

THE BREVARD NEWS

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ONE MONTH TAKEN OFF SCHOOL TERM

All Elementary School Cut to Eight Months—High School to Run Full Nine Months Term

OF FUNDS GIVEN AS REASON FOR ACTION

Letters to Teachers and Committees Follow School Board Regrets Necessity of Action

Elementary schools in Transylvania county will be closed at the end of the eight month period, according to action taken by the school board last Monday. It is said the school authorities were convinced there would not be sufficient funds to carry the school year for the full nine months term. The county high schools at Brevard and Rosman are not effected by this order and will run the full nine months.

When Transylvania adopted the nine months school term on a 50 cent special tax levy voted some time ago, the county commissioners, it is said, thought the schools could be run on a 40 cent levy instead of the full 50 as authorized in the election. This was found insufficient, it is said, hence the order to cut one month off the elementary schools was made.

On account of the fact that there are large graduating classes in both high schools, many members of which are planning to enter college next fall, it was decided to continue both the high schools in order that the senior classes could complete their work. With the present schedule, it is said, and five months of the school year gone, it would be almost impossible for the senior class to obtain units necessary to enter college, if caused to lose one month's work. It would mean, it is pointed out, if the high schools were

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EXPLOSION CASE SETTLED IN COURT

All Damage Paid and Defendants Dismissed with Payment of the Costs

Young men of Brevard appeared in Mayor Whitmire's court last week, admitted their guilt in causing the explosion on election night, showed receipts bills for all damage to property caused by the explosion, paid the costs in the case and were dismissed.

With the young men were those whose property was damaged by the explosion, and they made pleas to the mayor to dismiss the young men upon payment of the costs.

The young men stated to the mayor that they meant to do no one harm; that they had no idea the explosive would do more than make a terrific noise; that others were shooting fire-crackers, pistols, and otherwise adding to the racket and din of the occasion. They admitted their act to be most foolish, but insisted in their testimony that there was not the slightest intent on their part to do any one or anything harm.

The business men who appeared with the young fellows insisted to the court that they were thoroughly convinced of the truthfulness of the young men, and urged the mayor to hear their plea for clemency in that all damages had been paid and permit the young men to pay the costs and be dismissed.

It is the policy of The Brevard News to not publish names of misdemeanors cases. This policy is well known and names of the several dozens of cases that have been tried for misdemeanors in both the superior court and the terms of Superior court during the past three months have been published in this paper. This policy is followed for two reasons.

First: The publication of such cases is not tended to make very choice reading matter for the homes into which this paper goes.

Second: There are the fathers, the mothers, wives, sisters, daughters and sons of those who have committed some misdemeanor, to consider. The real humiliation is theirs, and in most cases these relatives are not to blame for the misconduct of the guilty. The knowledge that one's relative has committed some misdemeanor is sufficiently painful without the additional humiliation of having their names printed in the home paper. It is in deference to the feeling of those innocent ones that The Brevard News long ago adopted the policy of withholding the names of defendants in cases of misdemeanors.

For the above reasons The News is not publishing the names of the three young men in this case.

In justice to Mayor Whitmire, The News has been kept fully informed by him of the progress he and the officers were making in bringing the guilty parties into court. He has worked faithfully on the case, and he is not at all responsible for the fact that the names of the young men are not herewith published. In fact, he called The News to the mayor's office, laid the whole records of the case open and fully expected publication of names of those who caused the explosion. Those records, being public records, are open to any citizen of Brevard.

LOUIE WHITMIRE DENIES HIS GUILT

Prays God to Forgive Those Responsible for His Conviction, as He Forgave at the Cross

BLAMES DETECTIVE COX MORE THAN ALL OTHERS

Says Cox Swore Falsely on Him—Original Letter in Roland Owen's Office, not to be Removed

Louie Whitmire, recently convicted for the murder of Jesse Master drawing a fifteen year penitential sentence, has written a letter to The News, which he asks be published. The request is being granted. The letter is printed below. Clifton of the Court Roland Owen to Louie to Raleigh a few days ago to begin serving his sentence. On the way down Whitmire gave the letter to Mr. Owen, asking him not to open it until after his return to Brevard, and then instructed that the letter was to be permitted to copy the letter, leaving the original in the clerk's office.

The letter is being published according to the wishes of Whitmire, and follows:

"To My Friends and Enemies of Transylvania County:

"Through the columns of this paper I want to express my innocence to one and all. My name and liberty are being taken unjustly. I say 'my life,' because my physical health is not good and I will never live to serve fifteen years of hard labor. I say to Mr. Shuford, who caused me to suffer this unjust punishment of being held more than one hundred days in jail before my trial, and to be taken away from my dear

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OFFICIALS STAND PAT ON ACTION

Large Delegation Failed to get County Home Demonstrator Retained

Representative groups from the various civic organizations and women's clubs of the town met with the county commissioners in session Monday afternoon for the purpose of bringing before these county officials the importance of retaining the office of county home demonstrator. The commissioners, however, decided not to rescind their former action, which abolishes the office of Home Demonstrator on April 1st.

The question of abolishing the office of county home demonstrator arose at the time the commissioners agreed to pay their proportionate part in securing the services of a full time county health officer, stating that lack of funds would not permit the operation of both offices, thus necessitating a curtailment of expenses by doing away with the office of home demonstrator.

Miss Martha Creighton, of Charlotte, representing the state home demonstrator Monday and presented convincing facts relative to the necessity of retaining the home demonstrator for Transylvania county, telling of the value of the work to the 400 girls in various sections of the county who are now engaged in club work, and of the real loss to them in being forced to discontinue it. She also pointed out the fact to those present that the state pays \$1200 toward the salary of a county home demonstrator, while the remaining \$1000 is met by the county of which amount \$600 is paid by the board of Commissioners and \$400 by the board of education. She further stated that if this county did not see fit to meet this financial offer from the state with a proportionate amount that other counties were waiting and eager to do so in the establishing of home demonstration work.

Representatives from the various federated clubs and civic organizations of the town appealed to the commissioners on this occasion in behalf of continuing the services of the home demonstrator, all stressing the importance of this office in the life of the community and of the value of the work to the hundreds of girls throughout the county, and recounting many of the good results already accomplished in the work.

These talks were followed by short statements from the three commissioners, giving as their main reason for feeling their inability to continue the home demonstration work that of lack of funds, and also that many prominent citizens and tax payers in the county had expressed themselves as in favor of discontinuing this work.

Those speaking in behalf of the different organizations follow: Mrs. O. L. Erwin, Woman's Bureau; Mrs. H. C. Ranson, Mathatiasian club; Mrs. T. H. Shipman, Wednesday club; Mrs. J. E. Zachary, Fortnightly club; Miss Florence Kern, D. A. R.; Mrs. Beulah Zachary, U. D. C.; Jerry Jerome and Ralph Fisher, I. W. O. club; H. A. Plummer and R. W. Everett, Chamber of Commerce; James F. Barrett, of The Brevard News. Three or more representatives from each organization were present at this meeting, making a group of at least 20 prominent men and women who thus showed their interest in the continuance of this work.

Thos. H. Shipman



Banker Shows Way to Greater Progress and Prosperity in County by Feeding Corn to Hogs and Selling Meat instead of Corn.

BREVARD BANK WILL FINANCE FARMERS WHO WILL HELP STOCK COUNTY WITH HOGS

"Say, I'll tell you what. Let's turn our corn crop into bacon, which will increase the income for the farmers and at the same time give them a more steady market and decreased expense in moving the products of their farm."

It was Mr. Thos. H. Shipman speaking to the editor of The Brevard News. Mr. Shipman is that rare combination of banker, booster and community builder, whose conservatism is bounded only by the lines of safety, and whose progressiveness reaches just as far, and no farther, than common sense and sound judgment dictate. Mr. Shipman has given much thought to the progress of Brevard and Transylvania county, and is always interested in any movement that means a better living and more money for the farmers of his county. Continuing Mr. Shipman said:

"Every year this county has an over-supply of corn for the local market, and not enough for large shipments to foreign markets. I have taken this matter up with the officials of The Brevard Banking company, and we have thoroughly

HEALTH OFFICER ALEXANDER LEAVES BUSY FIRST DAY ON FLORIDA TRIP

Dr. S. E. Buchanan, recently employed as county health officer, arrived in Brevard Tuesday morning to begin his work. If the first day's activities here are to be taken as any indication of the work to be done by him, then Dr. Buchanan will be one busy man in the future.

A call was awaiting Dr. Buchanan upon his arrival to come to Gloucester. It was reported that one man in that community is suffering from smallpox, and the community wanted to take all precautions against the spread of the hateful disease. Dr. Buchanan vaccinated forty people in the Gloucester community during his first day's work, and in addition to that, examined a lady in another part of the county, recommended that she be taken to the state hospital at Morganton, called Morganton officials and made arrangements for the woman's entrance into the state institution.

Dr. Buchanan, in talking with The News, paid a glowing tribute to the people of Gloucester, and to the natural beauty of that section. "Never in my life have I seen more wondrous natural beauty than that great community up there," Dr. Buchanan said, "and as to the people, they're simply fine. Nowhere in the state can be found a finer set of boys and girls, nor those with greater promises for the future. When the children I saw in the Silverston school," the doctor continued.

As yet no officers have been secured for Dr. Buchanan, but the authorities are busy preparing a place for him. In the meantime the county doctor, Dr. S. E. Buchanan will be assisted in his work at either of the following places: The Brevard News office, or the office of the county

EIGHT AND THREE YEARS IN PRISON IN CONTROVERSY OVER TWO OFFICES

For Edens and Lynch, Respectively, for Murder of John Chapman—A Hard Fought Case

APPEALS TAKEN AND BOND BY BOTH MEN GIVEN

Hamlin & Kimzey and Coleman Gal-loway Assisted Solicitor—Defense had Strong Counsel

R. A. Edens and Carl Lynch were found guilty of murder in the second degree in superior court last week in connection with the death of John Chapman. A sentence of from 8 to 15 years was imposed on Edens, and one of from 3 to 5 years was given Lynch. Notice of appeal to the supreme court was given and bond was set in the sum of \$8,000 for Edens and \$4,000 for Lynch, both bonds being made.

The night in which Chapman received what was alleged to be the fatal blow occurred on September 27 in Transylvania county while Edens, Lynch and Chapman were together in an automobile. According to testimony of Edens, all three were on the front seat of the car, with Lynch driving, Chapman in the middle and Edens on the right end of the seat. Chapman grabbed the steering wheel and caused the car to take a zig-zag course. Edens asked him not to do it and an argument ensued. The car was stopped and Edens claims that Chapman endeavored to cut him with a pocket knife. In warding off the blow Edens claims he received a wound in the palm of his left hand, but claimed further that he succeeded in taking the knife away from Chapman, who then got out of the car and stooped to pick up a rock with which he said, according to Edens's testimony, that he would burst Edens's head. Edens claimed he closed the blade of the knife and struck Chapman a blow in the head with the end of the pocket knife.

It will be recalled that Chapman claimed before his death, which occurred about a month after the fight, that Edens and Lynch attacked him, beat him into insensibility, threw his body in a sink hole, covered it with brush and left him

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THE PRAYER CORNER

FAMILY PRAYER

Family prayer deepens the sense of the nearness and goodness of God. It heightens every joy and elevates every desire, relieves the loneliness of life and brings strength to bear its burdens. Family prayer does all this. It unites more closely husband and wife, parent and children, brothers and sisters. It strengthens the union of each with the other, and tends to blend their separate lives into a harmonious whole.

Home religion is as important as personal religion, and is essential to it, and yet there is no part of practical religion so woefully disregarded. Family prayer is rare even among those who are earnest in church work. How seldom is the family gathered at morning or evening to hear the father, or the mother (if the father is not living) read God's word—and lead in prayer.

The reason why there are so many family quarrels, wandering children, divorces and trouble with servants is that there is so little practical religion in the home.

The early Christians counted God as always with them. The apostle wrote of "The Church which is thine house." The relationship of parents and children grow pure and dear, when they all kneel together and ask the peace of God to rest in their home.

Through the whole community the influences of a Christian home spreads. The home seems purer, the birds sing more sweetly, the flowers bloom more radiantly, joy sings its anthem in such a home as it sings in no other place.

A PRAYER FOR FAMILY PRAYER

Eternal Holy Almighty Father, we come, in the name and spirit of Jesus, to make our will one with Thine; to abandon our lonely and selfish walk for solemn communion with Thee; to put an end to sin by welcoming to our hearts THE HOLY PRESENCE. Deeper than we have known, enter Thou maker of our souls, cleaner than we have ever seen, dawn Thy glory on our sight. Light the flame upon the altar, call for the incense, and manifest Thyself to all.

Dear Christ bless the homes of Thy people. Come and be our guest as Thou hast never been, for where Thou art there must be peace. Help us to make our homes sanctuaries, where Thou art lovingly worshipped. Make their influence felt, that men and women may be better when they come under our roof. And let all the sweet and tender things centre there.

We ask not for wealth or ease or freedom from sorrow for ourselves but only for that faith which endures and that common affection that will not die. And then we know that our home here shall at last be transferred yonder, and made bright by the Eternal Sun of Righteousness, Amen.

—C. D. C.

Sheriff Sittou Ordered to Give Up Tax Books—Amendment to Original Law is Passed

CLAIMS HE IS ENTITLED TO COLLECT 1926 TAXES

Sections of Law Given as Information to Readers and Tax-payers—May go to Court

Another step was taken Monday in the controversy over the office of tax collector in Transylvania county when Sheriff B. J. Sittou received an order from the county commissioners mandating the tax list and the tax books. This action was in response to the receipt by the commissioners of an order from the state in the name of the sheriff, dated in the legislature by Representative J. J. Wilson in the 1925 law creating the office of tax collector. Up to the hour of going to press Sheriff Sittou had not complied with the order of the commissioners and it was anticipated by some of his friends that he would not surrender the tax books. Let us see what the fiscal year will be ordered to do so by the court.

Ever since Transylvania county was organized the sheriff has filled the dual position of being peace officer and the tax collector. It was customary for the retiring sheriff to collect the taxes until the end of the fiscal year on October 1.

The 1925 legislature passed a law separating these two offices and creating the office of tax collector. Following are sections of that law relating to the creation of this office.

Bill Creating office of Tax Collector:

"That at the next general election of the year 1926 there shall be nominated and elected a tax collector for Transylvania county, whose duty it shall be to collect all taxes, both special privilege taxes and all other taxes levied by the state or county on all taxable property or professions in Transylvania county from and after December 1, 1926.

"That all the duties, powers and privileges, heretofore and now vested in the Sheriff of Transylvania county, as tax collector for said county, for the purpose of collecting taxes of all kinds, shall be passed to, and devolve upon such tax collector and it shall be his duty to diligently and faithfully collect and account for all the taxes of every kind, and for every purpose for which levies may be made, whether by the county or the state authorities, beginning December 1, 1926.

As a companion bill to the above the following section relating to the duties of the sheriff are taken from the 1925 law:

INSERT 2

As to the Sheriff

"The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

"Section One. That the sheriff of Transylvania County shall, from and after December 1, 1926, receive a salary of \$2400 and in addition thereto for the purpose of employing deputy sheriffs, shall receive the

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MAD DOG MENACE BRINGS ACTION

Considerable excitement was caused on the streets of Brevard last Friday at the appearance of a mad dog, which had apparently come up over the mountains from South Carolina, traveling at a rapid rate of speed and reaching Brevard about eight o'clock that morning. Racing madly through the streets of the town, about 14 dogs were bitten. It is said, and finally the rabid animal was captured and shot to death on the tracks near the Southern Railway depot by a young boy living in the cotton mill district.

Those owning dogs which are supposed to have been bitten by the mad dog have had them killed or put under treatment, it is understood.

The board of aldermen at its meeting Monday night, passed an ordinance regarding the immediate confinement of all dogs, and any person or persons violating said ordinance will be subject to a heavy fine. Following is the ordinance concerning the matter:

AN ORDINANCE

Be it ordained by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Brevard.

Section 1. That all persons residing in the Corporate limits of the town of Brevard are required to keep up and confine his or her dog or dogs for a period of sixty days from the ratification of this ordinance.

Section 2. That no person or persons are permitted to allow his or her dog or dogs to run at large in the town of Brevard for a period of sixty days from the ratification of this ordinance.

Section 3. That any person or persons violating any of the provisions of the ordinance shall be fined not less than five dollars nor more than fifty dollars or imprisoned not less than two days nor more than thirty days.

U. H. PATTON, City Clerk.

This the 7th day of Feb. 1927.