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HEARD IN THE COUNTY

WHAT OUR TOWN CORRESPONDENT HEARS AND THINKS—ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTY.

The coal dealers have had their inning and now comes the ice man.

Do your Easter hat shopping early, girls.

Mr. J. M. Ellis, of Ramseur Route 1, was a visitor in the city Monday.

Mr. C. L. Bray, of Coleridge, was a business visitor here Monday.

Mr. O. E. Routh, of Randleman R. 1, was in town a few days ago.

A little more work and a little less talk might have a good effect on the business depression.

The records down at Str from week to week tell "who is who" and how some people do swim.

Two dollars a day is now paid for serving as a jurymen in Montgomery county.

Mr. R. C. Smith, of Guilford College, spent several days in and around Asheboro last week.

They are strong legs that can bear abundance, but we've seen many a large fat woman.

Mr. J. W. Evans, of Trinity Route 1, is numbered among our renewal subscribers this week.

Mr. Newton Dixon, of Ore Mill Route 1, was a business visitor in Asheboro Monday.

Some women are unable to do house work because the dishwasher is so hard on their wrist watch.

Mr. H. T. Bray, prominent farmer and merchant of Ramseur Route 1, was a visitor in town Monday.

The Ramseur brass band has been secured for County Commencement day.

Mr. J. G. Steed, of Mt. Gilead, was calling on friends in this place one day last week. His many friends were glad to see him.

Messrs. G. W. Allen, S. A. Lewis, W. C. Hurley and Barna Allen, of Troy, were among the number who attended court here last week.

Mr. O. D. Lawrence, a prominent farmer of the Why Not section, was a business visitor here one day last week.

People look to the newspaper for information as to what the merchants are doing as much as they do for other news.

President Wilson is entitled to a deserved rest, now that Congress has adjourned. He has been a busy President since inauguration day.

Bro. S. E. Lowdermilk, a prominent citizen who lives about three miles east of Asheboro, is numbered among our renewal subscribers this week.

The farmers are getting busy preparing their land for a new crop. Owing to so much rain this winter they think they are getting behind, but everybody is in the same boat.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Robbins are rejoicing over the arrival of a pretty girl baby at their home last Sunday. Both are as happy as a possum. Mother and child doing well.

The Courier is adding new subscribers to its list every day, for it is a good local newspaper, the best weekly in this section of the State without any doubt.

Cleanliness is next to godliness. Clean up your premises. It is one of the spring measures you owe to health and comfort, and indirectly to happiness.

There is a certain satisfaction in purchasing from a store which is in your own territory, which helps to pay your taxes, to support your schools and churches, and which takes a civic pride in your community. Isn't this worth the consideration of every family in Asheboro to do their trading at home.

Our city fathers serve this city without pay and all our people should give them all the assistance that they can and not stand back and knock. Our town affairs are in the best shape today, we believe, that they ever were. Our town officers are to be congratulated on the good work they have done for the past year.

We clip the following from The Fayetteville Index: "Editor A. C. Johnson of the Lumberton Tribune was in town Saturday. Mr. Johnson got up a good paper and can be classed as one of the biggest editors in North Carolina, weighing not less than 200 pounds. However, he is not in the class of Hon. W. C. Hammer, of the Randolph Courier, who weighs less than a ton and continues to grow."

Mr. R. B. Reynolds, of Star spent several days here last week in the interest of the famous Royal Blue Blaze Gas Producer which he represents. It takes the place of wood and coal for cooking and heating in any building. It will fit any stove and makes the hottest and cleanest fire known. Mr. Reynolds is selling State and county patent rights and if you are hunting for a gold mine it will pay you to write to him.

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

ITEMS OF LIVE NEWS GATHERED FROM OUR EXCHANGES AND CONDENSED IN BRIEF FORM FOR BUSY READERS.

The United States, Russia, and Great Britain have protested at Tokyo against Japan's demands on China.

Canada is calling for a fourth army to go to the war. This will bring the number of Canadian soldiers up to 120,000.

Luke Lamb, of Williamston, N. C., has been promoted to the position of law clerk in the custom division of the department in New York.

After a recent temperance speech by Secretary of State Bryan, in Philadelphia, ten thousand men came forward and signed the total abstinence pledge.

Belgians are proposing to set up a monument in Brussels showing their gratitude to the people of the United States for sending food to the war sufferers.

Four sailing vessels with Spanish dock laborers on board, were lost in a great storm off Algiers, Spain, last Sunday. It is estimated that three hundred persons were drowned.

The United States raised 891,000,000 bushels of wheat last year, and the estimated surplus carried over from 1913 was about 76,000,000, making in all a total available supply of 967,000,000 bushels.

Mr. Frank Thompson, a well known citizen of Thomasville, died rather suddenly a few days ago. Mr. Thompson was a Confederate veteran, and was the first manager of the shoe shop at the Thomasville Baptist Orphanage.

The Baraca-Philathea Union, Civic League, Chautauqua Circle, Book Club, and Daughters of the Confederacy, of Thomasville, are co-operating in an effort to establish a public library in Thomasville.

Thomas Sater, a yeggman of bad reputation, was captured by postal inspectors and other officers in Asheville last Monday, and placed in jail on the charge of robbing the postoffice at Candler a few days ago.

In an address before 100 Lenoir county school teachers at Kinston, last Saturday, President Robert H. Wright, of the East Carolina Teachers' Training School, said: "The state of North Carolina gets more per diem for its convicts than it pays its school teachers."

Using an automobile to make their escape afterwards, burglars entered the postoffice at Candler, near Asheville, last Friday morning at an early hour, cracked the safe with nitro-glycerine, and secured money and stamps to the amount of seven hundred dollars.

More than one hundred girls will participate in the preliminary debates of the North Carolina Debating Union to be held Friday, March 26, throughout the state. Last year, fifty-five took part, and twenty-five were entitled to take part in the finals at Chapel Hill.

Congress has made an appropriation of \$856 to the trustees of the Diocese of the Episcopal church of Eastern North Carolina, as reimbursement for the loss of a little chapel that was destroyed at Nare Head by the Federal military authorities during the Civil War.

According to the preliminary census of birds, which has recently been completed by the United States Biologist, there are sixty pairs of English sparrows to the square mile on an average throughout the United States. The census seems to show that the bird most abundantly found in this country is the robin with the English sparrow a close second.

Leon Sahag and John Tamras, of Teheran and Tabriz, Persia, respectively, are students of the University of North Carolina. Sahag is a student in the electrical engineering course, while Tamras is studying medicine. After completing their studies, the two will return to their native land.

The Supreme Court last week reversed Judge Peebles' sentence of Editors Charles A. and George Brown, of The Weekly Record, Goldsboro, to 30 days in jail and \$250 fine for contempt of his court in the publication of an editorial criticizing the judge in connection with his conduct in holding a term of Wayne county court.

Dr. William Muller, German consul at Seattle, Washington, and his secretary, B. M. Schultz, were arrested last week, charged with offering money to the amount of \$1,000 to John Murdoch, an employe of the Seattle Construction and Dry Dock Company, if he would supply them with information bearing on the charge that the Seattle corporation was shipping submarines to the British government.

Both men and women attending the meeting of the Southern Textile Association, at Asheville, in June, will appear dressed in cotton goods "made in the South." Mr. A. B. Carter, president of the association, says he will be there in cotton from his head to his heels, and this is not impossible, for an Atlanta firm has been turning out shoes made altogether of cotton, except the heel, which is of rubber.

RANDOLPH COUNTY SCHOOLS COMMENCEMENT

DR. CLARENCE POE COMING TO DELIVER ADDRESS—BIG PARADE—INTERESTING CONTESTS—EXHIBITS—VARIED FEATURES

Friday, April 2, 1915, should be one of the red letter days in the history of Randolph county. This is the day on which the second annual County Commencement for Randolph will be held, and it is hoped that Asheboro will see one of the biggest crowds of men, women, boys, and girls ever coming together in this town at one time.

The address by Dr. Clarence Poe will be well worth coming to hear if there were nothing else happening; and if all the interesting and valuable features are considered, it will be seen that no Randolph citizen, young or old, can afford to miss spending the day in Asheboro.

Clarence Poe is acknowledged by all to be one of the foremost North Carolinians of the present day. He is editor of the Progressive Farmer, the leading farm paper in this and several other Southern states, and his reputation as an orator is well known. It is a remarkable fact that Clarence Poe has never been to college, having been educated in the "university of the world" since leaving high school, and yet he has risen to such a place in educational and literary circles that Wake Forest College has conferred upon him the title of "Doctor."

Program, Friday, April 2, 1915

10:15 a. m.—Procession assemblies on graded school grounds.

10:30 a. m.—Procession, led by Ramseur Band, moves up Fayetteville Street to Salisbury Street, to Church Street, to Depot Street, to Fayetteville Street, back to graded school auditorium.

11:00 a. m.—Assemble in auditorium.

Prayer by Rev. C. L. Whitaker.

Song, by audience, "Old North State."

Presentation of Dr. Clarence Poe by Mr. L. C. Phillips.

11:30 a. m.—Address by Dr. Clarence Poe.

12:30 p. m.—Delivery of diplomas to seventh grade.

DINNER

2:00 p. m.—Preliminary for Reciters and Declaimers Contest.

2:30 p. m.—Athletic Contest.

4:00 p. m.—Base Ball Game, Randleman vs. Asheboro.

7:30 p. m.—Reciters and Declaimers Contest.

Spelling Match.

BAD FIRE IN ASHEBORO

EARLY MORNING BLAZE DESTROYS TWO HOUSES—FIRE WAS BEYOND LIMITS OF WATER SYSTEM.

The early morning slumbers of Asheboro people were disturbed by the ringing of the fire alarm last Tuesday. It was soon ascertained that the fire was in the extreme western part of town beyond the limits of the water system; and although the hose company rushed to the scene and did all they could under the circumstances, the home of Mr. Thaddeus Auman and its contents were burned, while Mr. Sam Barnes lost his home and part of his furniture and other household goods.

Both the houses were new, and Mr. Auman had about \$300 insurance but Mr. Barnes had none.

The origin of the fire is unknown. Mr. Auman had risen about four o'clock, kindled a fire, and was sitting before it when he suddenly discovered the roof of his house in a blaze. Since the distance to the engine house was about a mile and the city water was not available, it was impossible to check the flames in time to save the two houses, though 16 of the 20 firemen were on hand and worked valiantly.

TAFT AT CHAPEL HILL

Ex-President Taft delivered a series of three lectures on "The Presidency; its Powers, Duties, Responsibilities and Limitations," at the University of North Carolina, last week.

Among other things, Mr. Taft urged the united support of the country for the policies of President Wilson in "this critical period."

Mr. Taft declared that the office of President is representative of the dignity of the American people and that at such a time as this it must have the hearty approval of the whole people if that dignity is to be preserved. Whatever party criticisms there might be of the present policies, he said, should be deferred until the crisis is past.

Emphasizing what he termed the "wisdom and conservatism" which characterized the framers of the Constitution, in their work the former President entered a vigorous protest against a constitutional convention to amend the Nation's fundamental law.

"There are those," he declared, "who think they can improve the Constitution by blowing it up. Fortunately they are in the minority."

With the statement that 65,000 laws have been enacted by Congress in the past five years, the speaker characterized the flood of legislation as a tendency to yield to the "magic" of "be it enacted" and advocated a rest for the country from legislation.

Mr. Taft reiterated his belief in a single term of from six to seven years for the President.

NEWS OF THE WAR

Przemysl Has Fallen—Relations Between Italy and Austria Strained.

German airmen raided Paris, last Sunday, dropping a dozen bombs in different parts of the city and injuring seven or eight persons, only one seriously, however.

The relations between Italy and Austria are believed to have reached an acute stage. German and Austrian subjects have been advised by their consuls to leave Italy in the shortest possible time.

Three British battleships were sunk by mines in the Dardanelles, last week.

Petrograd, London and Paris are celebrating the fall of Przemysl, the Galician fortress, which has withstood the besieging army of Russia for many months. Depleted by disease and forced to subsist on horse flesh, the town has at last capitulated. This capture is regarded by the Allies as the most important of the war.

Nine generals, three hundred officers, and 120,000 men surrendered, it is said.

LETTER FROM TEXAS

SOIL AND TIMBER DESCRIBED—CROPS RAISED—METHODS OF TEXAS FARMERS.

(By W. B. Owen, Sr.)

I write this time of what I saw while at the home of my brother, J. M. Owen, Sr. I remained there about one month.

The land in Brown county is very rich, except on the hills and little mountains, and there it is not good for much but grazing. These hills look as if they were made of flat rocks and layers of dirt. The grass grows just the same, and those bushes, I never saw anything like them. I saw on one mountain thirteen different kinds of stickers, and some of them looked as if they would be dangerous to step on with thin shoes. But it must be fine grazing land, for I saw some of the 1000 acres as high as two hundred yards from one to two years old, and fifty ponies—they call them horses. They belong to the ten dollar grade that they ride with a forty dollar saddle and a spine on each heel of the shoe. But they do work with these horses and feed by pasturing. I saw men plowing with four horses hitched to a disk plow, and I fully believe they were plowing two inches deep and no deeper. They say it will not do to plow that land deep. I thought it was the ten dollar pony it did pay to do deep plowing with.

The valley land is black or chocolate; the latter being the best for all purposes, but the other is richer. On the black land, grows the mucket timber, and now and then a patch of live oaks and some post oaks along the streams, also pecans and almonds. The chocolate land has post oak, Spanish oak, black jack, and hackberry. Scarcely any of the timber is more than fifteen feet high.

The heart never rots, but gets so hard you can scarcely drive a nail into it. Everything is fenced with barbed wire. The men first fence in all they own and then fence the cultivated land off to itself, leaving all roads 60 feet wide for convenience in driving the cattle and ponies without danger of being cut by the wires.

The principal crops are cotton, corn, oats, some wheat for feed or forage, sorghum and maize. They plant the two latter in rows and harvest with corn binder, stack in the field, and in February and March let the stock run to it and eat at will. They pasture the oats and wheat all winter, then thresh them on the edge of some bluff, and let the straw lie where the machine puts it until it rots and wastes away. When the stock get right hungry, they pick it up. The people are wasteful with all their stuff. They never use any fertilizer or manure. The latter lies in the pens or stable (they don't use many stables) till it gets in the way; it is then hauled out on some bluff, and there goes away to nothing.

They make a bale of cotton to the acre when it's a favorable year and the boll weevil not too bad, but don't pick more than two-thirds of the cotton, and never pick a lock off the ground. I saw fields of forty acres that were never picked on account of the low prices.

I made a trip across the country through Mills county into Samsaber county. The land in Mills county is about as I described it in Brown county. Samsaber county is sandy land. What I saw of it in cultivation is very fertile and easy to tend, but the wind blows the sand one way one day and back the next, and some days when it is right dry you can hardly see any distance. I'm glad to say I was not there on one of those dry days.

I crossed the Pecos and Arizona rivers, the latter being the largest stream. Some of the people said must take a drink of water from the latter river, that every man who got a drink from that would come back and stay. I am not very anxious to go back and stay, though it is a very pretty country and very fertile.

On January 30, I left my brother

"GET ACQUAINTED TRIP"

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FROM GREENSBORO TO VISIT ASHEBORO FRIDAY, MARCH 26.

The following letter has been received from the Chamber of Commerce, Greensboro, N. C., by Mr. J. D. Ross, secretary of the Randolph Club:

The Chamber of Commerce of Greensboro has decided to take a "Get Acquainted" trip once a month during the year 1915 to some neighboring city. Our first trip was to Mt. Airy in February, which proved to be a very enjoyable and instructive occasion.

We want to come to Asheboro on the 26th of this month, and would be very glad indeed if you could arrange to have a number of your representative business men meet us and provide a place where we might exchange friendly felicitations.

The object of these trips is many sided, one is to attract favorable attention to Greensboro, another is to get our local business people better acquainted with each other, and another is to educate them to the resources of neighboring communities and cities, the most important being to create, if possible, a feeling of co-operation between Greensboro, and those cities which we visit.

We want you to know us better, and we want to know you better in order that we may co-operate in any way we can to build up our State, which in turn will result in building up both Asheboro and Greensboro.

Hoping to receive a prompt reply advising that we will be welcome, and assuring you it would accord me great pleasure to serve you any time from this end of the line, I remain, Yours very truly,

J. C. FORESTER, Secretary.

Mayor Cranford has appointed an entertainment committee to look after the visiting gentlemen. There will be a meeting at the court house just after the arrival of the High Point train Friday morning.

FIRE AT GOULD LODGE

Three Buildings and Fifteen Horses Destroyed—Loss About Twenty Thousand Dollars.

Property to the value of \$20,000 was destroyed by fire at George J. Gould's Lodge nears Freeman's Mills, eight miles from High Point, last Sunday.

A large barn, granary, and machinery house were totally destroyed together with their contents, which included fifteen head of fine horses, 1,500 bushels of corn, and all the implements necessary in running the large farm. Among the horses lost, was "Pinaua," Mr. Gould's favorite pony, which was valued at \$1,200.

The buildings were some distance from the lodge, which was not damaged by the flames. The origin of the fire is unknown. It started while the keeper was at dinner, and when he returned it was too late to check the flames or save the animals or other property.

The Gould lodge is one of the famous hunting lodges maintained in North Carolina by Northern millionaires. It is a favorite resort of the owner, whose last hunting trip and visit to this lodge were about three weeks ago. It is supposed that the burned buildings will be speedily rebuilt.

DR. LAWRENCE SERIOUSLY ILL

Dr. W. P. Lawrence, dean of the faculty of Elon College, who has been treated at St. Leo's hospital, Greensboro, for several days, is still suffering from acute gastritis, and his condition is said to be serious, though there is hope for his recovery.

Besides occupying the dean's chair at Elon, Dr. Lawrence is at the head of the English department of the college. He is also president of the North Carolina and Virginia Christian conference, is lead of its mission board and is treasurer of the Christian orphanage. He has many friends who will regret to learn that his present condition is so serious.

BASKET BALL AT GUILFORD

The Guilford Freshmen Win Game by Score of 18 to 14

In one of the fastest and most interesting games of the season, the Freshmen defeated the Sophomores Saturday evening, March 13, by a score of 18 to 14. Sapp was the star for the Freshmen as he scored 12 of the 18 points secured by the Freshmen, and Groome, the Guilford star center, played a fine game, getting the tip off every time notwithstanding the fact that he is just recovering from illness.

The object of the games is to determine the holder of the inter-class cup, and by winning this game the Freshmen have a good chance at it.

Line up and Score.
Freshmen—O. Sapp r. g., W. Miller l. g., G. Groome c., D. Coltrane l. g., J. Smith r. g.

Sophomores—B. Jones r. g., F. Mendenhall l. g., E. Moore c., H. Beeson l. g., D. Hodrin r. g.

Points scored—O. Sapp 12, Miller 2, Groome 4, Jones 10, Moore 2, Mendenhall 2.

Referee Sammas. Attendance 400.

and Brownwood to spend a little time with my nephew, J. M. Owen, Jr. Of this trip I will write in my next if The Courier sees fit to publish this.

CLARK ON WILSON

ONE OF FIVE GREATEST NATIONS HAS EVER HAD—CONGRESS HAS "FOUGHT A GOOD FIGHT"

Speaker Clark, addressing the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick at Philadelphia, last week, eulogized President Wilson as "among the great Presidents whose names can be counted on the fingers of one hand."

"The Congress has done its work," he said, "Senators and Representatives have returned to their homes. The President remains in Washington because of the ticklish situation in which we find ourselves by reason of the trans-Atlantic war and the civil war. It is no exaggeration to say that he bears a heavier load than any President since Lincoln has borne. No man, no men, can relieve him of his burden. His troubles, being purely executive in character, are his and his alone. In the very nature of things he knows more about what is going on abroad than does any other man in America, because he has better means of information."

"Every good citizen, without reference to politics or religion, should trust him and uphold him in this crisis of our country's fate. May God give him the wisdom, courage and strength to keep us out of entanglements with foreign Nations and lead us in the paths of peace."

"When the Democrats came into possession of the House, the Senate and the Presidency on March 4, 1913, after sixteen years of entire exclusion from power, we had a colossal task ahead of us. Looking the whole world in the face, we can truthfully and without fear of successful contradiction assert that we have courageously, wisely and patriotically accomplished the major portion of that stupendous undertaking."

"The Baltimore platform contained a multitude of promises. We have redeemed many of them. While neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, I make bold to predict that in the next two years we will redeem the remainder. Rome was not built in a day, but nevertheless Rome was built. Two years were not enough time in which to place our extensive and patriotic programme upon the statute books, though the 63rd Congress sat more days and enacted more constructive legislation than any other that ever met. I have not even the shadow of a doubt that the historian of our times will pronounce it a great Congress. We fought a good fight. We have kept the faith. The people will eschew and reward us."

"The brilliant Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield, declared that contemporaneous foreign opinion as to a public man is identical with the final verdict of history. Most assuredly, then, Woodrow Wilson will be rated among the great Presidents whose names can be counted on the fingers of one hand."

"For more than a half century Republicans have pointed with pride and Democrats have viewed with alarm," the Speaker went on. "Now the boot is on the other foot. At present the Democrats 'point with pride,' and alas! Republicans 'view with alarm.' They were fore-ordained and predestined to dwell in the cave of Adullam."

"These complainants divide themselves into two classes: First, those who with countenances sorrowful as that of the Knight de La Mancha but with glees in their souls and hope in their hearts vociferate, purely for political effect, that the country is going to 'The demitison bow wow.' In their case the wish is father to the thought. There are not many such un-American residents in this country so favored by Almighty God. But the few malignants are unfortunately among the noisiest of mankind. The second class, suffering from the malagras, is much larger, consisting of honest but timid persons forever seeing ghosts, who in fat years look forward fearfully to possible lean years and who are greatly worried by the lamentations of the Cassandras and marplots aforementioned. These two classes keep up a howl that the country is going to the dogs and scare people out of their wits, thereby retarding progress."

"We are proud of our record in the 63rd Congress. Of course there are those who carp and criticize and growl. God must have made pessimists for some wise purpose, but their pestiferous existence demonstrates once more that God moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform."

"Prior to the time when we had the opportunity of doing things it was constantly asserted that we could and would do nothing. Now our friends, the enemy, solemnly asseverate that we are ruining the country by doing too much. Certainly some folks are hard to please."

FIRES TO PROTECT DOG

Miss Floride Settle, a well known actress and sister of Hon. Thomas Settle, Republican candidate for governor in the last gubernatorial campaign, was sentenced to pay a fine of \$40, and go to prison for a month, at Rouen, France, last week for firing on a man named Waterman, who persisted in teasing her dog. The incident occurred last November, on the French liner Chicago, from New York to Havre. Miss Settle claimed she only fired to frighten the man not intending to hurt him, and the prison part of the sentence was suspended.

Miss Settle, it will be remembered, was the leading lady in Tom Dixon's play, "The Clansman," when it was first put on the road.