

THE PAPER OF THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE AND WITH THE PEOPLE

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A DISGRACEFUL RIOT.

Worshippers at Yaddin College Colored Church Harassed by Toughs and Tigers.

One of the most disgraceful occurrences of recent years was enacted at Yaddin College Sunday. Perhaps two thousand colored people had gathered at that place for the annual "big meeting." There were colored folks there from all parts of the county and from Forsyth and Davie counties. Lexington's colored population, men, women and children, turned out in a body and every wagon, hack and buggy in the city livery stables was pressed into service. The crowds began to move from Lexington early Sunday morning and by ten o'clock the only negroes left in town were a few boot-blacks around the post office. They were here because they did not have the "prices" to secure a team and were too lazy to walk.

The meeting was at the Yaddin Star Baptist church. From all accounts the services went well during the morning hours. There was much enthusiasm and all of the good sisters and brethren shouted long and loud. At noon the crowd spread out through the pines and there was evidence of a plenty that much blinding tiger liquor was on hand. The negroes say that the most of the liquor was sold by white men, who had negro runners. Among the white men mentioned as being present were two Lexington tigers and two from Tyro. One Lexington colored man was also named as a dispenser of firewater.

As the liquor began to get in its deadly work, trouble began. All over the grounds little scraps were in progress. Dave Hoover, one of the best negro farmers in the county but a terror when he gets enough booze in him, decided that it was his business to keep the peace and from his hip pocket he drew a big gun. His sober friends remonstrated with him, but he declared that "these here niggers is rough and I got to be rough too." He was rough. In pursuance of what he thought to be his duties he entered the church house along about the middle of the afternoon, called for a clean house and got it. The minister who was holding forth at that particular moment gave one terrified look at Dave and "joined" the big gang, to use an old expression. He stood upon the order of his going, but departed through a window, taking the sash and a few lights along with him. Half a dozen devils and other occupants of the Amen corner followed suit so rapidly that the reverend gentleman was unable to rise from the ground where he lit in anything like a suitable length of time, but when he did get himself untangled from the pile he broke the speed laws.

No one knows just what sort of change had come over the spirit of Dave's dream. At the morning service he was full of booze, but was as gentle as a cooling dove. He even got happy and joined with the pillars of the church in shouting and no one had more religion than he. At the afternoon intermission he must have mixed brands, for he was crazy drunk during the rest of the performance.

Outside the church, things were happening mighty fast. The Curry boys, well-known Lexington negroes, were having no end of trouble. Jess got in trouble with "Poss" Scott and was badly bruised and beaten. Ben Curry came to his rescue, but when he was put out of commission with a loaded buggy whip, Lee Curry ran up and butted into the fight, but was no match for the scrapper. He was knocked down and hurt badly, and when he was able to rise to his feet he ran. "Poss" drew a gun and shot at the fleeing man as he ran across an open field.

Enter George Welborn. Up to this moment Lexington's popular colored barber had taken no part in the performance. He helped to separate the two scraggers before the shooting began and as Curry ran he said to "Poss": "Don't shoot at the boy. You have hurt him bad enough." Poss then turned his attention to George, snapping his pistol at him twice. Luckily it did not fire and right at the psychological moment, however, when attracted his attention and he turned his gun in another direction, firing three times. In the melee two horses belonging to Mr. J. F. Hedrick, the liveryman, were shot, one being shot in the mouth and the other through the head, just under the eyes. Another horse, the property of Hayworth & McMillan, was shot in the left hind foot, the ball lodging in the bone of the foot. It is believed that this horse will not recover from the injury, but the other two will probably be all right in a few weeks.

Many amusing stories are told by the colored people. George Welborn coming in for the lion's share of them, for George is good natured and easy-going and the very idea of his getting a real scare on himself one time in his life is amusing. George admits that he ran and that the only reason he ran was that he couldn't fly. He sees nothing funny about the business at all and can't see why so many people are laughing about it. It was a close call for him.

IMPORTANT FAIR MEETING.

Heads of Committee Will Meet Thursday Night—Time for Active Work is Here.

If the Davidson County Fair is to be a success—and it is—active work must be begun at once and kept up until the fair is over. It is scheduled for November 8-9-10, now less than two months off, and it takes time to arrange the thousand and one details of a big fair. The fair last year was an eye-opener to the people of Davidson county and this year it is going to be twice as big.

In the matter of securing the \$250 appropriation from the state, action is necessary right now. The full list of premiums must be made out and submitted to the state department of agriculture, so that the list may be approved. This is absolutely essential, if we are to get the big appropriation from the state.

The heads of the various departments, including the general directors and the chairmen of the various committees, are requested to meet Thursday night in the law offices of Mr. J. J. Sprall in the rear of the court house. Every official of the fair is urged to be present, without exception, and the meeting will begin promptly at 8 o'clock.

The following are the heads of the various departments: Bankers, Merchants and Manufacturers Day, Mr. D. F. Conrad, general director; Mr. George W. Montcastle, chairman of the bankers committee; Mr. J. T. Hedrick, chairman of the merchants committee; Mr. L. J. Peacock, chairman of the manufacturers committee.

Educational Department, Mr. P. S. Vann, general director; Prof. A. H. Jarratt, chairman of educational committee. Farmers Department, Mr. Wesley C. Wilson, general director; Mr. Walter C. Fitzgerald, chairman of farmers committee. Poultry Department, Mr. J. R. McCrary, general director; Mr. Charles E. McCrary, chairman of poultry committee.

In addition to these heads of departments and committees, every individual member of the various committees is urged to attend. The meeting will be a very important one in every respect.

A Hard Luck Story. Mr. Cecil A. Little, the rural carrier on route 4, has been a shining mark for hard luck for more than a week. He has lately acquired a pair of wild, western ponies which he intends to use on his route if he can manage to break them without breaking his own neck and up to the present writing he has come about as close to breaking his neck as he has come to breaking the ponies, if not a little closer. Wrenched arms, blistered hands and numerous bruises have been his portion. About a week ago, while trying to ride one of the unmanageable, he lost a valuable fountain pen. This was followed by the loss of a pocket knife, representing an outlay of one "bone." An empty pocket book and a number of other articles took their flight one by one. The last to go was his Elgin watch, the pride of his heart. It was one of the 7-jeweled variety, enclosed in a gold plated case warranted to wear for a quarter of a century. It is believed that he will be willing to give to the man who finds and returns this treasure, either, or both of the ponies.

Southbound Buys Ball Mountain. Deeds were made Monday for Ball Mountain, transferring that great mass of granite to the Southbound railroad for the sum of \$12,000. This mountain was the property of Messrs. J. D. Redwine, John G. Surratt and J. E. Smith and Mrs. Anderson Cole. Mrs. Cole and Mr. Redwine owned a third interest together and Messrs. Surratt and Smith owned one-third each. The Southbound has had an option on the property for some time and Monday took up the option, paying cash for the property. Arrangements are already being made for the quarrying of the granite at Newsome for ballast along the line of the Southbound. Mr. N. H. Newsome, of Newsome, who was in the city Monday, said that ten years ago he sold one-third interest in Ball Mountain to Mr. J. E. Smith for \$400, the same interest that Mr. Smith sold Monday for \$4,000.

SCHOOL OPENED MONDAY.

Nice Gain in Enrollment—The Numbers in the Various Grades—Art Department.

The American flag climbed to the top of the flag pole on the graded school building Monday morning and about eight o'clock the old bell rang again, calling more than five hundred youthful Lexingtonians to school. The New York Globe in a striking parody on Gray's "Elegy in a country churchyard," expresses admirably a few of the emotions felt by parents, pupils and others, in the following:

The school bell tolls the knell of starting school, The groaning herd winds slowly down the street; The kids return to table and to rule, And leave the outside world in silence sweet. Now fade their cries and shouts from out the air, In our back yard a calm and stillness reigns; We sigh with joy to greet this respite rare, And thank our stars that school's begun again.

Sad rests his head upon his desk of wood, The lad from whom the joys of life have flown; His teacher frowns and warns him to be good, And melancholy marks him for her own. Not all of the kids went unwillingly. The majority of them were the brightest of faces and were as happy as larks. They were assembled in the big auditorium of the graded school and short addresses were made by Rev. A. L. Stanford, Superintendent Jarratt and others. When the rush and hurry was over and quiet had settled down, Superintendent Jarratt "took stock" and found that he had on his hands 573 children. This beats last year's record for the first day by 37. They were divided up as follows:

First Grade, Miss Johnson teacher, 134; Second grade, Mrs. Walker, 70; Third grade, Miss Ida Hedrick, 52; Fourth grade, Miss Sheets, 40; Fifth grade, Mrs. Wade H. Phillips, 31 and Miss McCrary, 21; Sixth grade, Miss Hutchinson, 33 and Mrs. H. S. Radcliffe, 28; Seventh grade, Miss Beryl, 32 and Miss Zula Hedrick, 25; Eighth grade, Mrs. Turnley, 44; Ninth grade, Miss Price, 21; Tenth grade, Miss Love, 18; Eleventh grade, Miss Hill, 14.

The music department will be in charge of Miss Louise Hill, who takes the place of Professor Wolf. An art class will be taught by Miss Douglas Thompson, of Atlanta, Ga., who is now organizing a class. Miss Thompson is a finished art teacher and will doubtless secure a large class. The colored graded school opened yesterday morning with an enrollment of 126, a slight decrease from the first day enrollment of last year.

Fire Companies in Fine Shape. Fire companies No. 1 and No. 2 held very successful practices Thursday and Friday nights. The boys showed unexpected quickness in covering ground and making connection at the hydrants. Company No. 1 ran one block, coupled up at the hydrant and was throwing water in three quarters of a minute. Company No. 2 ran four blocks made the connection and got water going in three and one half minutes. In almost every case the connection was made with out mishap, the men working like a machine. Once, however, in front of the court house Friday night the nozzle man failed to do his part at the proper moment and half a dozen of the charter members of the Sons of Rest, reclining on one of the long seats, which they occupy from early morning until midnight, were rudely disturbed. These leisurely gentlemen rarely move hurriedly, and their sudden departure from the scene caused so much excitement that the Socialist meeting, which was going on inside the courthouse, was almost broken up.

Business News Notes. The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, of Winston-Salem, offers steady employment to white women, girls and boys in their smoking tobacco department. See the ad. Time to think seriously about that new suit. See R. C. Upchurch's new ad in this issue. Charles R. Thomas, the druggist, is running a special sale on the famous Burdock Tonic Compound. Sale closes October 7th, which is "Everybody's Day." J. B. Smith, "The Old Reliable," talks tooth wisdom this week in his ad. See what he has to say and watch for his ad next week. Shepard & Son advertise this week a handsome and tailored waist, regular price \$1.50, on sale on Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, for only 98 cents. Read their ad. Owen & Burckhead, successors of Brantley Finch, advertise this week their extra fine line of fertilizers. They are cheaper than ever. The Lexington House Furnishing Company, the "House of Quality," invites you to come and look over their great stock. It is hard to beat. Read their ad. The Davidson Hardware Company advertises this week the famous Rodrick-Lean reversible disc harrow. It is a wonder. Read the ad. The Fred Thompson Company may be depended on to keep up with the procession if not a little ahead. They advertise this week their line of fall and winter goods. Dr. McCulloch, the eye specialist has a new ad in this issue.

Bob Hayes, a colored blind tiger, already under bond to appear at the February term of criminal court, is selling whiskey to certain members of the Florida Cotton Blossoms, a negro opera troupe, was arrested yesterday on a similar charge.

IN AND ABOUT LEXINGTON.

Personal Mention—Movements of the People—Small Items of Interest.

Mr. J. E. Foy returned Saturday evening from Enfield, Ala. Mr. H. B. Varner went to Troy Monday to make a good roads talk. Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Grimes, of Salisbury, spent Sunday in the city. Miss Zula Miller visited friends in Statesville last week. Mr. J. A. Lindsay and little daughter, Arline, went to Thomasville Sunday.

Miss Elizabeth Hutchinson left last week for Greensboro Female College. Mr. Robert Noell, of Roxboro, spent Saturday and Sunday here visiting friends. Mr. M. L. Fowler, of Washington, D. C., is here visiting his mother, Mrs. Mary Fowler. Mr. Percy V. Critcher, attorney at law, went to Williamston last week to visit relatives.

Miss Pattie Walagr left last week for Raleigh to take up her work at Peace Institute. Miss Maude Grimes left this week for Randolph Macon Woman's College at Lynchburg, Va. Miss Elizabeth Nicholls, of Muskogee, Okla., is here visiting her sister Mrs. George L. Hackney. Mrs. W. G. Upchurch, of Jacksonville, Fla., is visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Hankins. Miss Louise Beeson left Thursday for Peace Institute, Raleigh, to begin her first year of college work.

Mr. D. F. Conrad is in Asheville at the meeting of the North Carolina Postmasters' Association. Mrs. N. E. Jordan and daughter, Miss Elsie Jordan, of Greensboro, are here visiting Mrs. T. E. McCrary. Miss Alice Hutchinson has gone to Hopkiah, Ga., to accept a position in the graded school of that town. Mr. Paul Smeiz, who has been visiting his uncle, Mr. J. V. Phillips, has returned to his home at Hopedale, Ill. Messrs. Frank Curry and Oscar Rothrock left yesterday for Lancaster, Pa., where they enter a business college.

Mr. J. W. Robertson, who has been at Burlington for several days visiting relatives, returned home yesterday. Mrs. S. L. Owen and Mrs. J. D. Grimes, went to Chatham county last week to attend the funeral of Mr. Andrew Headen. Rev. R. M. Courtney, pastor of the M. E. church of Thomasville, was in the city yesterday enroute to Winston-Salem. Miss Maude Kirkman, of Mount Vernon Springs, is here to spend the fall and winter with her sister, Mrs. James H. Alexander. Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Petty, of Charlotte, spent Saturday and Sunday in the city as the guests of Mr. E. I. Bugg, of Hotel March.

Mrs. Earl Holmes and daughter, Christine, of Lexington, and Mrs. M. R. Shoaf, of Bethany, visited relatives in Greensboro last week. Rev. A. L. Stanford, pastor of the First Methodist church, went to Winston-Salem Monday to visit his brother, who has been ill for sometime. Mr. E. I. Bugg, manager of Hotel March, returned last week from Cincinnati, St. Louis and Chicago. He had a delightful time while away. Mrs. D. A. Leonard returned last week from Mt. Jackson, Va., where she has been spending several months with her daughter, Mrs. A. R. Beck. Mrs. S. A. Everett, of Murfreesboro, mother of Dr. J. B. Everett, formerly a dentist here, arrived here Sunday to visit Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Vann. Mr. Frank Hill, accompanied by his uncle, Dr. David J. Hill, left Monday for Blackburg, Va., where he will enter the Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Mr. Junius Smith, of Charlotte, was a visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Finch last week, enroute to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Ponry and daughter, Elizabeth, returned last week from a delightful visit to Atlantic City, New York and other points in the north. Messrs. Pearl Elliott and D. B. Thompson, of Lilac, were here last week on their way home from a business trip to Washington, Baltimore and New York. Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Deaderick and children have been visiting relatives at Clarksville, Tenn. Mr. Deaderick returned to the city yesterday and Mrs. Deaderick went to Arkansas to spend a month with relatives. Mr. R. W. Conrad who was carried to the Charlotte Sanatorium recently for an operation, returned to the city Saturday, greatly improved in health. The operation was successful and he is on the road to health again.

Mr. Ralph Moffitt has returned home from Guilford College. He had a severe spell of typhoid last summer and does not seem to have entirely recovered from it. He is not yet strong enough to take up regular work at college and will probably wait another year to enter. Mr. E. D. Lewis, the contractor, who has been a citizen of Lexington for a little more than a year, will move his family next week to Christiansburg, Va., where he will go into business. Mr. Lewis and his family have made many friends in Lexington who will regret very much to see them leave. Rev. J. F. Deal, of Holly Grove, left yesterday morning for Shenandoah, Va., where he will attend the meeting

ATTEMPT AT BLACKHAND.

Salisbury Officers Too Much for Amateur Blackhand—Caught With the Goods.

Under a warrant sworn out by Postoffice Inspector Bulla, Charles F. Stewart, a well known young Salisbury, was jailed at Salisbury Friday night charged with using the mails for fraudulent purposes, and is being held under a bond of \$1,000 for trial. The affair caused a sensation on account of the circumstances leading to the arrest. It is stated that W. F. Sulder, cashier of the Wachovia Bank and Trust Company in Salisbury, a leading business man of that city, had received a number of black hand letters during the past two weeks. In these letters a large sum of money was demanded under threats of death. No attention was given the demands until the last one came demanding that Mr. Sulder appear at 9 p. m., September 15, at a certain bridge near Salisbury, that he carry a white flag over his head and proceed along a road until a bell should ring. At this place he was to find a bag into which he should place the money. Sheriff McKinzie, Deputy J. R. Cruise, Inspector Bulla and a number of officers lined the road Friday night and Deputy Frank Tolbert carried the flag as demanded until he found a bag. To the bag was attached a string which the officer followed to a point on the yard of Stewart, who, it is said, was found holding the other end. He was taken by the officers and jailed to await trial. He claims to have been alone in the plan to rob the banker. The officers believe the evidence to be conclusive. Stewart is of a good family and was well known in Salisbury. Stewart gave bond for \$1,000 and was released. Mr. Sulder, the man he was trying to rob, going on his bond. Mr. Sulder took this action because Stewart is a cripple and is almost entirely helpless.

Bring Suit Against Southern. Messrs. R. F. Chitty and C. L. Helms, two of Lexington's traveling men, have brought suit against the Southern Railway Company for damages real and imaginary resulting from being carried through the city last week on train No. 38 at a speed that made flying leaps from car steps extremely hazardous. The two were coming from Hendersonville, in the far southwest, and their train was late. They failed to catch No. 12 in Salisbury and the only train left for them was No. 38. Despite the fact that they had tickets for Lexington the conductor proved obtuse and stony-hearted, and refused to stop. They were carried straight through "home sweet home" and they refuse to be comforted, save by substantial piles of Southern Railway coin. Summons has been issued in both cases, but it is not known what amount of damages will be asked for.

Cutting Scrape in Randolph. A dispatch from Asheboro, dated the 18th, had the following story: The Southern Railway Company, southwest from this city, Arthur Robbins was badly slashed and stabbed by Calvin Davidson, a neighbor. Robbins will probably die from his wounds, as he was cut on both sides of the neck, on the back and chest, and stabbed in the abdomen. Davidson has evaded arrest so far, but will probably be overhauled by the officers soon. Both parties are young, hard-working white men. Swift Justice for Negro Brute. George Marshall, a Warren county negro, committing a criminal assault on Mrs. J. E. Chapman, the wife of a farmer living fourteen miles from Warrenton, Saturday afternoon. Monday morning he was arraigned in the superior court and his trial began Monday afternoon. It is expected that the case will be finished and the negro sentenced today. There was some talk of a lynching-see, but it failed to materialize. The crime was a very atrocious one and deserves death. David Settle Kills Negro. David Settle, a son of the late Judge Settle and a brother of Hon. Thomas Settle, was arrested Friday on the charge of killing a negro farm hand on his place five miles from Greensboro, near the Battle Ground. Settle was carried to Greensboro, but was not locked up. He was kept in the McAdoo hotel until bond was arranged. He is a disappointed fellow, given to boozing, and is dangerous when full. Mr. Settle and the negro were both drinking heavily Friday evening before the shooting. The fatal shot was fired about 9:30 Friday night and there were no witnesses. Bond was fixed at \$2500, which he gave readily.

of the Tennessee Lutheran Synod. He expects to be gone two weeks and while away will visit a brother-in-law at Timberville, Va. Mrs. Deal will visit friends in Landis and Salisbury during his absence. The synod convenes today. Mr. George Bulla Craven, of the Wilmington Star, spent part of last week here with his brother, Mr. E. B. Craven. He has been very ill for a week but felt able to return to his work Sunday afternoon. He is telegraph editor of the Wilmington Star. Mr. C. A. Hedrick, of Silver Hill township, was a caller at The Dispatch office yesterday. Mr. Hedrick told The Dispatch man an unusual stalk of corn which he has on his place. The stalk forks a few joints from the ground and has two ears of corn, one on each stalk. He said that he intends to bring it to the fair.

Mr. Ermine Platt, ministerial student at Catawba College, preached in the First Reformed church last Sunday at both services, and addressed the Sunday school at the chapel in the afternoon. The sermons of Mr. Platt were greatly enjoyed by large congregations. His parents live in Greensboro, and he is a senior at Catawba College, Newton. Mr. Claude A. Deal, of Landis, representing the Carolina Poultry Supply Company, was in the city Saturday

NO ARRESTS MADE.

Hendersonville Tragedy No Nearer Solution Than When Crime Was First Discovered.

The Dispatch last week carried a short story of the murder of Myrtle Hawkins, a seventeen-year-old Hendersonville girl, whose dead body was found in Lake Osceola Sunday morning, September 10th. On Thursday, September 14th she disappeared from home. Coroner's inquests have been held day after day, the case has been closed once, the jury deciding that she came to her death by the hands of unknown parties, only to be reopened again when the news got out that she had died as the result of a criminal operation.

The following extract from the Charlotte Observer's story yesterday is a fair sample of the sort of progress that has been made during the past ten days: The coroner's investigation into the death of pretty Myrtle Hawkins was resumed at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon only to be again adjourned without any arrests or other definite action taken. The authorities are now no nearer the solution to the mystery than they were at the beginning of the inquest, and if the evidence of this afternoon is indicative of the outcome, the case looks gloomy for the state. It is probable, however, that in anticipation of an early arrest before closing the hearing. Five or six persons are suspected of having been connected with the young girl's death. Among them is George Bradley, who had been intimate with the dead girl for a long time, even after his marriage which occurred a few months ago. The Hawkins girl was engaged to young man of Johnson City, Tenn., who was able to show that he was in no way connected with the case. Mrs. Beatrice McCall, her husband and other members of her family and a trained nurse of Atlanta, Ga., are all believed to know how the girl came to her death, but up to the hour of going to press, no arrests have been made.

Fire Does Much Damage in Greensboro. Fire in Greensboro at an early hour Sunday morning baffled for a time the efforts of the firemen and did \$25,000 damage to a business house on South Elm street owned by John R. Cashion and the stock of goods in it owned by Morris Stadler, a dealer in men's clothing. The fire was discovered at 1 o'clock by two young men who were near the store. They saw smoke issuing from the top of the building and immediately turned in an alarm. The firemen responded promptly but found the flames between the ceiling and the roof and for a long while they could not get to the fire. After about an hour and a half's fighting they had the blaze under control, having prevented the flames from being communicated to any other building. The clothing stock was badly damaged by smoke and water. The building is valued at \$25,000 and is partially insured. The clothing stock is valued at \$22,500, with \$10,000 insurance. Some damage also was done to Greensboro Supply Company.

Paid \$200 for Licking an Editor. The one case for trial here last week that attracted much attention and was of most interest generally, was that of J. F. Click against Prof. G. T. Heafner, county superintendent of public schools. In this case Editor Click had sued Professor Heafner for damage for an assault. Professor Heafner felt aggrieved at the editor on account of certain editorials appearing in the Times, written by Mr. Click during the campaign of 1910. The irate professor came out from Crouse, took the law into his own hands and "licked the editor." He was tried on a warrant before M. C. Padgett, J. P., who fined him one cent. Mr. Click then instituted civil suit for damages. The trial was begun at the April term but a mistrial was had on account of the defendant talking with one of the jurors during the trial. During last week a compromise was reached, the defendant paying Mr. Click \$200 and all the costs of the suit.—Lincoln Times.

Nine Killed in Auto Accident. Nine persons were killed and fourteen others seriously injured as a result of an accident in the fifty mile automobile race at the state fair track at Syracuse, N. Y., Saturday afternoon. A Knox racing car driven by Lee Oldfield crashed through the fence on the turn after leaving the stretch in front of the grandstand and ploughed for some distance into the crowd, causing the casualties. Oldfield was not seriously hurt. The blowing of the tire on Oldfield's machine was responsible for the accident.

Mars Hill Votes Bonds. A message from Mars Hill received yesterday by Mr. H. B. Varner, president of the Central Highway Association, contained the following very interesting statement: "Mars Hill township today (Sept. 15) voted \$10,000 of bonds for a road through our township, the first link of the Central Highway in Madison county. The vote stood 102 for and 1 against. This means a first-class road from here to Asheville." The card was signed by Mr. R. L. Moore, of Mars Hill.

While driving to the mines of the Superior Coal Company near Pittsburg Saturday, with the semi-monthly pay for the miners, David Steen was shot and instantly killed by highwaymen. His father, William J. Steen, who was in the buggy with him, caught the body of his son as it tumbled over. The money, \$3,400, was saved.

Mr. Claude A. Deal, of Landis, representing the Carolina Poultry Supply Company, was in the city Saturday

MEETING OF THE BACK HOMERS.

State Organization Perfected at Charlotte Last Week—What Movement Means.

Mr. H. B. Varner attended the meeting of newspaper men held in Charlotte Tuesday night last week for the purpose of launching a great, state-wide "back home movement." Twenty five or thirty of the leading newspapers of the state were represented and the meeting was full of interest. The objects of the back home movement and the organization perfected to back it, were enumerated by the speakers as follows: 1. It will put the agricultural and other advantages of the state squarely before those of the west or elsewhere through the agency of North Carolina people, both at home and abroad. 2. It is a personal and public campaign in opposition to the withdrawals of our people by the western and Canadian railroads. 3. It is an appeal to one of the strongest natural impulses of human beings, and, therefore, a flank movement in our contest with the western states and Canada. 4. It will bring many persons into this state, both its former citizens and others who, through their influence, have been led to investigate its advantages. 5. It is the basis for federating all the state organizations in the common cause of immigration—selected immigration, and bringing them into active co-operation with the railroads. The name adopted for the organization was "The North Carolina Home-Makers Association." As outlined by Editor H. C. Dockery, of the Rockingham Post, the association is designed to bring people to North Carolina—not the riff-raff from abroad, but good American citizens, and to bring back the wayward sons and daughters who have left the state. North Carolina needs more farmers and there are millions of uncultivated acres waiting for them at reasonable prices. This organization will probably work through the chambers of commerce in the state and every county in the state should have one, and let the world know what they have to offer.

No Change in Railroad Assessments. From the following dispatch from Raleigh it appears that the many affidavits filed by the Southern and other railroads with the corporation commission did no good whatever: The corporation commission as the state tax commission refuses to grant the petition of the Southern, Seaboard Air Line and Atlantic Coast Line for reductions in tax assessments against their properties in this state as excessive compared with assessments of real estate, especially lands in many counties. The commission holds that its valuation of railroad property is on a "low value" basis required by the law and that if there are any changes they must be through raising the assessment of undervalued lands compared with that of the railroads. The commission explains that the fifty per cent increase in assessment against the Seaboard is because four years ago there was no raise when all the other roads were raised. The Seaboard then had a "hard line." Now the road is prospering and it is in a number of counties officers are under order to show cause September 20th why tax assessments in their counties should not be raised.

Boy Burns Sister to Death. Mooreville dispatch, 18th: The little 2-year-old child of E. G. Friday of this place was a victim to a malicious and horrible death Friday night, the facts of which have just been learned. The child and a 4-year-old brother were playing in the kitchen while the mother was ironing in an adjoining room. The boy secured a small stick and lighted it at the stove and then applied it to the little child's clothing. The little girl was burned from the waistband to the head and was a terrible sight. In the child's terror it inhaled the flames, which resulted in death. The boy, when asked why he set fire to his sister's clothing stated, "Just cause." The boy seems to have a mania for burning things, having applied a torch to the child's hair one day last winter and previously had set fire to the window curtains.

\$20,000 of Railroad Bonds. The Albemarle Enterprise of last week contains the following interesting item: "A phone message yesterday morning gives in the news that Furr township has voted \$20,000 railroad bonds, 169 voting for bonds and 13 against. Good for Furr! This is hoping that the Salisbury railway company will give to our western neighbor the railroad, which she justly deserves and needs."

Lucky Corn Growers. Those North Carolina farmers who have increased their production of corn are in luck, as well as are those farmers of the other southern states which within the past few days have decided to grow more corn and not so much cotton. They are in luck for the reason that the August report of the Agricultural Department indicates a corn crop of only 2,735,160,000 bushels compared with 3,325,713,000 bushels in 1910 when a record crop was made. The corn crop this year, therefore, will be shorter than last year's crop by nearly 400,000,000 bushels. If that is the case corn will be corn, so that North Carolina farmers who have good crops of corn will have good value in it. It will save them from sending good money west for corn and will keep their money at home, even if they do not raise a surplus to sell.—Wilmington Star.

Guy Crump respectable colored man, well known to nearly everybody in Lexington, died Wednesday night after a long illness. He was 55 years old and was known as a faithful, hard-working negro. The cause of his death was consumption.