

### WATCH NIGHT SERVICE

Union Service at the M. P. Church Brings Forth Revelations of Conditions Undreamed of Together With Helpful Suggestions for the New Year.

Closing the short address of the Watch Night service held by the united churches of Asheboro in the M. P. church Sunday night, Rev. J. A. McMillan, pastor of the Baptist church of this city, in a few plain statements revealed a condition of affairs among the poor of the community that few citizens of Asheboro would have dreamed possible. Last week this young pastor, who is by reason of his practical kindness and eagerness for service beginning to win that recognition which it usually takes years to achieve, heard of a family in destitute circumstances and paid them a visit.

Three months had elapsed since the head of the family had been able to work, and never in affluent circumstances the household was at last reduced to extreme necessity. The second of two beds had been used in furnishing a bit of warmth for the invalid, the woman having nothing else to burn. Besides the bed on which the sick man lay and two or three chairs the room was bare. The family consisted of the sick man, his wife and a bright little girl of about two years. On the shelf which served as a pantry was but a cup and a half of flour. Asheboro family was facing starvation.

This was the simple story that Mr. McMillan told; the brighter side he left for the audience to fill in for themselves, but there was not one present but knew that the family was now being taken care of; Mr. McMillan would see to that. Quite a number were heard to say as they left the church that they intended to find out who the poor family were and they will help them.

However, the lesson drawn by the speaker was not one of the shiftness of a man whose neglect of opportunity and sheer physical laziness brings his family into dependence on strangers; it was the lesson of the carelessness of good Christian people and he charged the churches of the town with the responsibility of letting these people suffer. He also told the church members present that they were responsible not only for the poor but for the young boys of the town and for the conditions under which the young men and women met together in social intercourse. The churches, he said, needed to furnish the young people with something better to do than to play noisy games on Sunday afternoon, or to attend dances. His talk comprised not more than a dozen sentences, but it had telling effect.

The service had been called at the M. P. church, whose pastor, Rev. T. M. Johnson, had arranged a program of short talks, hymns by the congregation, anthems by the choir and a vocal and violin solo. The service was opened with a prayer by Rev. Mr. Ware, presiding elder of this Methodist Episcopal church district, after which there were talks by the pastor present and some of the laymen. Pastor Barber of the M. E. church made a plea for unity in and among the churches, without which he said there could be no spiritual power. Mr. George R. Bass spoke for the need of making the church more attractive to the young people and of the need for personal work among the young men and women. Mr. J. T. Wood, in behalf of the old people, advocated much the same thing, laying especial emphasis on the Baraca and Bible classes of the Sunday school. Rev. Mr. Ware impressed on the assembly the need for taking advantage of opportunities for spiritual life while there was yet time. Mr. McMillan closed the talks.

A choir composed of members of the choirs of the different churches of the town led the singing and rendered some two or three well-selected anthems. Mrs. T. M. Johnson gave a vocal solo. Miss Marion Moring a violin selection.

### Down Fine

"Now, Willie," said the superintendent's little boy addressing the blacksmith's little boy, who had come over for a frolic, "we'll play 'Sabbath School.' You give me a nickel every Sunday for six months, and then at Christmas I'll give you a ten-cent bag of candy."—December Woman's Home Companion.

### Prize for the Graded School Pupils in Asheboro Graded Schools

The Courier will give a valuable prize to every pupil in each of the ten grades of the Asheboro Graded Schools for the best story written during the first two weeks in February on "How to make Asheboro a still better town."

During the month of January the pupils are to write composition on good roads. All the pupils in all the schools of the county are expected to get busy during the month of January. Much will depend on the activity of the teachers. We appeal to them to engage the attention of their pupils in the direction of educating them to express themselves intelligently with pen and ink, and at the same time training and forming their mind favorably to the cause of good roads.

A sample essay follows here about what would be expected from a pupil in some of the advanced grades:

What has Asheboro been? What is she now? What may she become?

Yesterday Asheboro was a sleepy country town with practically nothing to boast of but the few citizens who made up the town. To what have we grown? A great awakening a town born anew with a modern educational system, water works, the best of telephone system, up-to-date electric light plant employment for all, a woman's club which has done much for the town especially through the civic, school betterment and other departments, a commercial and social club prizes for the best kept lawns, front and back, have made our lawns a thing of beauty and joy forever. But to rest here means stagnation. We are to be still better, first by establishing an all town municipal league with every one who will be a member, headed by a directive council composed of two from the Randolph Club, two members from the public school faculty and board of school commissioners, two professional men. This council of eight would formulate specific improvements to be acted upon by the municipal league. Such improvements would be for the town as a whole.

In beautifying our city, all bill boards should be removed from the business part. A city forester should care for the trees, the churches should be modernized and filled with more people at every service. Keep the children off the streets by making the park and other play grounds more attractive, opening the school buildings to young and old at all times for social gatherings. A public library building near the center of the town, with rooms for the town government officials, in the basement a gymnasium, swimming pool, boating alley etc; and on the first floor a large modern theater where all can enjoy themselves without fearing death from colds or fire; rooms for city officers, woman's clubs and all municipal affairs. In this way draw prospective factories—business enterprises, the home seekers and keep people in Asheboro.

Another thing, be enthusiastic about our town, wherever or whenever you are, advertise our qualities, dream Asheboro, think Asheboro, talk Asheboro. It is our privilege, it is our duty.

### Fortunate Alumnus

One of the largest gifts to education to an academy in North Carolina has just become known. It is a gift of land in Kansas, valued at \$30,000, given to the endowment fund of Sylvan Academy, in Alameda county. It is made by Mr. Isaac Hammer and given in honor of Mrs. Hammer, who started to school at Snow Camp, Alameda county, where the academy is now located. Mr. Hammer has also given \$36,000 for Kansas University. The gift does not take effect at once for during the life time of Mr. Hammer he is to receive the proceeds from the property and pay the taxes, but upon his death the property goes to Sylvan Academy. The only condition attending the gift is that a new building be erected by the Academy within the next year.

Snow Camp has long been the centre of education and the preaching of temperance in North Carolina, and this large gift will enable the managers to make the Sylvan Academy much more useful.—News & Observer.

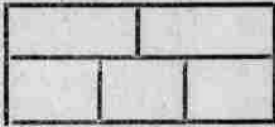
Mr. H. T. Hudson, county recorder and auditor of Cleveland county, has resigned his position and accepted a position as clerk under Senator Overman at Washington.

## SIMPLE IF YOU JUST KNOW HOW

It's all very simple if you just know how—but Asheboro doesn't know, and from present indications never will know and "never could understand". Get the simple, scintillating, silly story of the three stroke, straight line puzzle of the Royal Glue people, who have struck more good Randolph folk with their puzzle than with their glue and called Bunnie, the hair apparatus, to go unnoticed a whole afternoon and evening.

Bill Underwood runs a drug store in Asheboro and in the course of business buys goods and tries help to sell them. Some time ago he hired a long, lank cuss by the name of Powell—a live wire and an "sho-shoff" promoter. Afore-said Powell endeavors to make the Standard the place of sale for goods, and is a fair publicity agent.

The other day the Royal Glue people sent in some envelopes in advertising of their wares. On the envelopes was the puzzle. The puzzle looked like this:



All you have to do is trace this "figger" with three strokes of a pen or pencil, without retracing a line previously made. Easy, Ain't it? That's what the others thought at first—and they were to get a pound box of Liggett's (80c) for the successful accomplishment thereof.

Powell began trying it, wore out one pencil and asked Bill, his boss, to set him right. Bill tried it, nothing working. Roy, the flag-jacker, would hardly dispense dope, because of the time it took from his demonstration of the case with which he was about to solve the riddle. Luther, the colored boy who is learning the drug business in the rear of the store through the medium of washing ice delivering it cetera, tried it. Then they, the members of the Standard family, reasoned together and the result of their cogitations was the offer of the Liggett's to the successful solvent of the silly straight line puzzle.

By the night of the first day most of the business men of the town had given it up, first showing their wives the simplicity of it, saying that the mere reason of a lack of time kept the head of the household from doing the stunt—but working on it at odd times. The wives worked and school subjects who haven't done a sum this term caught the infection. By the morning of the second day every one was at it.

In the meantime Powell carried the puzzle to the Ashlyn Hotel. Here a couple of stranded agents for a library of notes—\$19.75 gets you a college education and an encyclopedia of universal information—found something that their library did not contain and went to it. The weather being bad under foot they were interrupted in their efforts only by Bart Webster, who used three pencils in half a day and about a room of his Chief Print stationery, when he chased the phone for calling him away from the puzzle when he had just mastered it, or when Bart exclaimed that he had it and the walking delegates of information went over and showed him where he traced one line twice.

Interior—Latin for meanwhile, dearie, note the ease with which this story tells itself—numerous and sundry people had come with the thing worked out. Only when they attempted the justification thereof in the presence of witnesses the thing wouldn't work. Still, they went back home and began all over again. And all the time Powell sold pencils. Every store in town set out a roll of wrapping paper and the neglected clerks figured on shoe boxes, cuffs, anything—all were determined to work the doggone thing, 'cause it was so infernally simple.

When eyes grew tired and wrists gave way to the strain, the vigor of the seekers after truth was replenished with the news that the amount of Liggett's had been increased to five pounds (\$4.00)—You see there is a bit of profit in pencils, even, when

### What I Saw At The Fair.

By Bertie Kivette of 7th Grade Asheboro Schools.  
On Wednesday November 1 1911 a large crowd gathered in Asheboro to attend the Randolph Fair. There were about 12000 people here on that day and about 3,500 of them were school children from all over the county.

The first thing to be seen when we entered the gate, was the large tent with the air ship. And next, the machinery. Then came the logs and cattle which were very interesting to the farmers.

But the fowls were interesting to everybody. Among the most beautiful were the golden pheasants and the African geese. In a small room at the north of the same building a man had a cream separator and a few of the ladies were testing the butter.

In almost the center of the grounds was a stage on which the Franklinville band, the Old Fiddlers and Mr. Starwals and his little daughter, furnished amusements. In the main building, down stairs were the farm products, such as corn, potatoes, peanuts pumpkins and apples. The canned fruits and cakes were also very nice.

Then we went up stairs where all the booths were. The booth made by the Asheboro Graded School was among the most beautiful of them all.

Then came the fancy work which was a large room with nice needle work hanging all around on the walls. In the center was a long table with old fashioned coverlets and quilts.

On Thursday the crowd was not so large as on Wednesday.

The children of the Asheboro school were drawn by two traction engines to the Court House where an address was given, and then back to the Fair grounds in which another happy day was spent.

Then on Friday we returned to school feeling that we had had a good time for two days.

they are sold by the grace.

It would be useless to try to give all the instances of the terrible grip of this puzzle of the glue people. Wives neglected to cook breakfast and husbands forgot to growl because their coffee was cold. But something was said of the fate of Bunnie. Bunnie is the very first son of a young household, which is visiting its folk in the city. Likewise he is the first grandchild of some averagely doting grandparents, he is first nephew of three young ladies and they admire him—he is the son of a father who stays at home of nights, of a mother who is as proud of him as the country editor of a new-paid-to-advance subscriber. Yet all the afternoon his mother neglected him for the puzzle, even searching for the pin which was sticking him in a preoccupied fashion.

His father watched beside him in the evening and never called him "Papa's little man" once. He aunts never once looked up from their work on the straight line, his grandpa let his eyes go out to his eagerness to get his nose buried in the sheet upon which he made five, and even four strokes, for the prize, but never could do it in three. His grandmother retired early, for she was wearied of the sound of pencils being sharpened, worn out by the bickering of the bunch in attempts to show the others how the thing might be done—and maybe she had used just a few sheets of paper during the day. She dreamed of the puzzle anyway and in her sleep attempted a demonstration.

Upstairs Bunnie wailed. His dad sat unhearing over under the light at the table, taking four strokes to do what must be done in three. His mother sat at the other side of bed, holding her newly acquired husband and knighted to it. Bunnie wailed. Downstairs his aunts and a bunch of young gentlemen had turned a bridge party into a search for the three proper strokes and a college professor, a newspaper man, a dentist, an insurance agent, three college students, a half-dozen women school teachers, a demonstrator of domestic science, three stenogs and a candidate for the minister all bawled each other out for bothering when they had just got it. Bunnie had a right to wail.

Still the search goes on. If the riddle isn't solved Asheboro stands a good chance of losing half her population from an visit from Jesse Holmes.

### WASHINGTON LETTER.

Important Political News and other Matters of Interest.

(By C. H. Taveener)  
Special Washington Correspondent.

Washington, Jan. 3 "Business men all over the country are expressing complete confidence in the Democratic House. They are not being fooled by the old bugaboo about 'Democratic Success meaning business depression.' I am familiar with how the Democratic leaders feel about this, and the leaders and the majority of the party are conservative. The tariff will be revised downward, but it will be done conservatively, and without disturbing business conditions unnecessarily. Democrats realize that business men have rights which must be protected."

This statement by Congressman John H. Rothermel, chairman of the committee on expenditures in the department of Commerce and labor, is endorsed by all the Democrats in Congress. Mr. Rothermel's home is in Reading, Pennsylvania, which is in the heart of the Pennsylvania manufacturing section.

Evidence is multiplying that business men do not fear Democratic success in 1912, and that, on the contrary, they will welcome it. This is due almost wholly, the House leaders say, to the business like way in which the Democrats have handled affairs since they were placed in control of the lower house of Congress a year ago. The steel trust, which would have more reason than any other trust to be suspicious of Democratic success, is thriving as never before at this season of the year, and the customary holiday let up of twelve days was reduced to two. Early in January, it is said, the steel mills all over the country will be working up to 90 per cent of capacity. Blast furnaces, long idle, have resumed operations, and the steel corporation confidently expects 1912 to be the banner year of its history.

The same story of increased activity is told by the railroads. The New York, New Haven and Hartford, which last spring laid off several thousand men, lately has taken them all back, and many more besides. The shops at Hartford, the company officials say, will be busier during the coming year than they have been for four years back. All the big railroads have placed large orders for new equipment, a recent order of the New York Central alone calling for an expenditure of \$23,000,000. All of them are working their men to capacity.

Republican orators who expect to fool the voters with the old scare about Democratic success meaning business depression are going to have both hands full from now on.

### What Tariff Board Proves.

The Tait tariff board exonerates woolen manufacturers of anything like taking advantage of high tariff rates to advance prices. The board's report would make it appear that the woolen trust wouldn't do such a thing.

But the report isn't altogether unimpressive, because it proves beyond successful contradiction:

First—That Schedule "K" is indefensible; it proves this conclusively and for all time.

Second—It confirms practically every charge made against the woolen schedule by Democrats and Progressive Republicans.

Third—It proves that the American people are victims of extortion from wool manufacturers.

Fourth—And that President Taft's veto of the Underwood-LaFollette bill was against the interests of 90,000,000 consumers of woolen; that it was absolutely unjustified, unnecessary, and therefore unforgivable.

### Tariff Protects Trust Only.

Louis D. Brandeis, the famous Boston lawyer, who looks, acts, walks, and talks like Abraham Lincoln, while testifying before the Senate trust investigating committee showed how the trusts receiving the greatest protection have destroyed trades unionism, reduced wages, increased working hours, and driven Americans out and brought foreign immigrant labor into their mills.

He exposed the injustice and futility of the Tobacco Trust settlement, effected by the United States Supreme Court, and said the rule laid down amounted to this: "What man has illegally joined together, let no court put asunder."

### BOND ELECTION CALLED IN.

County Commissioners on Request of a Majority of the Petitioners Withdraw the Order for the Vote on R. R. Bonds set for January 8 in Asheboro, Cedar Grove and Concord Townships.

Asheboro, Cedar Grove and Concord townships will not vote on the bond issue for the Randolph and Cumberland Railway as previously set for January 8. A majority of the petitioners for the election requested that the election be called off, and the commissioners acting on this withdrew the order for the bond election in the townships yet remaining to vote on the issue. This action was the expression of no unfavorable sentiment in regard to the Randolph and Cumberland, but was the due process of a carrying out of the special election law. While sentiment in these townships has changed little, the action of the petitioners reflects the opinion that three townships would not take action different from the others who have voted down the issue.

The registrars and judges of the special elections already held were allowed their expense accounts. These accounts are to be paid out of the funds provided by the Randolph and Cumberland and not out of the general fund. When the elections were called a certified check for \$250 was deposited by the railway people to cover the expenses of the elections, which amount to several dollars less than this amount.

The usual amount of routine business was taken up by the commissioners Monday, the accounts against the county for the month of December were taken up, approved and ordered paid.

### High Point Man Married in Georgia

The following is clipped from an Augusta, Georgia paper of recent date and will be of interest to the friends of Mr. Beane, who at one time worked in this city for the Aberdeen and Asheboro Railway.

A very quiet and at the same time a very beautiful wedding took place last night at 553 Ellis street when Mr. C. V. Beane and Miss Nina V. Fagan were united in the bonds of wedlock by Rev. Geo. E. Gulle.

The affair was somewhat of a surprise as none of the friends of the young people expected the wedding to occur so soon. Mr. and Mrs. Beane will receive the congratulations of a host of friends today. Mr. Beane is a native of High Point, N. C., and is a valued employe of the Western Union Telegraph Company.

The statue of the late Chas. D. McIver was set up in Raleigh Monday.

In contrast with the record of the tariff protected trusts, Mr. Brandeis presented instances where prices have been reduced, and work increased, in industries protected under free competition. Yet Mr. Brandeis would have the voters believe that the Payne-Ashley high protection tariff was put up exclusively for their benefit.

### Will Gather The Coins.

The Republicans have selected the man who is to be in charge of the filing of the Republican campaign for the 1912 contest. He is Frank W. Upham, who was assistant trust contribution grabber in 1908. Between presidential election Mr. Upham traces with the Buase machine in Chicago, runs a coal monopoly during the winter and an ice trust during the summer, and also has a lumber company, a railroad, and a few banks and trust concerns. An ideal selection!

### The Laws Rewards.

United States circuit court judge Peter S. Grosscup, of Chicago, has managed to make a millionaire out of himself while sitting upon the Federal bench. Besides getting rich himself he appointed Marshal E. Sampell, his court clerk, receiver for a traction company that was in litigation in his court, at a salary of \$25,000 a year.

John M. Harlan, one of the really great jurists in this nation's history, and one of the best friends the common people ever had on the Supreme bench, died a few weeks ago. His daughter recently has accepted a position as secretary to earn her living.