing department during the coming session of the general session. The attorney general, in announcing his list of appointees, said that the selections were made solely upon the experience and expertness of the applicants.

Farming Operations Increase in County

Some Observers Apprehensive That Farmers Have Gone "Hog Wild" in Making Plans.

All signs point to the greatest farm activity in Barnwell County in 1937 that this section has experienced in the past decade—perhaps longer—and some observers are apprehensive that the farmers have gone "hog wild" and are riding to a fall this year. Whether or not that prediction comes true, the fact remains that sales of livestock have broken all records in recent years, while hundreds of acres of "lay-out" land are being prepared for planting.

In spite of a poor start last spring, Barnwell County farmers produced about 30 per cent. more cotton than in 1935 and, with very good prices throughout the harvesting season, have enjoyed the most profitable year since the beginning of the depression. Some have applied their profits to the payment of old debts, delinquent taxes have been paid in whole or in part, many houses have been repaired or new ones built, and farm activity in general is said to resemble that of the immediate post-war period when cotton was fetching 40 cents a pound.

It is reported that one livestock dealer in the county has disposed of \$28,000 worth of horses and mules during the past few months, and others are also said to have enjoyed a land-office business.

There is a growing scarcity of farm labor and comparatively high wages are being paid, it is said. It is reported that three families were moved to one farm one day and that night, or the following day, a truck surreptitiously moved them elsewhere. Another who had two extra "hands" just before Christmas now reports only two families on his entire farm, his labor having been lured away by the promise of higher wages. And so it goes.

Fertilizer prices are said to be on the increase, and it is predicted that an expensive crop is in the making. Whether the old law of supply and demand justifies the prospective increase in production remains to be seen, but if farm activity in Barnwell County is a fair index of the cotton belt as a whole, there are those who profess to see dire disaster again confronting the cottonot, with the fleecy staple selling at nearer six than 13 cents a pound next fall, unless the lending agencies, both private and governmental, force curtailment of production.

On the other hand, if farm prices remain firm and good crops are made this year, it is pointed out that retail business will boom this fall in Barnwell County. This section is purely agricultural and the abandonment of farms has resulted in a drastic decrease in trade. It should not be forgotten, however, that the abandonment of farms was the result of unprofitable farming conditions—short crops and low prices.

Just what the outcome will be remains to be seen—and it will be next fall before "we shall see what we shall see."

Lyndhurst Items.

Lyndhurst, Jan. 4.—Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Gantt and children of Columbia, spent Christmas here, the guests of Mrs. John M. Gantt.

Miss Margaret Harper, of Lykesland, is spending the holidays here, the guest of her brother, W. H. Harper.

Thomas Gantt, of the CCC camp at Barnwell, spent New Year's with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Gantt.

Charlie Bennet and mother, of Spartanburg, were holiday guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Fowke.

Christmas passed off very quietly and pleasantly here, and the holidays were much enjoyed by all.

Risks Life to Save Puppy.

Brunson, Jan. 1.—Miss Erma Lee, of Brunson, risked her life late Saturday in a successful attempt to save the life of a Spitz puppy belonging to J. C. Dowling, Jr. An approaching bus was bearing down upon the puppy just in front of the Dowling home at Brunson, when Miss Lee darted out onto the highway, scooped "Miki" up in her arms, and carried her to safety just before the bus reached the heedless puppy.

Miss Lee is connected with the Rural Rehabilitation office in Barnwell.