

HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST OF HARNETT COUNTY, PRIMARILY, AND OF THE STATE GENERALLY.

Vol. VII—No. 51

\$1.00 PER YEAR—5c A COPY

Lillington, N. C., Thursday, December 24, 1925

"If It Concerns Harnett, It's in THE NEWS"

SOLEMN BEAUTY MARKED PAGEANT BAPTIST CHURCH

"White Gifts for the King,"
Portraying Sacrifice of Substance, Service and Self, Witnessed by Large Congregation

Highly pleasing and at the same time deeply impressive was the pageant "White Gifts for the King," presented by local talent at the Lillington Baptist Church last Sunday night. The presentation was witnessed by a congregation that taxed the seating capacity of the church; and, judging by the many commendatory remarks, it was greatly appreciated not only for its remarkable interest but because of its beautiful solemnity. The presents included in the "White Gifts for the King" showed in material substance over \$200.00. This sum is to be given entirely for missions—the help of that cause being the motive for staging the pageant.

The church was appropriately decorated, the guiding Star of Bethlehem resting in the firmament immediately above the manger where lay the Babe who was to be the Saviour of the world. Three candles lighted upon pillars that braced the chancel typified the worldly light that was to lead the lives of the worshippers at the Holy Shrine as they pledged to the new-born King their substance, their service, their self. Wording of the pageant that enabled the audience to easily follow the thread of the beautiful story of the birth of Jesus was read from the rear of the stage; and a white-robed choir sang the hymns of dedication. The shepherds from the Judean hills came, saw the fulfillment of the angel's prophecy, worshiped and went their way secure in the belief that they had seen the Messiah, whose name they glorified in silent praise. The Wise Men of the East, bearing gifts and singing hymns in honor of the coming of the King, worshiped at the Shrine with the same reverence as the humble shepherds.

The gift-bearers, those who represented the various departments of activity in the Church and Sunday School, presented their offerings at the Manger with appropriate pledge of loyalty to the King. Prayer by one, then another, sealed the solemn pact that bound the hearts of the givers with the Substance given. From the wee tot who brought his offering from the juvenile society of Sunbeams, to the older ones who sponsored the gifts and pledges of the Bible classes and Mission Societies—all of the organization known as Lillington Baptist Church was represented in the gifts to Him.

One of the most impressive scenes was the singing of her love for her new-born Babe by Mary, the Mother of Jesus, as she sat by the Manger and poured out her heart in love and gratitude for fulfillment of Heaven's promise. The solos and choir singing were excellently done.

The large congregation joined in the service with a free-will contribution as the plates were passed by the gift-bearers.

There was no one in the church but who was deeply appreciative of the pageant. Those who executed it are deserving of much praise for their effort, and it is probably true that they feel amply compensated by the immense interest manifested and the beneficial results achieved.

PURCHASER OF SEALS EXPRESSES APPRECIATION

Miss Dora Beck has received many letters from purchasers of Christmas seals, thanking her for sending them and expressing appreciation of the opportunity thus to help serve a worthy cause. "It is one of the greatest things that has ever been gotten up," writes Mr. W. V. Vance, and his letter is so full of the true spirit of service that it is given here:

Lillington, N. C., Rt. 2.
Miss Dora Beck,
Lillington, N. C.
Dear Miss Beck:
With thanks for the Christmas Seals you sent us, I hope you will have a great success in selling the Seals, for I think it is one of the greatest things that ever has been gotten up. I am enclosing you one dollar (\$1.00) for the Seals.
Yours truly,
W. V. Vance.

EAST CAROLINA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON TOUR

One of the important matters decided upon at the meeting of the Directors and Officers of the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce in Winston Friday night, was the determining of the itinerary for the Industrial Tour to be made through the Piedmont Section of North Carolina in January. The dates are January 12-13-15-15.

The first group, consisting of all those representatives nearest to Winston, will assemble at Winston on the morning of the 12th at 9 o'clock. The next "pick up" point will be at LaGrange, then Goldsboro, Smithfield, and the final concentration point will be in Raleigh. The party will reach about 11:45 and will proceed on the tour.

The following route will be followed: Raleigh out route 50, making Sanford and Rockingham first day. The first night out will be in Rockingham where there are more than a dozen cotton mills. Route 20 will be taken from Rockingham to Charlotte, stops being made at Wadesboro and Monroe. The second night out will be spent in Charlotte, where the party will be the guests of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce at a banquet. The proceedings of this meeting will be broadcasted by Radio. From Charlotte Route 15 will be followed to Salisbury and Route 10 through High Point, Greensboro, Burlington, Durham and on into Raleigh. The third night out will probably be spent at Burlington. The total mileage will be about 550 miles. Each car will bear its own expenses. All cars will have a uniform sign to show that the tour is being conducted by the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce, and will carry the name of the town represented in this tour. "We are not making this trip to advertise Eastern North Carolina, but to get acquainted with our Piedmont Neighbors," John W. Holmes said recently. This will be the first tour of its kind to be made from Eastern North Carolina into the Piedmont section.

PRICE OF DODGES IS TO BE CUT SHARPLY

A "tremendous reduction" in prices on all Dodge Brothers motor cars, effective after midnight of December 15, but not to be announced until January 7th, is forecast in a telegram from Robert C. Graham, vice-president of the corporation, to Dodge Brothers distributors and dealers all over the country today. The reduction, it is stated, will be based upon a new policy which admits of almost doubled production. While the company began 1925 with a capacity of about 700 cars daily, the new program will call for a daily production of some 1,500 cars. Otherwise, however, according to this statement, Dodge Brothers policies will not be affected. The text of the statement, received by Stewart's Garage, local distributor, follows:

"On January 7, 1926, Dodge Brothers, Incorporated, will announce a tremendous reduction in the prices of their complete line of motor cars.

"These reductions will apply on all cars bought after midnight December 15, 1925.

"When the new prices are made known January 7 the full amount of the reductions will be immediately refunded to all purchasers since December 15.

"These revolutionary reductions are made possible by a recently completed \$10,000,000 expansion program—new building and equipment that will nearly double the capacity of Dodge Brothers factories in 1926.

MR. AND MRS. JOHNSON LOSE HOME BY FIRE

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Johnson lost their entire household goods and provisions last Friday when fire of unknown origin destroyed their home. In the loss is included a large lot of fresh meat which had just been salted away. Mr. Johnson had recently butchered several hogs and had put the meat away. The flames consumed every piece of it.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson lived in Nell's Creek township. The house was the property of J. A. Blalock of Miami, Florida. It is not known whether Mr. Johnson or Mr. Blalock carried any insurance.

Honor Roll of Hickory Grove School

Seventh grade: Essie Black, Marjorie McDonald and Eula McDonald.

ALL N. C. NEEDS IS ADVERTISING SAYS MR. CLARY

Publicity and Development Expert Declares That North Carolina Only Needs to Let the World Know

Miami, Florida, Dec. 19th.—Many Florida developers are prophesying that North Carolina will be the next state to experience a nation-wide boom with an attendant era of prosperity and growth unprecedented in the history of the commonwealth, according to Robert S. Clary, of Greensboro and Miami.

Numerous large subdividers and real estate developers now operating in Florida have signified their intention of establishing offices in North Carolina at an early date, says Mr. Clary, in order to be prepared for the tremendous development certain to be attained by the Old North State.

Because of the state's superb location, wonderful agricultural and manufacturing potentialities, and unequalled year-round climate, North Carolina's mountain, beach, and Piedmont hills will soon be in almost as great demand as the palms and sunshine of Florida. This prediction is made by a native North Carolinian who has made an intensive study of the two states' respective resources; for Mr. Clary is president of the Robinson-Clary Advertising Agency, with headquarters in Miami.

"All that North Carolina needs," says he, "is advertising. Every city in the state should follow Miami's lead and provide funds for this purpose, by imposing a publicity tax of two mills per dollar on the assessable valuation of all property within the corporate limits. Every property owner is glad to spend a fifth of a cent per dollar for advertising, as soon as he realizes that by so doing the value of his property will be doubled.

"Florida is booming because Floridians know that it pays to advertise. Single real estate companies are spending as much as \$2,000,000 per year for publicity; and practically every town and village in the state, as well as all of the large cities, are making appropriations with which to tell the world about Florida."

20 OBSERVATION STATIONS TO TEST CAUSES OF RADIO FADING

Investigation of "fading" on a scale never before attempted in the United States will be made in mid-January at twenty observation stations. It was announced today by J. K. Smith of the Stewart-Warner corporation.

Hitherto such experiments have been carried on in isolated sections of the country between two or at most three stations. The results of such research have been negligible. There is still no explanation of why signals should be stronger in the winter than static electricity leaps out of one's hair or sparks out of the rug a one's feet, and weak in summer when there are apparently no static charges in the things about us, according to Mr. Smith.

The Stewart-Warner observation post will chart readings on selected distant stations every two minutes during the period of the tests. The results will be averaged and plotted on a map similar to that issued by the government weather bureau. It is the belief of the engineers conducting the tests that curves which will make possible a comparison of effects and a search for causes will result. If so, the experiment will be repeated at regular intervals throughout the winter.

"By a comparison of 'fading' and the static curves with those of the U. S. weather map it will be possible to determine the effect of weather on such phenomena," said Mr. Smith. "By plotting the curves of 'fading' and static in tests on stations of varying wave length, some tangible progress may be made toward discovering what frequencies are best for broadcast.

"The plan to hold the tests originated in a discovery that Chicago reception this year has failed to follow the accepted rules. There have been several clear, cold nights on which it has been impossible to hear stations 500 miles apart.

"On the other hand, there have been warm, wet nights entirely free from static and perfect for broadcast reception from distant points."

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING GOING WITH A RUSH

The admonition to "Do your Christmas shopping early" may have its effect on some people, but never on the "late shopper." The late shopper intends to have his or her own time about "putting out" money on Santa Claus, and no one need interfere—at least such interference will be spent in vain. Merchants are experiencing the usual, annual, regular, much-to-be-expected late rush of shopping, and when the time rolls round to lock up shop and quit tonight the large stocks of Santa Claus ware will have been diminished to such extent that the clerks will experience little difficulty in clearing away the holiday remnants and displaying the ordinary every-day wares again.

Lillington merchants are much pleased, with the trade their customers and friends have given them this season.

A TRUE STORY

Christmas Seals! Christmas Seals! Who will buy?

The merry voice of a college lad pealed forth across the campus on the November air reaching the ears of a senior sitting in his room dejected, careworn, heart sick. The honor letter on his sweater, the debater's key, the fraternity emblem each told its story of achievement and happy days.

His roommate awkwardly pounded his shoulder saying, "It is just a slight attack, old man. You will be well in no time. The doctor said tuberculosis is easily cured when it is fought scientifically in the early stages. Your stay in the sanatorium will be a short one."

Brave, smiling, head erect and face forward, the senior put aside his dreams, folded away his cherished plans, went to the sanatorium and fought the fight. Days lengthened into weeks, and weeks into months until one shining day, glorious day the doctor said the longed-for word, "Cured."

"Tell my story, said this college senior. "Tell it to every student in North Carolina. Teach them that I might have been spared this trial if the health message of the Christmas Seals had been told to me while I was a child in school; had the health habits which help to prevent tuberculosis been trained into my life while it was easy to acquire them."

Christmas Seals! Christmas Seals! Who will buy? Each has its message of hope, each has its weapon to fight the Great White Plague.

GETTING READY FOR SPRING

Raleigh, Dec. 22.—"Now is the right time to begin preparations for the spring rush of planting," says E. C. Blair, extension agronomist at State College. "If plans are well laid now, and put into action without delay, a better crop will result. There are many important factors that contribute to a good yield, such as soil fertility, proper fertilizer, good seed, good cultivation, and good seasons; but other things being anywhere nearly equal, the crop that is planted on time will always outyield one planted too late.

"Fall and winter plowing is the first step to take. More fall plowing has been done this year in North Carolina than ever before. All fields not growing cover crops should be well broken as soon as soil conditions will permit. Winter freezes will pulverize these fields much better and cheaper than can be done with harrows in the spring.

"The farmer who is following a definite crop rotation already knows how many acres of each crop he will have next year, and on what fields, each crop is to be planted. This practice should be followed by all farmers to enable them to plan intelligently."

Mr. Blair advises every farmer to get his clover seed, lespedeza, soybeans, improved cotton seed, and seed corn for 1926 as soon as possible. Prices are nearly always lower at this time than in the spring, and seed offerings have not been picked over, so there is a better chance to get good quality. But most important of all, the seed will be ready when planting time comes, he says.

More than 115,000 acres having been sown to cover crops during the past few months according to reports from county agents to E. C. Blair, extension agronomist.

Take care of the milk cow during the cold winter months and she will return a good profit in increased milk production, say dairy extension workers at State College.

Chattel Mortgages at The News.

GIRLS VISITED INSTITUTIONS TO MAKE HAPPINESS

Girl Scouts and Scholars Gave Presents and Sang Songs to Inmates of County Home and Others

Girl Scouts of Lillington and Mrs. Bunn's class in school, under the direction of Mrs. Bunn and Miss Beck, visited the County Home Tuesday and entertained the inmates in that institution with Christmas carols. Besides the songs the girls carried baskets and packages of fruit, goodies and many other good things to eat which they presented to the inmates of the Home. The hearty good cheer which the visit of the young messengers brought to the unfortunate shut-ins/tornished a bright event in the lives of all the participants, the memory of which will linger through the years to come.

After leaving the County Home the Christmas Messengers went to other homes in the community—homes into which there might not come as much of the cheerful side of life as in some other cases—and presented their gifts and sang songs of Yuletide spirit.

In addition to the good things to eat, the Scouts and Scholars gathered articles of comfortable clothing and gave them where they were most needed. These things were much appreciated, and were equally appropriate gifts to accompany the other gifts.

Into every home visited by the Scouts and Scholars there was brought an amazingly bright happiness into the lives of those visited and the givers of the gifts were no less joyful than the recipients. A more delightfully satisfying method of celebrating the natal period of the world's Saviour could not be devised.

LILLINGTON LADY LIKES THE BEAUTY OF FLORIDA

A letter from Mrs. C. Y. Carlson (nee Miss Mary Betha) gives some idea of the attractiveness of Florida. Mrs. Carlson, who recently went to Florida with her husband, lives at Ocala, near Silver Springs. Mr. Carlson holds a responsible government position at Ocala. Mrs. Carlson in her letter to home folks says that Silver Springs and its surroundings hold some of the most beautiful scenery she ever saw, and that none of it is artificial—all natural formation and growth. She expresses herself as highly pleased with Florida and thinks it a wonderful country.

Perhaps it may furnish to people who have been unable to understand why Florida is so attractive to the throngs that go there, an idea as to the reason. The place is just so naturally beautiful that people love to enjoy the grandeur of it. Everybody loves beauty, and it does seem that a goodly portion of the people in the United States are seeking it.

RORY MATTHEWS WELL AND HAPPY IN LOCAL JAIL

Rory Matthews, who was convicted at the September term of Harnett Superior Court of the murder of Daniel J. McLeod, has been transferred from State Prison to jail here. Matthews is well and happy and is looking better, his friends say, than he has ever looked before. His appeal is pending before the Supreme Court, but cannot be heard before the early spring term.

Matthews was convicted at the September term of first degree murder and was sentenced by Judge W. A. Devin to die in the electric chair on Friday, November 13th. From this sentence the appeal was taken to the Supreme Court. The jury which found Matthews guilty also returned a recommendation to mercy, but the judge did not take the recommendation into consideration for lack of jurisdiction, and so that part of the verdict automatically falls within the prerogative of the Governor. It is certain that if Matthews' appeal falls in the Supreme Court his attorneys will appeal to the Governor for the clemency recommended by the jury.

Old newspapers for sale at The News office. 25 cents per hundred.

MISS CAMP TO SPEAK TO TENNESSEE GROUPS

Raleigh, Dec. 23.—Miss Mame F. Camp, director bureau county organizations of the State Board of Public Welfare, will leave tonight for Knoxville, Tenn., where she will address the social workers of Knoxville on welfare work in North Carolina.

She will also address the Woman's Club, of Knoxville on the subject of "County Organization," and how it tends to correlate the welfare work with other social agencies in this State. In addition Miss Camp has been invited by the State president of the Parent-Teacher Association of Tennessee, to speak to a representative group from various organizations throughout the State. This address is booked for Chattanooga.

According to Miss Camp, the State of Tennessee, is making a careful study of the extensive welfare program now in vogue in this State with a view to seeing how this program may be adapted to the needs of the Volunteer State. Various organizations throughout the State of Tennessee are formulating plans for a State-wide plan of Public Welfare to be presented to the next meeting of the Tennessee legislature.

Miss Camp will spend several days in Knoxville, where she will spend the holidays with relatives.

Before she returns to her work in this State, Miss Camp expects to visit the State Department of Public Welfare in Atlanta, Ga., for the purpose of studying the Georgia system of county organization.

NINE-DAY COURSE FOR CLAY WORKERS

The second annual short course in clay working and ceramics will be given during the nine-day period of January 18th to 27th by the Department of Ceramic Engineering at State College.

Last year thirty students, representing eighteen states, attended this course. All were connected with the clay-working industries. The course as planned for this winter has been increased in, and it is particularly designed to meet the need, through intensive technical training, of those engaged in the clay-working industries of North Carolina and other Southern States.

The Department of Ceramic Engineering at State College is the first ceramics department established at a Southern institution, and the winter short course has been arranged to further the tremendous expansion that is taking place in the clay working industries.

Lectures and laboratory demonstrations will be given by members of the faculty of the departments of Ceramic Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, and Business Administration, assisted by Dr. J. L. Stuckey, State Geologist, and other experts.

As a common school education will suffice as preparation for the course, it is anticipated that a large number of the ceramic plant owners of North Carolina and other parts of the country will not only themselves attend, but will send a number of their employees.

The classes will be held in the new Ceramic Engineering Building, the classrooms of which will be ready for occupancy by the first of the new year, judging by present prospects.

TAX COLLECTOR ABOUT HALF THROUGH WITH HIS LIST

Tax Collector Henry A. Turlington has completed his third and final round of collections and has to his credit just about half of the taxes on the books. In other words he has collected and turned over to County Auditor Pou Bradley \$232,498.52. There was when he received the books somewhere between \$450,000 and \$475,000 to be collected. The exact amount of taxes on the books this year has not been tabulated.

Mr. Turlington is now levying on personal property and is getting in about \$2,000 a day. Although the levying and garnishing processes are producing results, yet the collector has a long way to go before he can call the tax collecting for 1925 a finished job. The slump in the price of cotton is said to be responsible for a good deal of the slack just now in the collections. The collector expects his returns to be heavier in January.

Less than 10 per cent of the farm homes in the country are lighted by means of other than kerosene lamps, according to D. S. Weaver, Agricultural Engineer at State College. Mr. Weaver advises a small individual plant where other service is not available.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS GIVE SCHOLARS CHRISTMAS CHEER

Christmas Giving Exercises Held in Methodist and Presbyterian Churches Monday and Thursday Nights

On Monday night of this week the officers and teachers of Lillington Methodist Sunday School surprised their students with a handsome Christmas tree laden with presents. The tree was prepared especially for the delight of the younger set, but the older members of the Sunday School as well as visitors enjoyed the event immensely. Superintendent Marshall Spears started the program as master of ceremonies; but after the most important personage, the Honorable and Admirable Santa Claus, arrived upon the scene there was no attention to spare for anyone else. Some of those present ventured a wager that it was only Mr. W. P. Byrd "dressed up," but the kiddies were satisfied, and it was really Saint Nicholas himself. It was a truly cheerful occasion, and the presents made many a juvenile heart happy as Christmas could make it.

Tonight the Presbyterian Sunday School will stage Christmas tree exercises in their church. Superintendent O. L. Johnson and his staff of officers and teachers have laid wonderful plans for the entertainment and happiness of the students. "Would not be well nor fair, to tell or predict what will take place, that might spoil some of the fun, and besides, the surprise is more than half of the enjoyment of the occasion anyway. Those who wish to attend, whether they are members of the Sunday School or not, are welcome.

Although the Baptists devoted their attention closely to the pageant last Sunday night as their biggest Christmas effort, it is quite likely that groups of members will, as usual, take gifts to charity cases during the holidays.

DRAPER-FARMER

A wedding of much interest was that which took place Tuesday afternoon at 5 o'clock at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Caviness Brown, when Miss Vivian Draper and Mr. Don Farmer were quietly married. Only a few intimate friends were present. The ceremony was performed by Rev. L. M. Chaffin, Methodist minister of Mangers. Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Farmer left for a bridal tour. They will be at home in Dunn after January 1st.

The bride is well known and popular in Lillington and Dunn, at both of which places she has taught school for several sessions. Her home is in Boykin, Va. Mr. Farmer is a civil engineer and makes his headquarters in Dunn. The hearty good wishes of everyone are extended to the happy couple.

BAZAR AND TURKEY DINNER SUCCESS AT WOMAN'S CLUB

Patrons as well as promoters express themselves as highly pleased with the splendid success of the bazaar and turkey dinner given by the Woman's Club at their club house last Thursday afternoon and evening. Both the bazaar and the dinner were so well patronized that the Club realized sufficient funds to discharge all outstanding obligations, and it is their aim now to make further improvements upon the club house and grounds and to fit up a rest room for the accommodation and convenience of visiting women. The Woman's Club has long desired that the club house be a homeplace for the women of the county and other women who may visit Lillington, and they want all to feel free and welcome there. But before presenting and dedicating it to that purpose they want to have the place made so inviting that they will feel proud of it themselves. It is for this purpose that they are trying hard to make it presentable.

The Club expresses its appreciation to the public for their liberal patronage in all their efforts. Those who have been guests at the Club are anxious that they may be given every available opportunity to visit often.

Chattel Mortgages and crop lien blanks for sale by The News.