

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETS

Committee from Sorosis Given Hearing With Reference to Request of Certain Improvements in City Schools.

The regular monthly meeting of the County Board of Education yesterday afternoon was featured by the consideration of two requests from the North Carolina Sorosis, one that the domestic science department be restored to the city graded schools and the other that some arrangements be made for a rigid medical examination of all school children.

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and the club as a unit wished to enter a protest against this treatment; "We know the old cry of no money. Please don't repeat it, friends, we don't ask for more money, but for a different use of some that is. Is it more important to teach our colored population to make baskets and sew, or to cook and wash? Is it more universally needed for our own daughters to know stenography or cooking? We invite discussion. The time has come for opinions voiced in words, not put into action. We have held our peace long enough. We enter our protest."

Following the reading of the above there was a general discussion, at the conclusion of which the board adopted a resolution to the effect that "the board approves of the suggestion of the North Carolina Sorosis for reopening of the domestic science school and promises to endeavor to provide funds for said purpose by the next Fall opening."

The board also adopted the following resolution: "The board approves of and endorses the plan proposed by the committee from North Carolina Sorosis for a compulsory physical examination of children in public schools of the city, and that a committee from this board be named to co-operate with the North Carolina Sorosis, the city superintendent of health and superintendent of public schools with a view of passage of a necessary ordinance controlling the matter, or make other necessary arrangements."

Mr. J. G. L. Gieschen and Chairman Carr compose the committee from the Board of Education to confer with the other bodies mentioned above.

The resignation of Mr. James O. Bowden, committee in district No. 5, Wright, was received, and was accepted with regrets. Mr. Bowden has recently removed to New York City and change of residence is the reason he tendered his resignation. Mr. Frank McGowan was appointed to fill out the unexpired term upon the recommendation of Mr. Bowden.

A resolution was adopted to the effect that the board is of the opinion that the sewing department of Peabody school should be self-sustaining and that the board will not approve of any further expenditures for maintenance of the department until some of the manufactured articles are turned in. This is a school for colored scholars in district No. 1.

The meeting adjourned shortly after 6 o'clock.

A. C. L. GOOD ROADS TRAIN

Will Visit Wilmington Tomorrow—Illustrated Lecture in Grand Theatre and Exhibits in Car at Station.

Arrangements have been completed for the visit to this city tomorrow afternoon of the Atlantic Coast Line good roads train, which is operated under the auspices of the United States Department of Agriculture, office of good roads. The train will arrive here at noon tomorrow from Burgaw, and from 2 to 3 o'clock an illustrated lecture will be given in the Grand Theatre by one of the government experts accompanying the train, to which the public is cordially invited, while throughout the afternoon the exhibit car, in which will be shown the latest improved roadway machinery, will be open to the inspection of the public at the union station.

Mr. E. N. Clark, agricultural and immigration agent of the Coast Line, with headquarters in this city, who has been with the train a portion of the time since it started on its trip South, November 25th, was here yesterday and completed the arrangements for the visit of the train tomorrow. He will leave this morning for Clinton, where he will again join the party. The train arrived at Clinton yesterday afternoon and the citizens of the town gave a smoker last night in honor of the visitors. From Clinton the train will go to Rose Hill, thence to Burgaw, arriving at the latter place at 4:20 o'clock this afternoon. Leaving Burgaw at 3:25 for Newberry, where it will remain until Friday noon. The train will then go to Whiteville, arriving there at 9:30 A. M. Saturday and leaving at noon for Chadbourn, where a stop of 40 minutes will be made from 12:16 P. M. to 2:46 P. M., and will then go to Mount Tabor, arriving at 3:17 and leaving at 5:47 for Conway, S. C., where the party will spend Sunday. The train will spend some days in South Carolina and then proceed southward.

Great interest has been shown by the people at every point visited by the train and while New Hanover county has already begun the work of building good roads, yet it is likely that the interest will be none the less keen in this city. It is expected that the lecture will be attended by several hundred and that streams of people will visit the exhibit car at the union station during the afternoon. As an indication of the interest that has been shown by the people of Virginia and North Carolina in the good roads train it may be stated that in the two weeks that the train has been out over 4,000 people have heard the lectures given by the experts and inspected the modern roadway machinery.

The following received last night is evidence of the interest shown at Mount Olive, N. C., Dec. 11.—The A. C. L. good roads train was visited at Mount Olive by a large number of representative citizens of Mount Olive and the southern section of Wayne county. The lecture was attended by a large crowd. Mr. L. E. Boykin, the United States good roads expert, was introduced with appropriate remarks by Mr. Fred Ments, editor of the Mount Olive Tribune. A second lecture was given for the benefit of the graded school children, who attended in a body. This section is alive to the importance of good roads and from the interest displayed at the meeting today, the people of this section will continue the good work with renewed interest.

Havana, Dec. 11.—Baseball: New York Nationals 10; Havana 2.

BRUTAL MURDER SUNDAY EVE

Mr. W. R. Dowdy, An Aged Man, Killed With Axe—His Son Under Arrest, Charged With Horrible Crime

Coming as a climax to the wave of crime which is sweeping over the city, W. R. Dowdy, an aged and respected citizen, was waylaid and brutally murdered Sunday evening about 8:15 on the old Wilmington Seacoast railway track, about 50 yards east of where it crosses Macomber's ditch, beyond the intersection of 14th and Ann streets, and the after-dinner came yesterday when his son, Chas. F. Dowdy, was arrested on a warrant charging him with the crime.

Walking along the dark track, accompanied by his little grandson, Palmer Dowdy, son of the man charged with the murder, Mr. Dowdy was knocked down by a blow from the butt of a heavy axe and as he lay prostrate his skull was crushed with another blow. The child fled screaming "murder" at the top of his voice, and the murderer also fled, for when the officers reached the scene a short time afterwards they found only the dying man and the tell-tale axe beside him. The little boy stated that the murderer was a negro, short and stockily built, but beyond that he was unable to give any description. The ambulance was summoned and Mr. Dowdy was rushed to the James Walker Memorial Hospital, where he died half an hour afterwards, without having ever regained consciousness.

Five hours afterwards a pair of blood hounds brought to the scene, but in the meantime, many people had walked around the scene of the crime and the dogs could do nothing in the way of trailing the murderer.

At first it was believed that the axe found beside the prostrate body was the only clue to the murderer, but early yesterday morning Sheriff S. P. Cowan and Deputy A. L. Kelly, searching in the neighborhood in company with a number of county officers, found a second blood-stained axe which, it is said, will figure in the case as importance evidence.

On request of Assistant City Attorney Geo. L. Poschau and County Attorney Marsden Bellamy, prosecuting for the State, the coroner's inquest, which was to have been held yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock, was postponed until Wednesday morning at 11 o'clock, it is presumed to give the State a chance to work up the case further.

Charles F. Dowdy's arrest came as an overwhelming surprise to the public. It followed the finding of the second axe, which the officers say has been identified as belonging to him. The warrant which he was arrested under was issued by Justice George Harris on information and belief of Deputy Sheriff Melvin Horn and Deputy Home and Constable Savage made the arrest. Dowdy was committed to jail to await preliminary hearing before Justice Harris. The date has not yet been set.

Many wild rumors were in circulation yesterday and the murder and the arrest of the son were topics of general conversation on the streets. The one of these of such a sickening brutal nature that the public was deeply shocked and following so closely on the heels of the many burglaries, robberies and storebreakings that have occurred during the last few weeks, it assumed a still greater interest.

Mr. Dowdy and his little grandson were on the way to the city from the old man's oyster stand at 17th and Castle streets, and it was about 8:15 when they reached the dark and secluded spot where the crime was committed. Mr. Dowdy was carrying a lantern. The boy heard a foot strike the rail behind them and turned to see the sinister figure of a man with an axe drawn as if to strike his grandfather. He screamed and fled and as he did so heard the sickening thud as the butt of the weapon struck the old man's head. The child saw only one man, and he stated to the officers that this was a negro, dressed in a striped suit of clothes. Mr. Dowdy dropped his lantern when he fell and it was extinguished, leaving the place in total darkness.

The alarm spread quickly and police headquarters was notified. The ambulance was also summoned, but it was probably half an hour after the man was struck when it reached the scene. The first on the scene found the old man lying prostrate on the track, and the grass around was stained with his blood. Beside him lay the log-handled much-used axe. The lack of Mr. Dowdy's head was almost crushed in by the first blow and apparently another was struck after he fell, for his forehead was also fearfully crushed and bruised.

The dying man was placed in the ambulance and carried to the hospital, while the police started to work on the apparently hopeless task of bringing the criminal to book. Council B. C. Moore, in charge of the Department of Public Safety, and Chief of Police John J. Fowler telegraphed to Chief of Police D. M. Thompson, of Whiteville, for a pair of blood hounds and that gentleman, though he had sold the dogs to Mr. G. W. Thompson the day before, immediately got busy. The Atlantic Coast Line train was held about 15 minutes and Mr. G. W. Thompson and his son boarded it with the dog and came on to Wilmington. They reached here shortly before 1 o'clock and immediately proceeded to the scene of the crime, accompanied by Councilman Moore, Chief Fowler, a number of mounted officers and citizens. A vigilant search was made and the dogs were taken all over the immediate vicinity of the crime, but nothing could be done, as many people had walked through the fields and surrounding section. Another attempt was made yesterday morning and again yesterday afternoon but the result was the same, and the dogs could not pick up the trail.

In the meantime Sheriff Cowan and his officers got busy and at an early hour the second axe was found in the bushes about 300 yards east of where the crime was committed by the Sheriff and Deputy Kelly. Shortly after this the son, Chas. F. Dowdy, was arrested.

The search for further evidence continued throughout the day. During

the afternoon the county officers took one of Chas. F. Dowdy's shoes to the scene of the crime and tried the experiment of fitting it in a track which they believed to have been made by the murderer. It is rumored that the shoe did not fit the track, but when questioned the officers stated that they did not care to discuss the matter at this time.

Mr. Dowdy's body was turned over to the undertaking establishment of Mr. W. E. Yopp to be prepared for burial. The funeral will be held this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock from the residence of Chas. F. Dowdy, the son under arrest, at No. 206 South Front street. Mr. Dowdy had been making his home with the son for some time. The murdered man is survived by his wife, two sons, Chas. F. and D. W. Dowdy, and two grandchildren. The funeral will be attended by Cape Fear Camp No. 254, United Confederate Veterans, in a body. They will meet at the house at 2:30.

A veteran of the War Between the States and a resident of the city for a number of years, Mr. Dowdy was well-known and a respected citizen. He was born in Pamlico county and was in the 73rd year of his age.

It is rumored that more sensations will be brought to light in connection with the murder within the next few days.

It was talked on the streets yesterday afternoon that some one had been quoted as saying that young Dowdy could not have committed the crime as he was at church with him from 7 o'clock until the service closed about 9 o'clock. Whether or not there is any truth in the rumor, was not learned last night.

Real Estate Transfers

Deeds were filed for record yesterday as follows: Ella V. Donnelly to F. W. Kuhl and wife, for \$10 and other considerations, lot on Sixth, 165 feet north of Church street, 33x220 feet in size; J. E. Norwood and others to J. Irving Bell, for \$10 and other considerations, lot on Market, 120 feet east of 13th street, 30x150 feet in size; also lot on Market, 60 feet west of 18th, 30x150 feet in size; Thos. J. Gore and wife to C. C. Chadbourn, for \$10 and other considerations, lot on Meares, 192 feet east of Front street, 33x130 feet in size.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY CHARGED

Tom MacRae, Colored, Bound Over to Superior Court—Large Monday Morning Docket in Recorder's Court

Tom MacRae, colored, stood out as the bright and particular star among the usual large Monday morning array of aspirants for honors in the Recorder's court yesterday, being charged with highway robbery and assault with serious injury to "Boise" James, another negro. Probable cause being found, he was committed to jail in default of \$300 bond, to await trial in the Superior Court.

The trouble occurred Sunday night and James, who is a stranger in the city, alleges that MacRae and a negro woman named Lizzie Felder held him up, robbed him and beat him severely. He testified that MacRae, with a knife, had a slight trouble earlier in the evening, had approached him on North Tenth street and demanded his money, throwing a revolver in his face. Upon his refusal to give up the money, the negro alleges that MacRae struck him over the chin with his flat and then hit him over the head with a heavy knife, inflicting a serious wound. Meanwhile, according to his statements, the Felder woman came up and also struck him a number of times over the head. He said the woman had a pair of shoes under her arm and that she threw these on the ground and told MacRae to kill him, as he had stolen her shoes.

Following the alleged assault and robbery, James had a warrant issued for the arrest of MacRae. He told the officers a story at the police station that impressed them as being truthful and described the sack of money that was taken from him. When the negro was arrested the sack was in his possession, but James said that the paper money, which it had contained when taken from him, had been replaced with silver, several dollars short of the amount taken from him.

Both MacRae and the elder woman denied James' charges, but the evidence against him was deemed sufficient by the Recorder to justify his binding the defendant over to the Superior Court. A case charging the woman with assault and battery upon James was continued pending the outcome of the other case. She was recognized for her appearance.

Charles Roundell, a soldier from Fort Caswell, was to be tried on a charge of larceny, but an officer from the fort was present and made the request that the defendant be turned over to the military authorities to be dealt with. The request was granted and the case was stricken off the docket.

John Williams, colored, was tried as a suspect upon a female. He was found guilty and fined \$20 and the costs. Joe Farrow, colored, was fined \$25 and the costs for carrying a concealed weapon. James Register and Kid Jones were tried on charges of disorderly conduct. Register was found not guilty and Jones was fined \$5 and the costs. John Jones, also charged with disorderly conduct, forfeited his bond. W. E. Register was fined \$5 and costs for disorderly conduct.

James E. Bean drew a fine of \$15

ACTIVE MONEY

Through this Bank your every-day transactions can be handled in the most satisfactory manner. Deposit your money in this bank and take a check book and make settlements by check. You save time and trouble in counting money. You save disputes, as your checks will show what you have paid. You save yourself the risk of losing your money and danger of burglary and highwaymen.

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OUR ROLL OF HONOR

THE list of savings depositors in this bank, which we call our roll of honor, includes business and professional men, women, clerks, book-keepers, mechanics, dressmakers, milliners, housekeepers, laboring men, and many children. We extend a cordial invitation for every thrifty, prudent person who desires to save money to join our roll of honor.

THIS BANK TRANSACTS AN EXCLUSIVE SAVINGS BANK BUSINESS.

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The Big White Building, Corner Front and Princess Streets.

There Is a Certain Wilmington Bank

which was organized over twenty-three years ago with Capital of \$25,000, which has faithfully met every obligation during all of these years; which has paid regular dividends to stockholders, ranging from 6% to 16% per annum, besides accumulating additional Capital of \$75,000 out of profits, and a SURPLUS of over \$200,000.00. Its new building is thoroughly fireproof and modern in every detail, and offers every up to date facility.

No Reward is Offered you to guess the name of this Bank; every Wilmingtonian is proud of the record of

THE WILMINGTON SAVINGS & TRUST CO.

Oldest Bank in the City. Largest Savings Bank in the State.

and costs for resisting an officer and Annie Riddle contributed \$5 and the costs for disorderly conduct. L. Huggins fared likewise on a similar charge, as did Mary Mock, J. T. Cappa was found not guilty on a charge of disorderly conduct. A nol pros was taken in a similar case against Nick Enlaw.

An unusually large number of drunks faced the court, some getting the usual \$5 and costs, some more than this and several escaping on the payment of costs. Several cases were continued.

TRUSTEES MAY MEET TODAY.

Board Will Pass Upon Matter of Sale of Y. M. C. A. Building. It was stated at the office of the Y. M. C. A. yesterday that probably the board of trustees of the association will be called in special session this afternoon for the purpose of ratifying or disapproving the sale of the association building to Mr. Joseph J. Loughlin and associates as made by the board of directors in special session Saturday evening and as announced in Sunday's paper. Dr. Joseph Akerman, president of the association, is chairman of the board of trustees as well as the board of directors. There are six other members of the board of trustees as follows: Messrs. Wm. E. Springer, W. M. Cumming, B. F. Hall, Clayton Giles, J. V. Grainger, C. W. Worth. The board of trustees was invited to meet with the board of directors Saturday afternoon, when the proposition of Mr. Loughlin was considered by the latter, but there was not a quorum present of the board of trustees.

The board of directors agreed to sell the property to Mr. Loughlin for \$60,000, subject, however, to the approval of the board of trustees, should it be necessary on account of legal requirements. Mr. Loughlin was notified in writing Saturday night that the board

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Our Toy Department, covering the Entire Basement Floor, awaits you with a well-selected stock of TOYS. You are cordially invited to inspect our magnificent showing of Holiday Goods, whether you come to buy or not. Of Gifts that will be appreciated above everything else—because nothing is so appreciated as "Something to Wear."

SANTA CLAUS is growing more practical each year, and, instead of the things that satisfy the eye alone, so common in years gone by, we now witness the giving of those wholesome, useful and practical things which one would buy for himself and which are not only gratefully received on Christmas Day, but are a source of much joy and pleasure for many days to come.

FOR THE CHILDREN Dolls, Games, Tool Chests, Drums, Guns, Magic Lanterns, Carriages, Trunks, Horns, Trains, Mechanical Toys, Dolls, Houses, Stores.

EVERYTHING DISPLAYED. Where you can readily inspect the goods and make your selections, however busy we may be.

KIMONOS. Make a most acceptable present. They are handy, neat and comfortable. \$1.00 to \$10.00.

GLOVES. of all kinds are here in vast assortments. Wool Gloves, Kid Gloves, Silk Gloves, 50c. to \$3.50.

HANDKERCHIEFS. All kinds, from the cheapest to the best—great values at 5c. to \$1.00 each.

LADIES' SWEATERS. Sweaters of quality, very reasonably priced; all color creations, \$1.50 to \$4.00.

STYLISH NEW HATS. The latest shapes and shades. The right styles and qualities, at the right prices, \$1.50 to \$15.00.

For Mother, Grandmother, Sister or Daughter, would be "Just Fine." Ladies' Suits, \$10.00 to \$40.00. Misses' Coats, \$5.00 to \$15.00. Children's Coats, \$2.50 to \$10.00. Ladies' Coats, \$5.00 to \$35.00.

THE C. W. POLVOGT COMPANY

Commence right away to do your Christmas trading; come forenoon, if you can; the sooner you come the better the assortments will be and then you won't have to hurry. We'll deliver when you want us to. We are showing, by far, the finest collection of desirable gifts for everybody ever shown here.

"The story of Christmas is the story of human sacrifice. The charm of Christmas is the charm of generosity. Sacrifice and generosity go hand in hand in the world-wide willingness of all mankind to give at Christmas time."

SILK NECK SCARFS. are sensible, serviceable and beautiful, 75c. to \$4.00.

BATH ROBES. and Lounging Robes make excellent gifts. Ours are very attractive this year; \$4.00 to \$7.50.

HOSIERY. An immense line of Hosiery in all the shades one can imagine, priced 25c. to \$2.00 a pair.

DRESS SKIRTS. of attractive styles and excellent qualities. They make fine gifts.

UMBRELLAS. make an attractive gift—they are useful and certain to be appreciated.

DRESS GOODS. are highly appreciated. You will find the correct shades and styles here—25c. to \$2.50.

ART SQUARES. Brussels, Velvet and Axminster Art Squares, \$10.00 to \$35.00; these are useful presents.

SILVER NOVELTIES. at reasonable prices. Jewel Boxes, Hair Receivers, Gilt Frames, Pin Holders, Ash Trays and a thousand other novelties which we cannot mention. We invite you to call.