

# Sylvan Valley News

Our County—Its Progress and Prosperity the First Duty of a Local Paper.

MINER & BREESE.

BREVARD, TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY, N. C., FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1904.

VOL. IX--NO. 26

## Dunns Rock Lodge No. 267

**A. F. & A. M.**  
Meets Friday on or before the full moon in each month, at 2 p. m. Visiting Masons are cordially invited to meet with us. sptly  
WM. MAXWELL, Sec'y.

## Conestee Lodge No. 237,

**I. O. O. F.**  
Meets every Monday night at 8 o'clock. Visiting brothers are cordially invited to visit us.  
Z. W. NICHOLS, N. G.

## Transylvania Lodge No. 143,

**Knights of Pythias**  
Regular convention every Tuesday night in Masonic Hall. Visiting Knights are cordially invited to attend.  
J. A. SNOW, C. C.

## Brevard Telephone Exchange.

Daily—7 a. m. to 10 p. m.  
Sunday—8 to 10 a. m., 4 to 6 p. m.  
Central Office—Cooper Block.

## Professional Cards.

W. A. CASH,

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.  
Rooms 7 & 8, McKinn Block, Brevard, N. C.

W. B. DUCKWORTH,

ATTORNEY AT LAW.  
Investigation of Land Titles a Specialty.  
Rooms 1 and 2, Pickelsimer Building.

ZACHARY & BREESE

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW  
Offices in McKinn Block, Brevard, N. C.

WELCH GALLOWAY,

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.  
Practices in all the courts.  
Rooms 9 and 10 McKinn Block, Brevard, N. C.

## Miscellaneous.

### Dr. H. H. CARSON Surgeon Dentist

Office over Bank.  
HENDERSONVILLE, N. C.  
Satisfaction Guaranteed in all operations.

### C. C. KILPATRICK, CONTRACTOR AND BUILDER.

Office at Barber Shop, Brevard, N. C.  
Estimates given on all kinds of work in the building line.

T. B. CRARY,

Contractor for All Kinds of Brick Work.  
Cement Work, Plastering, Paved-dash and Rough Casting a Specialty.  
BREVARD, N. C.

### G. W. Summey—Carpenter

Best of recommendations—his work.  
Jobs in or out of town accepted.  
All work guaranteed.

J. O. DEEMID,

### The Reliable Jeweler.

Watches and Jewelry for sale. Fine Watch and Clock repairing. All Work guaranteed. West Main St.

A. C. NORTON,

### Practical Boot and Shoemaker

Harness Work a specialty.  
West Main Street near Caldwell.

### The Ethelwold

Brevard's New Hotel—Modern Apartments—Open all the year. The patronage of the traveling public as well as summer tourists is solicited. Opp. Court House, Brevard, N. C.

## WRIGHT WRONG AGAIN

Makes Some More Ridiculous Figures on Prices.

## COST OF LIVING HAS ADVANCED.

Necessaries Go Up Despite His Juggling Methods—Nutmegs and Soda Balanced Against Pork and Beans. Other Absurdities.

Carroll D. Wright, commissioner of labor, is still doing his best to keep wages up and the cost of living down. Much depends upon him this year. If wages and the prices of farm products can be well sustained, while trust prices and the cost of living can be kept within reasonable limits, the present administration may be continued in power. The farmers and wage earners, who have the votes, must somehow be made to feel as contented and satisfied as possible. Wright's statistics are very soothing and will ally any ordinary discontent.

An examination of his latest prescription of statistics, the March (1904) bulletin of the bureau of labor on wholesale prices, shows him to be as clear a juggler of figures as ever, but that he is unable to contend successfully against overwhelming odds.

His report shows that average wholesale prices for the year 1903 were 27 per cent higher than for the year 1897. This is an admission that prices have gone up 27 per cent since the trust era began in 1897 with the passage of the Dingley bill. As prices for 1897 were at their lowest about July 1, just before the passage of the Dingley bill, and as they are now higher than at any time in 1903, we may safely conclude even from Wright's figures that the cost of living is now 30 or 35 per cent above what it was on July 1, 1897. As a matter of fact Dun's tables, which are scientifically constructed, show that the cost of living was on March 1, 1894, 43 per cent higher than on July 1, 1897.

But it is with this last report as a work of art, as the handiwork of one of the world's greatest craftsmen, that we are most concerned. In the first place, this and his report of last November on the cost of living are remarkable for what they do not contain.

The prize and avowed object of these tables of prices is to show the comparative cost of living at different times. In order to reach a safe and scientific conclusion not only must all of the important items of expenditure be considered, but they must be given a weight in accordance with their importance. Mr. Wright disregards both these conditions. He not only omits several of the most important items of expenditure, but in making his tables of averages he puts in nutmegs and pepper as of equal importance with fresh beef and eggs.

Mr. Wright's averages are made up from 200 quotations. Each has the same weight or importance as has every other single quotation—that is, he has taken the average of 200 items.

Of the 200 items quoted seventy-six, or nearly one-third, are for clothes and clothing, although Colonel Wright told us in his November (1903) report that clothing formed only 14.04 per cent of the cost of living, while only fifty-four, or about one-fifth of all, were for food, which, he tells us, form 42.54 per cent of the cost of living of the average family.

Mr. Wright desires to please the farmers by showing a good high average for farm products and the wage earners by keeping the cost of living as low as possible. He therefore puts raw cotton, which shows an increase in price of 44.7 per cent, in with farm products and secured fleece wool, which shows an increase of only 2.1 per cent, in with the cloths and clothing group.

As showing Mr. Wright's genius for figures and for keeping down the cost of living, we note that nutmegs and bicarbonate of soda, which show a decline of nearly 40 per cent for 1903, are balanced against pork and beans, which show an increase of about 40 per cent in 1903. If properly "wrigtied" it is not likely that the average for nutmegs and soda would pull down the average of pork and beans 1 per cent. As Mr. Wright has "wrigtied" them the average is pulled down about 40 per cent. The price of matches, which declined 15 per cent, affects Mr. Wright's averages as much as does the price of coke, which rose

71 per cent. The price of wood screws, which declined 27 per cent, affects his averages as much as does the price of steel billets, which increased 30 per cent, or of corn, which increased 21 per cent. Of course if wood screws are quoted once steel billets should be quoted 100 or 200 times and corn about 1,000 times in order to give them proper weight in making an average.

Of such stuff are Colonel Wright's statistics made. On such figures does his reputation rest. His wage statistics are of the same order. His census statistics of employees is made up of "averages" less than the least number of persons employed at any one time. Mathematical absurdities are his stock in trade. He deserves great credit for his ability to maintain his lead as a statistician and to have his statistics quoted authoritatively almost everywhere. He is probably the only man on earth that could palm off such ridiculous statistics on such an intelligent public and hold on to his job and maintain his present reputation. He should not be permitted to become a college president next fall. The Republicans need him in their business of fooling the people. Keep him at statistics.

BYRON W. HOLT.

## THE PACKERS' COMBINE.

Aided by the Railroads It Plunders Producer and Consumer.

The packers' combine has such complete control of the cattle, hog and beef markets that it laughs at injunctions and does not seem to fear other legal proceedings the administration might invoke. If President Roosevelt would instruct his attorney general to proceed against the individual members of the combine under the criminal section of the antitrust law it is probable that their hostility would soon cease and they would be suing for peace. One trust magnate behind the bars would have a restraining effect upon the whole brood.

The alliance between the packers' combine and the railroads has been notorious and no one has been able to compete with them for that reason alone, as it gives them a virtual monopoly of transportation and markets.

The interstate commerce commission has asked for power to prevent and punish discriminations and the paying of rebates to favored shippers, but neither the president nor the Republican majority of congress have seemed anxious or willing to punish railroad or trust.

The farmers and the beef consumers are both vitally interested in the beef monopoly, and, as Chairman Babcock says, the farmers, through reading the daily newspapers, have become so "intelligent" that they keep congressmen busy asking questions on matters of public interest. It might pay the farmers and the beef consumers as well to make special inquiries why the beef combine is not prosecuted under the criminal section and why the railroads are allowed to discriminate in favor of the few and against the many. If the intelligent farmer and the city consumer have in former campaigns questioned their congressmen and were promised relief from monopoly, which has certainly not materialized, is it not about time to elect others in their places who will not only promise, but perform? These discriminations by the railroads and the monopoly of the cattle and hog and beef markets have continued for years, and the farmers and their customers in the city have quietly submitted to promises of reform, but instead of relief the system has grown from bad to worse.

The Democrats in congress proposed several bills and amendments to others that would have had the effect of defeating monopolies, but the Republican majority refused to consider any measure that would strike at the root of the evil. They were too anxious to follow the orders of President Roosevelt to pass the appropriation bills and go home.

Port Arthur is Russia's teething tooth. Dr. Japan first tried to plug it, but as the affected molar still gave trouble he has now concluded to extract it. The painless process will not be employed.

Andrew Carnegie says that wealth hurts some people. What a large number of folks Carnegie has saved from getting hurt!

A Brooklyn pastor has resigned because he will not preach sensational sermons. But is not the resignation itself somewhat sensational?

## PROSECUTING TRUSTS.

No Results to Consumers From Steps So Far Taken.

## COMBINES USEFUL IN CAMPAIGNS

Evidence Against Them Might Be Held as a Club—This Method Has Been Successful on Previous Occasions.

The exposure of the anthracite coal trust methods through the investigation by the interstate commerce commission shows exactly what is claimed by the Democrats—that there is a conspiracy in constraint of trade between the railroads and the coal companies. This investigation has not been carried on by the administration, but by a suit at law commenced by a Democrat of national reputation who when the coal trust refused to exhibit its books carried the case to the supreme court of the United States, which decided against the trust.

This victory for the people shows what President Roosevelt and Attorney General Knox might have done to curb the trusts if they had in good faith desired to do so. Instead of prosecuting the trusts under the criminal section of the antitrust law a half hearted equity proceeding for an injunction against the beef trust is the only legal step that has been taken against the industrial trusts to punish or restrain them.

The beef trust barons have paid no more attention to the injunction than if it had never been issued and still control not only the principal cattle markets, but dictate the price of meat. The lower branch of congress under the whip and spur of popular indignation ordered the department of commerce and labor to investigate the cattle and beef combines, but although weeks have passed, and no doubt Secretary Cortelyou is ardently pressing the investigation, it does not appear to have had any deterrent effect upon the rapacity of the combine. It may be that the arduous labors of Mr. Cortelyou in aiding President Roosevelt to arrange the details of the coming Republican campaign have prevented either of them from paying much attention to curbing a trust, which even the administration admits is a bad one.

It has been suggested that the reason President Roosevelt has selected Secretary Cortelyou to manage his campaign was that the evidence he has obtained against the trusts could be used as a club to make them "come down" to the great advantage of the Republican campaign fund. That would be no new plan, for it is charged that Congressman Babcock threatened the steel trust with antagonistic legislation unless that giant combine made a donation to the campaign fund of 1902, when it was much needed.

If the coal trust, the beef trust and the other reputed bad trusts had been persistently prosecuted against by the administration and results obtained by forcing them to sell their products at reasonable prices the suggestion of their connecting with the campaign fund in lieu of prosecution would have no weight. But the fact that no trust or combine has been exposed by the administration and that a private citizen has had to bear all the expense of forcing the evidence of the manipulations of the coal trust into public view certainly allows a sinister construction to be put upon the lack of energy in prosecuting the trusts by President Roosevelt and his department of justice.

## Roosevelt's Own Campaign.

There is not a detail of this personally conducted canvass for the nomination which has escaped the interference, direct or indirect, of the man in the White House. There has been criticism of a certain candidate because he has frankly and boldly hunted the presidency. But Mr. Roosevelt has hunted the presidency day and night, using, not his own fortune or anything that is his, but the powers, patronage and influence which the people of these United States voted in trust to the stewardship of their servant, William McKinley, four years ago.—Albany Argus.

## A Touching Spectacle.

What a touching spectacle it will be when Mr. Lou Payn pokes his legs under the luncheon table at the White House and sweetly smiles at the "delighted" president!—New York World.

## Teacher's Institute.

A Teacher's Institute for Transylvania county will be held in the court house, beginning at 9 o'clock a. m. Tuesday, July 5th 1904 and closing with the public examination July 14th.

The Superintendent will be assisted by Prof. W. L. Allen, Supt. graded schools, Waynesville N. C., as per section 26 school law of North Carolina 1903.

The above section says: "All teachers of any county in which such institute is held are hereby required to attend the same continuously during the session thereof for at least two weeks, if the institute continue so long; and, upon failure to do so, unless provisionally hindered, shall be debarred from teaching in any of the public schools of this state for the term of one year, or until such teacher shall have attended some county institute and school in some other county."

Prof. Allen is well fitted for this work and we are sure that all the teachers will very much enjoy the institute and will be greatly helped in their work.

We hope all teachers of the county, and those who desire to teach, will promptly attend.

I. T. NEWTON, Co. Supt.

## MARKET VALUE OF BRAINS.

Those Muddled by the Use of Alcohol or Tobacco Do Not Find Ready Employment.

William Allen White, the friend of boys, says: "Tobacco is like whisky—it is growing in distavor. There is not in Emporia today a single toper, in 25 years the use of tobacco will be tabooed as whisky is, and what is more, white ribbons and reformers and political agitators won't be responsible for it. The responsibility will be in the relentless competition of this age, which casts upon the ash-heap for failure every brain that is impaired from any cause. This will be cruel. But it is inevitable, and the boys of today should prepare for it. In the day when they shall do battle for success the man will coddle his brain and his body as a sporting man coddles his horse. In these days of nerve competition it is the best brain that wins, and the man who coddles out his brain with tobacco and whisky is knocked out of the contest for supremacy in any field of activity. When a young man applies for a job in this town he is practically reading his brains. The market is full of brains, and no employer cares to hire a damaged set when he can get a clean set just as well."—Atchison Globe.

## The Growth of Temperance.

Four hundred years ago Mohammedans were the only total abstainers in Europe, and now 47 of the 50 large European cities have from 10 to 20 active temperance societies. And it is also certain that even without the aid of these societies the number of female toppers is shrinking to a minimum. At the court of Queen Bess maids of honor had a daily allowance of six quarts of beer and drank all the wine they could get hold of.—Indianapolis Press.

## Brutally Tortured.

A case came to light that persistent and unmerciful torture has perhaps never been equaled. Joe Gold-bick of Colusa, Calif., writes: "For 15 years I endured insufferable pain from rheumatism and nothing relieved me though I tried everything known. I came across Electric Bitters and it's the greatest medicine on earth for that trouble. A few bottles of it completely relieved and cured me." Just as good for liver and kidney troubles and general debility. Only 70c. Satisfaction guaranteed by all druggists.