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LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF FORM

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO THE READERS OF THE PATRIOT FAR AND NEAR.

Board of Education.—The monthly meeting of the county board of education will be held in the court house annex Saturday morning at 10.30 o'clock.

Dr. Newlin to Preach.—Dr. Thomas Newlin, president of Guilford College, is to occupy the pulpit of the Friends church in Winston-Salem Sunday morning and evening.

Holding Court.—Judge T. J. Shaw is in Salisbury this week finishing out a term of Rowan Superior court for Judge H. P. Lane, who is detained at the bedside of a very sick child.

B. B. Phillips Dead.—Mr. B. B. Phillips, the father of Mr. G. B. Phillips, of this city, died Tuesday night at his home at Cameron, Moore county. He was 73 years old and a veteran of the Confederate army.

Assisting in Revival.—Rev. O. G. Jones, of this city, one of the evangelists of the Presbyterian Synod of North Carolina, is in Mt. Airy assisting in a revival meeting in the First Presbyterian church of that place.

19 New Residences.—During the month of November the city building and plumbing inspector issued permits for the erection of 19 dwelling houses in Greensboro, the total estimated cost of the buildings being \$30,000.

Col. McAlister Better.—Col. A. C. McAlister, of Asheboro, the aged father of Messrs. A. W. and J. S. McAlister, of Greensboro, who has been seriously ill of pneumonia and complications for several weeks, is reported to be improving.

Visiting Here.—Rev. Parker Holmes and family arrived yesterday from North Wilkesboro on a short visit to Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Gant. They leave today for their new home in Newton, where Mr. Holmes becomes pastor of the Methodist church.

Trustees Named.—The directors of the Young Women's Christian Association have named Mrs. C. J. Tinsley and Messrs. J. J. Stone and E. M. Oettinger as trustees of the R. C. Hood memorial fund, which is to be raised for the purpose of erecting a Y. W. C. A. building in this city.

Invitations Issued.—Dr. and Mrs. B. B. Williams have issued invitations to the marriage of their daughter, Miss Fannie Somerville Williams, and Mr. Fielding Lewis Fry, the ceremony to take place in St. Andrew's Episcopal church Wednesday evening, December 15, at 8.30 o'clock.

Coming Wedding.—Mr. Joel P. Huffman, of Elon College, has issued invitations to the marriage of his daughter, Miss Vivian Jewell Huffman, and Mr. Bruce Lafayette Cantrell, of this city, the ceremony to take place in the college chapel at Elon College next Thursday evening at 8 o'clock.

Death at Hospital.—Miss Minnie Allred, of Burlington, died at St. Leo's hospital Tuesday morning at 4.30 o'clock, following an operation for peritonitis she underwent Saturday. She was 21 years old and is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Allred, and a sister, Miss Swannie Allred.

Stuart-Thomas.—Mr. Ralph B. Stuart and Miss Nellie Thomas, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Thomas, were married last night at 9 o'clock at the home of Rev. R. D. Sherrill, who performed the ceremony. No announcement had been made of the wedding, which comes as a distinct surprise to the friends of the young couple.

E. G. Sherrill Resigns.—His friends in Guilford will be interested in the announcement from Raleigh that Mr. E. G. Sherrill has resigned his position in the office of the secretary of state and will return to Washington and resume the duties of the position he formerly held in the house of representatives. Mr. Sherrill's family returned to Greensboro from Raleigh a few weeks ago.

Wagoner-Barker Wedding.—Mr. Lacy T. Wagoner, a well known young man of Brown Summit, and Miss Ruth Barker, of Summerfield, were married last evening at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John H. Barker. The ceremony was performed by Rev. G. F. Milloy and was witnessed by members of the family and a few friends. The attendants were: Misses Hettie Burton and Esther Wagoner and Messrs. Roy Wagoner and Ernest Shields.

Dr. Claxton Here.—Dr. P. P. Claxton, United States commissioner of education, was a visitor in Greensboro yesterday, stopping over here a few hours on his way to Statesville, where he delivered a lecture last night. Dr. Claxton was a member of the faculty of the State Normal and Industrial College during the earlier years of that institution and the greater part of his time here yesterday was spent at the college.

W. E. Hockett Moves.—Mr. W. E. Hockett, a Guilford county man, who has been manager of Wright's hotel, in Raleigh, for some time, has gone to Charlotte to become manager of the Stonewall hotel. Mr. Hockett was engaged in the hotel business in Charlotte several years ago and prior to going to Raleigh was manager of a hotel in Danville, Va. Mrs. Hockett will visit relatives in Kansas before joining her husband in Charlotte.

New School Building.—Laborers are at work excavating for the new school building to be erected on South Spring street, on the lot the city recently purchased from Mr. C. A. Bray. The building will be of brick, with concrete foundations, and will contain eight school rooms—four on the first and four on the second floor. The cottage that formerly stood on the lot has been rolled back to the Cedar street end of the property.

Slump in Marriages.—The matrimonial business in Guilford county suffered a slump during the past 12 months, but whether it was due to the prevailing depression in the commercial and industrial world or to other causes has not been determined. During the fiscal year that ended Tuesday 734 marriage licenses were issued from the office of Register of Deeds Rankin as against 802 for the previous year, the decrease being 68.

Child Burned to Death.—The adopted child of George Harris, colored, who resides on Mr. J. W. Cone's place, a short distance northeast of the city, was burned to death about noon yesterday in a fire that destroyed the dwelling house, a one-story frame structure. The child was four years old and had been left alone in the front room of the house. Harris and his wife were at dinner when the fire was discovered by a neighbor. Coroner Stansbury decided that an inquest was unnecessary.

Injured by Automobile.—Robert Watson, 11 years old, the son of Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Watson, who reside on Asheboro street, was painfully injured yesterday morning when struck by an automobile driven by C. B. Hester. The accident occurred in front of the Asheboro street graded school. The injured boy was called across the street by a playmate and his response was without notice of the approaching car. The accident was described as unavoidable, although there has been some trouble recently on Asheboro street with speeders.

Fiscal Year Ends.—The fiscal year in the government of Guilford county ended Tuesday and the work of checking up the books, records, etc., is now in the hands of the county auditor. It is stated that there will be a decrease in the earnings under what is known as the Gordon salary act, though the amounts will not be known until all the expenses are deducted and the figures audited. Last year the offices of sheriff, clerk of the court, register of deeds and treasurer showed a combined profit of \$18,186.89, of which the schools received \$2,831.49 and the road fund \$15,355.40.

Offered Good Position.—Prof. C. C. Wright, superintendent of the public schools of Wilkes county and well known as a Farmers' Union official, has been offered the position of secretary of the state board of agriculture to succeed Elias Carr, who has resigned to return to his farm in Edgecombe county. Prof. Wright was in Raleigh this week conferring with officials of the department of agriculture in regard to the matter and will shortly make known his decision.

Lawyer Wins Libel Suit.—The suit for libel brought some time ago by Charles O. McMichael, a leading member of the Rockingham bar, against D. F. King, a prominent citizen of Leaksville, was tried in Rockingham Superior court last week. The jury returned a verdict Saturday awarding the plaintiff damages in the sum of \$500. The case was hard fought, the services of eminent counsel being retained on both sides.

THIRTY KILLED IN EXPLOSION

VICTIMS DESTROYED BEYOND IDENTIFICATION IN ACCIDENT AT POWDER PLANT.

Thirty workmen were killed and seven fatally injured Tuesday in an explosion of four tons of black powder at the Upper Hagley yard of the Dupont Powder Company at Wilmington, Del. It was the worst accident that has occurred in any of the company's plants in a quarter of a century.

The cause of the blast is not known, and according to a company statement, the origin "will probably always remain a mystery." Nevertheless an investigation has been instituted by the officials of the company.

Nearly all the victims of the blast were young men between 16 and 21 years of age. Most of them lived in and about Wilmington.

The explosion occurred in a small packing house where black powder pellets are prepared for shipment to the warring nations. The packing house was one of a large group of small buildings which make up the Upper Hagley plant, about three miles northwest of Wilmington.

Twenty-six men were in the packing house when the powder went off and not enough of any of them was left for identification, with the exception of Allan A. Thaxter, the foreman, whose home is given as Portland, Maine. He was torn to pieces and a part of his body was found hanging on a tree across the creek. It was identified by shreds of clothing that still clung to it.

Four of the 30 men killed were blown to pieces when at work outside the packing house. Company officials said the property loss was small. The men injured were outside the plant. They were struck by bits of machinery, flying boards, rocks and other debris. Physicians stated they were so badly hurt that not one of them is expected to survive.

One theory advanced by workmen at the yard is that the explosion may have originated in a spark from a horse's shoe or a spark caused by a small car running over some spilled powder.

The shock of the blast struck terror to the hearts of the residents of Hagley, Henry Clay and other settlements along the Brandywine, accustomed as they are to powder mill explosions. The Dupont works are operating in three shifts and every home in the neighborhood is represented among the employes of the plant.

Fatal Coal Mine Explosion.

Boomer, W. Va., Nov. 30.—Thirty men are missing tonight as a result of an explosion caused by a blow-out shot in mine No. 2 of the Boomer Coal and Coke Company here today. Three hundred miners were at work at the time, but mine officials say 270 have been accounted for. Thirty men were removed from the mine tonight by rescue parties. All suffered from the effects of the explosion but none was in a serious condition.

Ten miners were rescued from a sub-entrance to the mine tonight in a semi-conscious condition. When revived they said they had seen many men apparently dead a short distance from the point where the explosion occurred.

One of the rescued miners said that 75 men were working near the place where the explosion occurred.

The mine, which was recently inspected and found in good condition, is an old one and but few accidents have occurred there. A majority of the men employed by the company are Italians.

Guilford Case in Highest Court.

The damage suit brought in the Superior court of Guilford county about four years ago by W. L. Lloyd against the Southern Railway Company was argued Monday in the Supreme court of the United States. Mr. A. L. Brooks appeared for Lloyd and Mr. John N. Wilson for the Southern. Lloyd, who was formerly an engineer in the service of the Southern, brought suit for alleged personal injuries and at the second trial, in the fall of 1913, was given a verdict for \$12,500. This is the largest verdict for personal injuries ever given by a jury in Guilford county.

Mr. A. Coble, one of The Patriot's good friends in southern Guilford, was a welcome caller at this office a few days ago.

FIGHTING ON ITALIAN FRONT

SLOWLY DRAWING NET AROUND AUSTRIANS—POSITION OF GREECE AND RUMANIA.

With the retreat of the greater part of the Serbian army across the Albanian frontier, the slowness of the operations against Montenegro and in southern Serbia owing to the wintry weather, and the absence of any major operations on the western and eastern fronts, interest in the military side of the war is now transferred to the Austro-Italian frontier, where King Emmanuel's troops are carrying on an energetic offensive against the Austrians.

The fighting on this front has been the most sustained and fiercest battle of the whole war. For weeks the Italians have been attacking the Austrian bridgeheads and mountain positions along the Isonzo river, and are slowly but surely drawing their nets around Tolmino, Gorizia and Doberdo. Their attacks have been repeated time after time against positions which had been most carefully prepared.

This for the time being is Italy's contribution to the Balkan operations of the allies, for it keeps a large force of Austrians busy and makes it necessary for them continually to bring up reinforcements which could be usefully employed against the Montenegrins and Serbians. The Serbians, unless followed into Albania, will in time probably reappear as a rejuvenated army, for it is said that 250,000 of them, including soldiers and civilians, have taken refuge there and that they have saved all their mountain batteries and a portion of their field guns. Also included in this number are all the youths who can fill the gaps when equipment reaches them from the Adriatic.

Demands Not Complied With.

The ultimatum stand of Greece and Rumania toward the entente powers is a question which again looms large. Greece, so far as can be ascertained, has not yet complied with the demands of the entente powers' last note, which it is understood embraced the concrete proposition that their forces should be absolutely untrammelled in Greek territory. In London the fear seems to prevail that Greece will not acquiesce to the full in these demands. Rumania according to unofficial reports, has declined to accede to a proposal from Russia that Russian warships be permitted to use the Danube to move against Bulgaria and has demanded that Russia respect her neutrality.

Kitchener Returns Home.

Earl Kitchener, the British war minister, has returned to England from the near East and is expected in a few days to lay before the British war council the results of his observations and also his conversations with the king of Greece, the king of Italy and the members of the French war council, whom he visited on his trip home.

AN APPEAL TO MINISTERS OF GUILFORD COUNTY.

The National Anti-Tuberculosis Society has undertaken a tremendous work. It is their object to have as many people examined during the week of the 6th to the 12th of December as possible. This is done in order that those cases of tuberculosis in their incipency may be detected, and the persons notified and advised how to cure themselves. It is not believed that this agitation will bring about a state of phthisisphobia, or abnormal fear of tuberculosis, but that it will teach them that there are many cases existing which are not suspected, and that the great majority of them can be cured.

With this in view, the Guilford County Medical Society has asked, through this committee, that the ministers give an entire sermon, if they see fit, or certainly part of their sermon for December 5 urging every one to be examined. An effort is to be made to give to those who are unable to pay a free examination on December 9.

Every minister is interested not only in every person in his church and congregation, but in the community; and we take it they will gladly help in this noble and altruistic work.

J. T. J. Battle, chairman; F. C. Hyatt, W. M. Jones, J. T. Burrus, H. W. McCain, Committee.

BIG FARM ON REEDY FORK SOLD AT GOOD PRICE.

Mr. J. R. Caffey has sold his farm on Reedy Fork creek, in Bruce township, to the Brown Real Estate Company, of this city, for \$18,000. The farm contains 721.58 acres and sold for about \$240 an acre. The place was purchased by Mr. Caffey some years ago from Mr. C. D. Benbow. The Brown Real Estate Company buys it as an investment and will probably divide the property into small tracts and place it on the market.

In the transaction Mr. Caffey purchased from the Brown Real Estate Company three lots of what is known as "The Cedars" property, on North Mendenhall street and Guilford avenue, in this city, the consideration being \$10,000.

Other real estate transfers in the county recorded this week are as follows:

Vanstory & Balsley to W. W. Neal, two lots with a frontage of 60 feet each on Hendrix street, in this city, for \$2,650.

P. P. Yates and others to Garland Daniel, a lot 22 by 41.66 feet on East Sycamore street, in the city of Greensboro, \$10 and other valuable considerations.

Sallie Clapp to R. M. Clapp, five small tracts, three in Morehead township and two in Gilmer, \$1 and other valuable considerations.

J. L. Jones to Annie H. Burton, tract consisting of one-half an acre in Monroe township, \$10 and other valuable considerations.

A. H. Jenkins to Frank Paul, a lot 50 by 150 feet on Ragan street, in the city of High Point, \$250.

A. L. Lambeth to Frank Pritchett, a tract consisting of about two acres in Madison township, \$50.

Riley Totten and wife to Urias Totten, a tract consisting of 19,312 acres in Rock Creek township, adjoining the lands of R. B. Andrews and others, \$579.

C. G. Wright and wife to O. J. Daniel, a lot 45 by 108 feet on Fisher avenue, in the city of Greensboro, \$1,150.

C. G. Wright and wife to Margaret J. Halladay, a lot 50 by 105 feet on Wainman street, in the city of Greensboro, \$1,650.

R. R. King, Jr., commissioner, to the Mineola Manufacturing Company, a tract consisting of .97 of an acre in the town of Gibsonville, Rock Creek township, \$150.

Miss Allie Gray Strickland to C. C. Gray and wife, a lot 50 by 150 feet on Smith street, in the city of High Point, \$175.

J. W. Clinard and wife to Miss Allie Gray Strickland, a lot 50 by 159 feet on Smith street, in the city of High Point, \$125.

GREENSBORO WANTS THE CITIZENS' TRAINING CAMP.

Efforts are being made to have Greensboro selected as the location of the citizens' soldier-training camp the war department may establish at some point in North Carolina next summer. Congressman Stedman called at the war department Tuesday and presented the claims of Greensboro. The Guilford Battle Ground Association has tendered the government the use of the historic battle field for the camp, and it is figured that this should have considerable weight in balancing the scales in Greensboro's favor.

The assistant secretary of war told Congressman Stedman that Greensboro's claims would receive due consideration.

Greensboro is one of a dozen or more North Carolina towns seeking the honor of being selected as the location of the training camp, the others recalled at the moment being: Charlotte, Statesville, Hickory, Asheville, Hendersonville, Waynesville, Gastonia, Salisbury, Raleigh, Goldsboro, Newbern and Morehead City.

Fourteen White Illiterates in Greensboro.

It is stated that only 14 adult illiterates have been found among the white population of Greensboro. When the school census was taken recently the enumerator was required to take the names of all adult illiterates, and he reported that he found only 14 grown white people residing within the city limits who could not read and write. Of course it is regrettable that there is a single illiterate person in Greensboro, but it is doubtful if any other town in the state can make such a good showing as this.

AMERICA TO REBUILD FRANCE

COMMISSION IN THIS COUNTRY ARRANGING TO SPEND MANY MILLIONS HERE.

That Europe must be rebuilt after the war, and that a large part of the material for the rebuilding must come from America, are natural conclusions, to be confirmed by the recent arrival in this country of the French industrial and commercial commission. These gentlemen will arrange for the annual expenditure of hundreds of millions of francs, or scores of millions of dollars, for American machinery to be used in the rebuilding of French industry. The commission is not a government organization, but is promoted by leading French commercial bodies and bankers. It is composed, the New York Times tells us, "of distinguished experts, the secretary of the appropriations committee of the chamber of deputies, a representative of the Credit Foncier, delegates of the French spinning industry, the department of agriculture, and the department of commerce—official spokesmen." In short, of French agriculture, banking, commerce, and industry. These experts will observe and plan, inspect our industries and talk with our business men. The actual purchasing will come later, when the war is over. Maurice Damour, who heads the commission, thus explained his errand to inquiring newspaper men:

"The United States has built a great reputation for making machinery of precision and reliability as a result of the materials sent to France since the war. This country will get the great trade in machinery that Germany had before the war, a trade that amounted to \$160,000,000 a year. This is why we are here to learn what to buy and how to buy and how best to buy it and arrange close connections between the banks of the two countries to aid in making the purchases. We want the cooperation of your industries, your commerce, and your banks. To obtain that is our mission."

"We want to effect a general modernization in all French commercial, industrial, and agricultural lines. With our population reduced by the war, we will be compelled to equip our factories with modern machinery. The money that we spent in Germany for the purpose will be spent in the United States. The figure of \$160,000,000 a year is small compared to what will be spent in the future, because the machinery of northern France has been destroyed, and as the Germans withdraw they will leave little that can be used by us. We shall eventually buy every kind of machinery, agricultural implements, tools, hardware, spinning machinery, clock-making machinery, and mining machinery."

"In return we want the United States to buy the manufactured output that the United States formerly bought from Germany, our toys, for instance. We do not want to go into competition with you. The machinery we buy will not be used for that purpose. We shall ask you to buy from us goods that you do not manufacture here extensively and which formerly came from Germany. Our war with Germany will not end with the fighting. A trade war will follow."

Much business for the United States ought to come out of this visit. Between the value of Europe's present needs, the "war-orders," says The Wall Street Journal, "and the prospective replenishments and expansion that will arise after the war, a large section of United States business seems to be provided for in years to come." And the New York Times is led to observe:

"Those who may be alarmed by the absurd prominence given to the munition and other war orders, those who dread lest American commerce should not be 'stabilized,' forget how great a business the rebuilding after the war will bring to the only country in a condition to do it. The mere item of agricultural machinery will be stupendous. Russia's demand alone will be very great. And although the development of her industries has been difficult and she must remain predominantly agricultural, her industrial needs will be great. Over much of Europe, outside of Great Britain, replacement and restoration will be the imminent task of nations. It is for the United States to do what service it can in such a situation and to take all the advantage it can get out of such a situation so long as it lasts."