

NEW OFFICERS OF DAVIDSON COUNTY ASSUME CONTROL

Dickens Welfare Officer and Burgin County Attorney

Despite the very unfavorable weather many people from various parts of the county came to Lexington Monday for the inauguration of the new set of county officers.

Sheriff Bruce Talbert announced the appointment of Charles W. Gilliam, of this city, as office deputy, and G. C. Loftin, of Thomasville, as jailer.

Clerk E. C. Byerly was not in position to announce his selection of deputy Monday but will make a choice within a short time, it is expected.

The board of county commissioners, composed of G. W. Smith, of Lexington, R. M. Stokes, of Alleghany, and J. Frank Cameron, of Denton, formally organized by electing Mr. Smith as chairman.

Gene Kirk, white, an ex-soldier and cook of Company A during its service in the world war, was elected custodian of the court house and will have the task of keeping the offices clean and warm and the plumbing in good condition.

Lee Crofts, of the Mount Taber section, was yesterday appointed as keeper of the county home, when the commissioners held a brief special session.

Major Wade H. Phillips is in Greensboro this week attending Federal court, where he is engaged in important litigation.

Complete Audit of County Offices Will Begin Soon

Under the direction of the State Auditor the firm of Scott & Charney, well known certified accountants of Charlotte, will make an audit of the books of Davidson County, it was learned yesterday.

When the work is completed it is expected that the audits or a summary of it giving the concrete information no doubt desired by most of the citizens of the county will be submitted or publication.

The audit is expected to show the approximate amount of fees coming in from every source, including the recorder's court, and it is hoped also, among other things, to show what the operation of the county home has been costing the county.

The new county officials, coming in after the commissioners have been of the opposite party for sixteen years, desire to start with a clean slate as it were and consider it necessary that there be a comprehensive audit, so that they may know from what point they are starting.

NEW RECORDER MEETS PUZZLER IN FIRST CASE

Recorder Olive had a bunch of diverse testimony to wade through in the first case that came before him. Rather it was eight cases all rolled into one that confronted him Monday morning as seven negroes lined up before the court to face the common charge of gambling by means of playing a little "skin" down in Floyd Davis' room Saturday night.

Davis and two others plead guilty, while four remaining defendants said "not guilty" and the whole bunch that went on the stand swore together on the matter. Saunders claimed he was asleep during the whole performance, although four policemen were able to hear loud arguments punctuated with oaths a hundred yards away.

DAVIDSON COUNTY COTTON CROP WILL BREAK RECORD Davidson County farmers have probably raised this year the largest crop of cotton in the history of the county, judging by the early ginning reports and the speed with which cotton has been ginned during the past few weeks.

During the past three weeks the gin here has been pushed to the limit, some days it being necessary for some of the wagons to return home and come again next morning.

MECHANICAL SOCIETY SUPPORTS STATE ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL With unanimous vote the Davidson County Medical Society in its December meeting here Monday afternoon passed a resolution requesting Hon. H. D. Townsend, representative to the Legislature from Davidson County, to lend his support to the aid of the North Carolina Orthopaedic Hospital at Gastonia in whatever bill might be offered for that purpose.

Dr. E. Y. Yakeley, of Thomasville, was elected president of the county society; Dr. J. A. Smith of Lexington, vice president, and Dr. D. R. Perry, county health officer, secretary. Dr. D. J. Hill, who for the past ten years or more has been chosen delegate to the State Medical Society, was again elected to this honor, with the provision that his office should be for life term.

SURETY COMPANY SEEKS TO REMOVE CASE BEGUN HERE

\$12,000 Case Over the Armfield and Griffith Surety Bonds

After signing an agreement under the laws of North Carolina that it would not seek to remove from the state courts any suits that might be brought against it, the National Surety Company, which signed the bonds of J. L. Armfield and Zed Griffith, president and cashier of the defunct Bank of Thomasville, has now filed a motion to remove a suit brought by Receiver Finch to collect bond money amounting to \$12,000 to the Federal Court, it is learned here.

Before a foreign company can do business in North Carolina, it is said, the law requires it to file with the State Insurance Commissioner a written agreement that it will not seek to remove actions brought against it to the Federal courts on the ground of diversity of citizenship of the parties at action. The companies entering the state for business under the same agreement are said to appoint certain representatives in North Carolina upon whom service may be had in actions brought against them.

However, it is understood now to be the contention of the surety company in question that the North Carolina law requiring the agreement of which they were a party is contrary to the Constitution of the United States. It is considered likely that the surety company will find some opposition to its motion for removal on the ground that it should have refused to sign the agreement on the grounds of unconstitutionality rather than to sign the agreement in apparent good faith and then to attack its own covenant afterward.

It is considered likely the matter will come to the attention of the State Insurance Department and that an interesting situation may be created by reason of the motion for removal, especially since the Legislature will meet in Raleigh in about four weeks. The suit in question had been started in the superior court of Davidson County for the purpose of collecting moneys alleged to be due the bank by the former president and cashier, for whom the surety company acted as bondsman.

ROAD SURFACE SOUTH OF CITY A THING OF JOY

That new hard surfaced road from the southern limit of Lexington to beyond the C. O. Sink place is a thing of beauty and joy to motorists, say those who have passed over the stretch that is now surfaced and opened to traffic. Harlee-Through Construction Co., who are placing the topeka asphalt surface, are now laying top on the Sinking Creek this way to join the link already laid southward from the end of South Main Street. With anything like favorable weather this second link should be completed within a comparatively short time. The longest stretch laid in one day up to Tuesday, Engineer E. R. Fuller states, was 351 lineal feet.

The contractors who are laying the concrete base have completed their work to beyond where the Linwood road enters the Central Highway and traffic can go over the surface near that point and come to Lexington over the Linwood road. However, traffic cannot go through to Salisbury by this route. From now on the progress is expected to be slowed up by wintry weather.

THEATRE OWNERS RESIST PAYMENT OF MUSIC TAX

Theatre owners of the nation will take their fight against the "music trust" to the Federal Trade Commission, according to H. B. Varner, of this city, who returned Wednesday morning from Washington, where he went to confer with other owners of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America over plans for entering formal complaints.

Under cover of a bill that was passed by Congress, the American Society of Authors, Composers and Publishers are seeking to collect from every theatre owner a music tax of ten cents per seat. The theatre owners claim this is pure extortion and that Congress did not mean to grant the power of taxation to a group of private individuals.

Capitalists May Buy And Operate C. & Y. R. Railway

Citizens of Davidson County generally and especially those of eastern and southern Davidson will doubtless hail with joy the prospect that a company will probably be formed at once, or is now being formed, for the purpose of purchasing and continuing the operation of the Carolina and Yadkin River Railroad. The following story concerning the proposal appeared in Tuesday's High Point Enterprise:

"Developments are following thick and fast in the situation of the Carolina and Yadkin River railroad, which has been ordered sold by the court, and a petition to that effect had been filed. Although no definite action has been taken regarding the matter, it appears now that the road will continue in operation after it is purchased by some corporation.

"Yesterday afternoon a meeting was held in the chamber of commerce rooms and at this meeting a proposition is said to have been presented by out-of-town capitalists, who agreed to purchase the road and then rehabilitate it.

"No agreement was reached at the meeting, however, action being delayed until another meeting here Friday afternoon at 1:15 o'clock. At that time another proposition will be presented by local interests.

"Several days ago the superior court of Guilford county ordered that the road be sold at auction, and local business and professional men are now lining up their forces to see that the short line is bought by a company that will improve the road and continue it in operation. The order of the court was that it be sold within 60 days.

"Business and professional men of High Point are of the opinion that the C. & Y. railroad can be made a paying proposition. With the expenditure of some money for improvements, the road will be operated more successfully, it is declared. The C. & Y. railroad operates from High Point to High Rock, a distance of approximately 35 miles. Freight alone is hauled on this railroad, the company having discontinued the practice of carrying passengers.

Red Cross Passes Quota Asked For This Community

Lexington Red Cross chapter crossed the tape in winning the recent campaign for funds, it was announced Tuesday morning by Chairman James A. Leonard. Chairman Leonard reported that a total of \$1,014.50 was realized as a result of the recent systematic canvass for the purpose of carrying forward the work of the local chapter during the coming year and also for providing the local quota for the national work of the Red Cross.

The local work of the Red Cross has many ramifications in the way of relief in needy cases, featuring the relief of ex-service men and members of their families. The National Red Cross also contributes largely to the service of ex-service men in hospitals and camps and is also always ready to respond to great emergencies such as those arising out of New Bern last week.

BETTER RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE FOR LEXINGTON

Improved railway mail service for Lexington is indicated by a letter received at the local postoffice from E. J. Sharp, of Greensboro, chief clerk of the Railway Mail Service. Mr. Sharp writes that the suggestion advanced through The Dispatch and in a letter sent him to the effect that an outgoing mail at night should be transferred from No. 12 to No. 38 at High Point instead of Greensboro is being seriously considered. Mr. Sharp gives much hope that this will be accomplished at once. This change would mean that mail from Lexington to points north of Danville would rarely miss transfer, whereas under the present scheme of sending this mail to Greensboro means the connection is often missed, as No. 38 frequently runs around No. 12 at High Point.

BIG MOVEMENTS REPORTED HERE AFFECT COUNTY

C. & Y. R. May Unite With Southbound-Dam May be Built

Rumblings of movements that may portend highly significant developments for Davidson County have reached Lexington this week, these having to do with the rescue and restoration of the Carolina and Yadkin River Railroad and the building of the Tallahassee Power Company dam at Stafford's Mountain near High Rock.

Monday afternoon and Tuesday important meetings were held at the chamber of commerce at High Point to discuss the disposition of the Carolina and Yadkin River Railroad, which is in the hands of a receiver and which must be taken over or abandoned at an early date.

It is reported that a proposition was made there by President H. E. Fries of the Winston-Salem Southbound Railway to the effect that if people living along the line of the road between High Rock and High Point would subscribe to \$150,000 stock the corporation or interests represented by Mr. Fries would furnish \$450,000, giving \$600,000 as working capital to take over and rehabilitate the road, buy necessary rolling stock and put it into good operating condition.

Citizens of Denton here yesterday were happy over the prospecta brought forward and believe that interests in High Point, Thomasville and other points along the line would be able to promptly secure the \$150,000 requested if the offer of Mr. Fries is accepted. Other propositions are understood also to have been tentatively submitted. Suggestions are also made that the road might be extended from High Point to Greensboro and thus afford the latter city something it does not now have, a competing railroad.

During the past week or so, it is learned here, reports have been rife at Badin that the Tallahassee Power Company is now about ready to move forward toward the erection of the long contemplated dam at Stafford's Mountain, a large horsepower and Y. R. to the same time provide an impounding basin large enough to prove of great benefit in providing an equal flow of water for the two dams already owned by the Tallahassee Company in the Narrows of the Yadkin. The recent dry weather has completed the usual flow of the river as to lower the surface of the Badin lake to a point where the situation has become somewhat serious for the power company.

In view of the fact that even since the State Highway Commission awarded the contract for the free bridge across the river near Yadkin the power company conducted negotiations in regard to the establishment of the high water level to this latest date further force to this latest proposal would probably not be as high as the one at Badin it is expected to be higher than was in mind when the proposal was first broached about five years ago. The territory above the Stafford's Mountain site is more level and the fall of the river less precipitous so that a dam there would back water much further up the river than is done by the back water from the Badin dam.

The probable construction of this dam at an early date, the proposed purchase and revival of the Carolina and Yadkin River Railroad and the future of the Southbound are all more or less related. If the dam is built the Southbound will have to move its tracks for several miles. One thing is that this might mean that this road would change its course somewhat about Southmont and strike towards Denton and cross the Jackson Hill township, crossing the Y. R. at the same point it now crosses Stanley county. This is a larger section of the county, it is said, than is now the case. In relation of the C. & Y. R. to these reports is that it might become a part of the Southbound or at least become closely allied to that road. This would furnish Denton, Thomasville and High Point through freight service to Cincinnati and Jacksonville, as the Southbound is largely the property of two big railroads touching these important terminals.

Big Wedding at Tyro

On Friday night, December 8th at eight o'clock, Miss "Tyne" Owens, a very beautiful and charming young lady of the Tyro community will become the wife of Mr. "Roebuck" Waiser, a very prosperous merchant of that community. Both the bride and groom have lived in Tyro since their childhood and have won for themselves many friends whom they are expecting to witness the ceremony which is to take place in the auditorium of the high school. After the marriage the bride and groom will leave by Ford for Heeds, Yadkin College and Churchland, where they will visit friends. After this tour through the various places they will be at home, in their many friends for the remainder of the night.

Local Livestock Dealer Is Found Dead In His Bed

John F. Smith, of this city, widely known throughout the county for a number of years as a dealer in horses and mules, was found dead in bed at his home on West Fifth Avenue about nine o'clock yesterday morning. Funeral will be conducted from First Methodist church tomorrow afternoon at two o'clock and interment will follow in the city cemetery.

Mr. Smith was thirty-six years old and leaves a wife and three children, a daughter, Willie Veigh, about fifteen years old, and two younger sons, Ralph and Moyer. He was a native of this county.

For many years Mr. Smith had been engaged in the purchase and sale of horses and mules and had proven himself a very successful dealer. He maintained for a number of years stables at both Lexington and Denton. For some time he was associated with Fox & Shemwell, having charge of the horse, mule and buggy department of that firm. A year or more ago he and his then associates, Roby Swing and Henry Turner, purchased the Cameron Hotel at Denton, which was destroyed by fire several months ago. More recently the partnership with Messrs. Swing and Turner was dissolved.

Mr. Smith had many friends in the county by his genial personality, who regret very much his untimely end. Members of his family were up with Mr. Smith about midnight of Tuesday and sought to quiet him. After taking a rather large dose of bromides, which are said to be harmful, he became more restless and returned to his room. Mr. Smith did not seek to wake him early yesterday morning, believing him to be asleep, but upon entering his room about nine o'clock found that life was extinct. He had evidently passed away several hours before that time.

STUART CRAMER TO BUILD ANOTHER BIG COTTON MILL

The Mayflower Mill will be the name of the new weaving plant that Stuart W. Cramer is to erect at Cramerton, Gaston county, in the near future for the production of fine and fancy cloths. Approximately 2,000 of the most up-to-date and efficient looms procurable will be ultimately installed in this plant, utilizing the fine combed yarns produced by the 900 spindles spinning mill, heretofore known as the Mays Mill located close by adjacent. In respect to equipment, lay out and general efficiency, this general unit that Mr. Cramer and his associates have in contemplation at Cramerton promises to be one of the best in the country.

Application has just been made to the secretary of state for an amendment to the charter of the Mays Mills, Inc., providing for changing the corporate name to the Cramerton Mills, Inc., and also increasing the capital stock from \$2,000,000. While the corporate title will be changed, it is Mr. Cramer's purpose to retain and continue to use the name, trademark, etc., of the Mays Mill which will be the spinning unit of the development. The Mays yarn, with the distinctive eagle symbol, is well known in trade circles and is regarded as a valuable asset. The new Mayflower mill which will be the weaving unit, producing fine and fancy cloths and utilizing the product of the spinning mill close by, will have a holding company, so to speak, operating two big units, one a spinning plant, at present equipped with 60,000 spindles and which will ultimately be increased to 100,000 spindles, and a weaving plant, producing fine and fancy cloths, with an ultimate equipment of 2,000 looms of res.

Mr. Cramer owns several thousands of acres of land on the main line of the Southern railway 16 miles west of Charlotte and it is not unlikely that he will erect a number of mills at this place, all to be owned and operated by the Cramerton Mills, Inc. The South Fork of the Catawba river bisects the property which, within high hills that tower above the present town, make this site one of much natural beauty. The existing village alone represents an investment of more than \$1,000,000 and with its paved streets, modern stores, handsome homes and elegant boulevard, constitutes one of the handsomest industrial civic centers in the South. The water for the town is supplied by 13 deep wells and there are additional features of a modern dairy of registered Holstein and Jersey cattle, all utilized in part for providing supplies at cost to the people who work in the mills.

Successful Meeting at Dacotah Church

Sixty-three professions of faith and thirty accessions to the church are reported from the evangelistic meetings now going on at Dacotah Presbyterian church, up to and including Tuesday night. Interest has been growing throughout, and the services will continue the remainder of the week. Evangelist Turley will preach Sunday night on the subject: "Excuses why the unsaved have not accepted Christ." Mrs. Turley will sing "The Meme I Have Up Yonder." Pastor Smith invites the public generally to attend the remaining services.

DISTRICT SCHOOL BUILDING WILL BE OCCUPIED MONDAY

First of Kind in the State Unsurpassed in Its Appointment

Lexington high school students next Monday morning will move into one of the best school buildings ever erected in North Carolina, when they occupy their new quarters in the district high school building on North State Street. It is likewise interesting to note that this is the first strictly high school district in North Carolina to be placed in operation in a home of its own.

It required a special act of the Legislature in the shape of a public local law before this high school district idea could be accomplished. It is under the control of the city and county to a certain extent, yet it is independent in its control. A board of five trustees appointed by the county board of education have control of the school, but the bill required that three of the five of the original members of the trustees should be appointed from the then existing city school board of Lexington. As to future appointments of trustees the question appears to be a little unsettled. The superintendent of the city schools is also superintendent of the high school, but the elementary schools outside of the Lexington city limits remain under the control of the county board of education as heretofore.

UNIFORM CLASS ROOMS

The top floor is the one to be occupied first by the high school. On either side of a broad hallway, 200 feet long on the inside, are ranged the class rooms, each 23 1/2 by 23 1/2 feet and each having large windows facing one entire side. These windows are of the astral type, which permit of the maximum of ventilation yet prevent the flowing in of a direct draft upon the pupils. The windows are easily raised and lowered and can be made secure in any position. Each window has two shades, one to catch sun, and these shades are also controlled in such manner as to give the finest results in lighting or shading.

Around the other three walls of each class room range blackboards for the entire distance. These blackboards are composed of large squares of heavy solid slate, the very best to be obtained for the purpose and which should last for an indeterminate period and cause a minimum of dust with a maximum of cleanliness. In each of the high school rooms is a locker for the teacher, while ranging down both sides of the room hallway are two hundred steel lockers for the use of the students, affording absolute security for their wraps and other possessions.

On the east side of the hallway is a rest room for the lady teachers and adjoining it is a large study hall, which can also be used as an assembly hall for the high school. The principal's office is at the north end of the hall, from where a full view is had of the entire hallway. The desks for all the class rooms and study halls are of the most approved type, with the seats and backs made from solid pieces of wood, so hollowed out as to most comfortably fit the detour of the body in sitting position. They are finished in walnut, a much more attractive finish than the usual red style in most school rooms.

The general floor plan of the first floor is similar to that of the top floor, except that here the entrance to the building is located the superintendent's office. In this office will be a large electric clock, which will control smaller clocks in each class room in the building, so that the entire school will run strictly according to a well planned schedule.

One material difference in the arrangement of this floor is that the steel lockers are not provided in the hallway, as above but in each class room one wall is lined by well arranged cloak rooms for the pupils with a separate small one for the teacher. Seven of these rooms will be occupied about the first of the year or shortly thereafter by some of the elementary grades, the city raising these rooms from the district board. Of course, as the high school grows it will expand and take all the building when found necessary. NEW DEPARTMENTS EQUIPPED The ground floor, or basement, which is really hardly a basement, as it empties at the back on the ground level, is perhaps the most interesting part of the entire building. Here is located the great heating and ventilating plant to serve the entire building, and here also is the workshop department of the great institution. A large room is provided as a physics laboratory and will be fully equipped with modern apparatus necessary in the application of the lessons taught across the hall from this laboratory will be the chemical laboratory which will also be fully equipped with working apparatus, even to a dark room necessary for certain experiments. Twenty pupils can do laboratory work here at one time.