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THE LUMBER BRIDGE NEWS.

LUMBER BRIDGE, N. C.

REV. P. R. LAW, EDITOR.

We are in full sympathy with the Charlotte Observer in its feeling of disgust and indignation at what is known as yellow journalism. There is one phase of it to which we feel we may advert with a profitable word. We have no patience with the editorial policy that in its craving for sensational conduct is unscrupulous about the subjects selected and means employed in doing it. The baser part of human nature is arrested and held by it, and therefore it is regarded as a popular method. And it is to a degree popular. But reflect for a moment upon the depraved taste and reckless disregard of public morals it reveals. It is the worst man in the community that is being always for moral fith, and is a witness in every scandal trial in the neighborhood. How much worse is the editorial work that heralds through the world that which is filthy and degenerate because it gives a sort of notoriety and probably yields an increase of revenue. No worse man lives than the man who would thus deliberately corrupt the masses of the people for money.

It was a pleasure to us to spend a part of last Friday at our capital. We invariably run a contrast when we call between the town today and the town a decade and a half ago. There has been a great advance. And the progress has been a healthy sort of one. Signs of unnatural and unstable development are apparent. That overbuilding, which unoccupied stores reveal, has in no wise victimized its growth and reared a pointer to earlier or later doom. One of the pleasing views of the place at a point you must naturally go to are the elegant bank buildings which make the corner of a rather stately square. These structures would be conspicuously ornamental similarly placed on any block in any town of the State. Brick business houses, not one but two-stories high, massively built, suggest real thrift and long forethought. The thermometer was ranging high, but cool drinks were at hand. We saw a number of bunches of that rare fish really found nowhere save in Lumber river, so we inferred the fishermen, and they are many, were happy.

We are impressed more and more as the years go by with the variations in the seasons. The larger or smaller rainfall the higher or lower degree of temperature are but a small part of it all. They are too general. There comes in endlessly the time the rainfalls and the length of the periods between rains. Intensely hot days, two or more sometimes, then only one preceded and succeeded by almost if not quite unseasonably low thermometers. So that the state of the great staple crops in the field is made a puzzle to the student. They may or may not be in a condition to grow and fructify largely under average conditions in coming days or they may be in such a state that no conditions in the future, however favorable, can hold out any hope of even an average crop. The thoughtful farmer feels he is in the dark as to the outlook. Nobody gets more disappointment either agreeable or disagreeable than the farmer. Just what may be expected as this June draws to a close about our leading crops is truly guess work. How dependent we are upon Him who with His hand supplies the wants of every living creature.

We are really delighted at the talk among the folks who live round about, in the matter of the Home Coming of Robesonians abroad. They are coming. Everybody near by will be at Red Springs. Crops will be laid by. It is the holiday season from time immemorial. Picnics are synonymous with a general good time. All care is laid by and all that is jocose blazes and brightens. All the world knows the thrill of joy that the word brings. The oct-

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Insurance in This State.

The State Insurance Department has published, for the convenience and information of the public, advanced sheets from the annual report for the year ending April 1st, 1905. The figures give very interesting data concerning the insurance business, both fire and life, done in North Carolina, and the public generally will scan them with more or less interest. The most notable feature of the report is the showing made by the home companies. About one-sixth of the total business done in the State by fire insurance companies the past year was done by North Carolina companies. In 1899 the amount done by North Carolina companies was about one-tenth, which goes to show that the tendency of the times is to encourage the home companies and thereby keep North Carolina insurance money at home as far as possible.

The fire insurance companies doing business in this State last year as shown by the advanced sheets of the insurance commissioner show: Assets, \$824,286,968.85; surplus, \$104,274,577.05; cash capital, \$46,015,295.00; wrote business in North Carolina (fire) \$159,451,018.58; wrote business in North Carolina (marine) \$3,610,788.00; received in premiums, \$2,819,148.92; paid for losses, \$1,122,281.81.

The figures on the life insurance business done in the State during the same period of time are equally interesting, showing: Assets, \$2,817,863,514.13; capital stock \$11,075,090.00; surplus, \$285,440,650.00; policies issued in 1894, \$27,855,851.45; policies in force Dec. 31, 1904, \$98,958,022.77; premiums received, \$8,556,404.48; losses paid, \$1,104,010.17.

Fraternal Orders: Certificates in force, \$26,702,436.50; assessments collected, \$859,406.04; losses incurred, \$819,899.48; losses paid, \$290,747.65.

Assessment life companies: Received in premiums, \$110,556.72; paid in losses, \$38,579.20.

It would be interesting in this connection to know what percentage of the life insurance business of the State was written by North Carolina companies.—Charlotte News.

Ellerbe Springs.

Rockingham, N. C., June 26.—The Ellerbe Springs Company has been organized here. T. C. Leak president, W. M. Covington vice president, and R. L. Steele secretary and treasurer. The authorized stock is \$25,000. The company will begin business with \$6,000 paid in. The object of the corporation is to develop Ellerbe Springs, a local summer resort, two ve miles north of Rockingham. Almost from time immemorial Ellerbe Springs has been a favorite place for picnics, public speakings and rallies of various sorts. It consists of a spring of mineral water, a beautiful grove and a boarding house dignified by the name of "hotel." A church and school house have sprung up near by. The new company will erect an elegant hotel, cottages, etc. The good roads to be built in Rockingham township will reach almost to the springs.

Meeting of Cotton Growers.

There will be a meeting of the Cotton Growers of Raft Swamp township July 4th, in Raft Swamp church at 10 o'clock. Everybody is requested to be present, ladies also invited, and we will thank God for what has been accomplished and will discuss the war-bus business for the future. Why not have a picnic after the victory with general Green, on that date. W. K. CULBERTSON, Chairman.

McDuffie-McLean.

The Presbyterian church at Raeford was a scene of a most beautiful marriage, Wednesday evening June 20th, when Miss Elizabeth Almeta McDuffie became the bride of Mr. Herbert S. McLean. The church was tastefully decorated in white and green. Immediately before the bridal party entered the church, Miss Christiania McFadyen, sang in an impressive manner, "Bid Me to Love," accompanied at the organ by Mrs. J. O. Adams. At the strains of Mendelssohn's wedding march, the officiating minister, Rev. L. A. McLaurin, entered from the session room, followed by the groom and his best man, Mr. Will L. Trotter, of Greensboro.

The bridal procession entered from the right entrance in the following order:

Ushers—Mr. Hector Currie, of Red Springs, and Mr. Hector L. Brown, of Pembroke. Mr. H. C. McLauchlin and Dr. Harry Cromartie, of Raeford. Following the ushers, were the bridesmaids, Miss Ella Johnson, of Aberdeen, and Miss Lottie M. Millan, of Raeford, Miss Mary Toussaint, and Miss Sarah Frances Johnson, of Southern Pines. Next came the maid of honor, Miss Catherine McDuffie, sister of the bride, with her brother, Mr. Mardock McDuffie, who gave her away. After the ceremony, the bridal party left the church in reverse order, and repaired to the home of the groom, on Fulton street, where a reception was tendered them.

The out-of-town guests were: Rev. J. A. Smith, Wilmington; Miss Mary Brown, Red Springs; Miss Mona Currie, Pike; Miss Toddie McKay, Mr. J. J. Heckart, Aberdeen, and Mr. and Mrs. Neill McKay.—Red Springs Citizen.

Death of Stephen Wall.

Rockingham, N. C., June 23.—A telegram was received this morning announcing the death in Pittsburg, Pa., of Stephen Wall, Jr., only son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Wall, of this place. No particulars were given, the message simply stating that he had met with a fatal accident and that the remains would be brought home at once.

The deceased was graduated at the Agricultural and Mechanical College in Raleigh this year, having taken a good stand in his class. He immediately secured an important position with the Westinghouse Company at Pittsburg and left here about two weeks to fill this position. He was an electrical engineer.

His remains will be accompanied home by two other A. & M. College boys, who were with him in Pittsburg.

Young Wall was an exceedingly bright and attractive young man, was closely related to a large number of the people of his community, and his sudden death has a cast of a gloom over the entire community.

Marshal Dockery and family are at Wrightville Beach. They will leave Wilmington this morning for Rockingham to attend the funeral. Mr. John Dockery arrived last night on his way to Rockingham.

Dr. Winston, president of the A. & M. College, when apprised last night of the sad fate of Mr. Wall, expressed the deepest regret, saying that as a student Mr. Wall was a bright, modest, most lovable young fellow, and that his death would be keenly felt. Mr. Wall was adjutant of the 1st Battalion at the college.

The young man was a nephew of United States Marshal Dockery.

GENERAL NEWS.

The State's prison a few days ago sold 600 bales of its cotton for 9 cents a pound. The amount sold was about half of that on hand at the State farm.

The Swedish Riksdag convened yesterday and in his address King Oscar declared against coercing Norway, saying the union was not worth the sacrifice.

The City Trust and Safe Deposit Company, of Philadelphia, with deposits of \$1,385,000, went under yesterday as a result of dead banker Gaskill's stupendous forgeries.

The election in Greensboro Tuesday to vote on proposed bond issues of \$75,000 for waterworks and \$50,000 for additional school facilities resulted in a defeat for both propositions.

At North Wikesboro, Tuesday afternoon, P. A. Jennings, a highly respected citizen, who was employed as a hand at Smoot's tannery, fell in a vat and was dead when found, about 5 o'clock.

At San Francisco yesterday Thomas Lobb, a maniac, barricaded himself in a room, and after wounding nine men, he blew off the top of his head. He used \$50 and \$100 bills as wadding for his gun.

The insurance commissioner of New York sends the governor a report, in which he says President Alexander was a party to the notorious conduct of J. H. Hyde in the Equitable Assurance Society scandal.

Governor R. B. Glenn has decided to accept the invitation to deliver the address before the Tammany Society, at Tammany Hill, New York, July 4th. This will prevent the Governor's attendance at the annual meeting of the North Carolina Press Association.

Jesse T. Minggia, son of Mr. A. P. Minggia, a merchant of Henderson, ran away from home Tuesday morning, stole a ride towards Raleigh on a freight car, and was crushed to death under the wheels of the freight at Cary Tuesday afternoon. The young man was 21 years of age.

John Huffman, living 12 miles west of Wilkesboro, struck his wife Sunday evening with a chair. Seeing that the woman would die, Huffman left Monday and his wife was found dead in bed Tuesday morning. Huffman is said to be a desperate character and has been charged with a catalogue of crimes.

The dismissal of Herbert W. Bowen for several years United States minister to Venezuela and the exoneration of Assistant Secretary of State Frances B. Loomis, of the allegations of malfeasance of office brought against him by Mr. Bowen, are the outcome of the Loomis-Bowen controversy, which has attracted wide attention for many months past. This disposition of the case is made by President Roosevelt in a letter addressed to Secretary Taft.

Mr. J. P. Withrow, a well known merchant of Hollis and Elllenboro, Cleveland county, proposes to build a church at Hills with tobacco tags. Every tobacco chewer can contribute his part to this cause. Instead of throwing away the tags, just drop them into your pocket and forward them to J. P. Withrow, Hollis, N. C. Mr. Withrow bought and sold \$1,000 worth of tobacco tags last year, which fact will give a very clear idea of how easy it will be to collect enough tags to build a fine church.

The many friends of Mrs. Irvin Jenkins were glad to welcome her home from Baltimore yesterday.

Little Doubt of Cotton Leak.

The investigation of the charges made by Mr. Cheatham, the secretary of the Southern Cotton Growers' Association, that advance information of cotton reports was given to favored brokers is by no means concluded. Mr. Cheatham has gone to Atlanta after laying before the Agricultural Department all of the information he had in his possession. Since some question has been raised as to whether the cotton were in sympathy with the charges which have been brought at a meeting of the cotton growers has been called for June 29 at Memphis. It is said the meeting will sustain Mr. Cheatham.

The best information obtainable in Washington is that there is no doubt in the minds of the investigators that cotton reports did leak to brokers in advance for a consideration. There will be great difficulty in showing individual responsibility, and a prominent official expressed the opinion to-day that the culprit would never be known. At the same time there is a belief that the connection still exists between the Agricultural Department and the brokers, and those who are profiting by the illicit traffic are able to snap their fingers at the inquisitors. This is likely to result in President Roosevelt asking personal cognizance of the matter.

Those who have been representing Secretary Wilson as skeptical regarding the truth of the accusations are said to be entirely wrong. The secretary of Agriculture, on the contrary, believes the charges made by Mr. Cheatham to be very serious. Otherwise he would not have suspended Edwin S. Holmes, the assistant statistician, nor ordered John Hyde, the chief statistician, and head of the bureau, back from Europe. It is said that Secretary Wilson for the first time in four years is inclined to credit the statement that crooked work has been going on in the Bureau of Statistics. It is also said that he realizes that if this charge is true it is likely to result in an investigation of every branch of his department.

One of the most interesting developments of to-day's investigation has been the establishment of a connection between the Department of Agriculture and the office of a broker in Washington who is known to have been the direct correspondent of one of the most successful cotton operators in New York. This operator has been under suspicion as having profited not only by the advance information of the yearly crop given out in December, 1904, but also by the monthly reports.—Washington special, 19th.

An Afternoon Wedding.

In the presence of a few friends at the Rountree House, on Market street, where they are guests while in the city, Miss Emma Case, the attractive young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Case, of Chadbourn, and Mr. E. S. Nance, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Nance, of Clarkton, were quietly married at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, Justice G. W. Bornemann officiating. There were several attendants from among the guests at the house while Miss Rountree delightfully rendered the wedding marches. Mr. Nance and bride after spending a few days in the city and at the beaches, will return to Chadbourn which will be their home in the future. They received the happiest congratulations of those in attendance after the ceremony yesterday.—Wilmington Messenger, 22d.

ROWLAND DEPARTMENT, ROWLAND, N. C.

GEO. K. MCNEILL,

NEILL SMITH,

Editors.

A Sunday sent in Charlotte brought many convictions. The effect of prohibition is in evidence, and the strict enforcement of the law in regard to the sale of tobacco and cool drinks on Sunday makes it incumbent on the smoker to purchase his cigars on Saturday night and regale himself on hydrant water, Sundays, especially if he be a visitor. One will hear many hard luck stories from strangers in Charlotte on this day, but it is impossible to refrain from comment upon the wisdom of such excellent enforcement of the letter of the law in these respects. Charlotte is a clean town, morally, as well as physically. This is impressed upon the visitor at once. But even these convictions, whose voices are so strong in the praise of a deserving municipality, cannot silence the clamor of a worthy brother. Charlotte is a "hot" town—undeniably so in whatever sense you choose to use the word. In the way of climate, a pitiless sun and a slothful atmosphere conspired to impress the truth of this statement, while we were there. At least these seemed sufficient causes for the torridity until the advent of Tuesday's Observer. Then we were enlightened. This sweltering radiation in all probability came from the editor's vicinity, where the office boy would have doubtless had to peek over the transom from the outside to get, safely, and accurate reading of the editorial thermometer, when the temperature was at its zenith. And that brings to mind another conviction. Though the laws are comprehensive in this capital of Mecklenburg, bicycle riders and chauffeurs need not become alarmed. There is evidently no city ordinance that prohibits "scorching."

Verily, Charlotte is a great town, a clean town, whose strength is a law-abiding citizenship; but it is also a "hot" one. And it seemed so good to be homeward bound, inhaling deep draughts of country air through an open car window as the train sped along in the early bejeweled morn, when the opal-tinted miracle of sunrise was being wrought in the east, so good to know you would soon be back in the fields and woods, where the shape or use of such an editorial javelin as "polemics" is unknown, and all atmospheric maneuvers growing out of personal differences are conducted with "plain United States" as a medium of exchanging hostilities, where you may "cuss" your neighbor across the line fence as long as he'll stand for it, or fight him on his own property as long as you can stand for it, or conduct peace negotiations from either side of a demijohn of "mountain dew" as long as either of you can stand for it, without putting any of the proceedings in print, though you may bear some of the stamps, yourself—so good to be back where the strong-voiced whippoorwill challenges the spirit of the night, and the "chigger" chiggeth all the days of his life—so good to be at home.

But all this exhilaration could not shadow the fact that Charlotte is a great town, also a "hot" one.

This community is the unhappy victim of its own gluttony. It used entirely too much rain during the month of May and now are paying the penalty of it. (Continued on 4th page.)