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WHOLE NO. 2115

## GREAT PROJECT OF THE SEABOARD

Trunk Line to Reach From Tennessee to the Atlantic.

## MAKES SHORT LINE TO WEST

Will Make Direct Course From West and Middle West to the Gulf—Had in Its Inception the Purchase of South and Western by Seaboard.

Pittsburg Pa., Feb. 20.—A great railroad project, destined materially to change the face of the industrial South will be officially announced by the Seaboard Air Line Company in a few days from its headquarters in Portsmouth, Va. The project is nothing less than the construction of trunk line from Tennessee to the States of Alabama, Georgia and Florida and to ports on the South Atlantic coast. This line will also afford the West and Middle West the shortest route to the Gulf States from Cincinnati, the gate way to the South.

The trunk line project of the Seaboard had its inception in the purchase of the South and Western railroad. This comparatively insignificant line is now in operation between Johnson City, Tenn., and Spruce Pine, North Carolina. With a short route operated the mileage is only about 75 miles. The Seaboard Air Line purchased the property, the rights of way and the franchises of this little Tennessee line several months ago, but it has kept the purchase quiet, fearing that if it goes out its revivals would obtain an inkling of its plans and thwart them. Now, however, ownership of this line will be one of the things announced by the Seaboard in a few days.

The work is now being accelerated by large additions to the construction forces which on February 1 were brought up to 10,000 men. Connections have been made with the Norfolk and Western at Dante, Tennessee. The road will next be extended northward through Tennessee to Elkhoru, Ky., where it is proposed to connect with the C. and O. railroad, a road allied with the Seaboard at other points and over whose tracks it will obtain entrance into Cincinnati. Southward the South and Western will be extended to a point at or near Columbia, S. O., where connection will be made with the Atlantic and Birmingham divisions of the Seaboard.

When these plans are carried out they will give the Seaboard the leading position among the roads which reach the Ohio river from the South and a great change in the transportation facilities for the South's industrial section will inevitably come.

The new trunk line will also give the Seaboard which has heretofore confined itself to the eastern coast travel to and from the South, an entrance into the Middle West and will make it a formidable rival of the Louisville and Nashville and the Queen and Crescent road.

The last named lines as well as others between the Alleghenies and Mississippi will undoubtedly bitterly resent the entrance of a rival into their territory but the Seaboard's project has the powerful backing of the great Pennsylvania system, both financially and in a traffic way. The Pennsylvania lines west of Pittsburg, especially will co-operate with the new line

## PASTORS' CONFERENCE.

To Be Held With First Baptist Church March 13-15.

The following is the program for the Pastors' Conference to be held in The First Baptist church of Lumberton March 13-15, 1906: Tuesday—2:30 p. Co-operation and fellowship among the pastors, O. P. Meeks and K. Barnes.

3:30 p. m. How may our churches be placed on a higher spiritual plane? I. P. Hedgpeth and J. W. Cobb.

7:15 p. m. Address, by E. D. Hale, D. D.

Wednesday—10:00 a. m. Devotional Exercise.

10:30 a. m. How to preach on the Parables of our Lord, A. H. Porter and A. E. C. Pitman.

11:30 a. m. Hebrews 6:1-9 10:26-29, F. O. S. Curtis and J. J. Scott.

2:30 p. m. Best methods of sermon preparation, J. G. Blacklock and D. P. Bridges.

7:15 p. m. Development of the Sunday school work in our churches, J. B. Jackson and I. E. McDavid.

Thursday—10:00 a. m. Devotional Exercise.

10:30 a. m. Should a preacher accept the pastorate of a church which is in arrears with the former pastor? C. H. Durham and P. T. Britt.

11:30 a. m. Should we not give more attention to the reception of candidates to the ordinance of Baptism? M. A. Stephens and R. L. Byrd.

We hope each speaker will be present, and that all the preachers will attend.

Committee.

## NEGROES ARE PRACTICING NEW RELIGIOUS FEATS

Women Folks Must Kiss Pastor, who Embraces Them—Husbands Object to This.

Atlanta, Feb. 13.—A new religion among the negroes of Atlanta, one of the principles of which is that all female communicants must hug and kiss the pastor and elders of the church, will be investigated in the police court today.

The pastor of the local branch of the new church, "Apostle" Alexander Dowson, who hails from the West Indies, has been arrested on complaint of several husbands who thought he was too vigorous in his religion. It is called "The Church of God, Saints of Christ."

One of the requirements of the church is that each member shall contribute ten per cent. of his or her earnings every week for the support of the "Great Prophet," who is stationed in Washington. The church also observes Saturday as the Lord's day.

All male members of the congregation are entitled to receive a kiss and a hug must seek them out. The pastor stands in one corner of the church and receives the embraces of the faithful.

South from Cincinnati and will give it a big freight and passenger business from the first days of its option.

The extension will be costly for the Seaboard. The construction of 260 miles of railroad is necessary to give the new line the South Carolina junction to Cincinnati. It will take about two years, it is stated, to complete this construction, and trains will be moving over the new line from the Cincinnati gateway by the spring of 1908.—News & Observer.

## COMMENTS ON VARIOUS TOPICS OF INTEREST AND REMINISCENCES OF FORMER ROBESONIAN.

BY D. P. M.

Red Springs, Feb. 20.—The long expected has unexpectedly happened at last. As people were leaving their churches last Sunday fire was seen issuing out of a fire trap that has long since been a standing menace to the town. In a few minutes it was beyond control, and with a high wind took the bit in its teeth and has devastated the greater part of the business portion of the town.

The late Dr. Angus D. McLean, grandfather of Mr. Wilson McLean, who died in 1869, was one of the most prominent men of upper Robeson county in his day. He had a wide practice as a physician, and not only could he cure the bodily ills of life, but when the Supreme summons came he was ready to administer the last consolation that a dying soul craves. He was a man of unusual intelligence and had read much, and on his frequent rounds he administered as much intellectual pabulum as he did of medicine. He was a sincere Christian and an active philanthropist. He always reminded me of the Bonny Brier Bush of Dr. McLaren. He literally wore himself out in the arduous duties of his profession and was poorly paid for his services. He died comparatively young, at the age of 57, I think. He practiced some 35 years, and I have heard it said that the first family that he was called in to see when he started out to practice was the last one he attended before taking his bed for his last illness, and for all this work he never received a penny. A history of his life would make interesting reading. Steps should be taken to preserve some record of men prominent in their time and generation, as an incentive to the coming generation. In upper Robeson there were two Dr. McLeans. Messrs. A. D. and Hector, who were known respectively as Dr. Angus D. and

Dr. Hector. This designation is still preserved by the older people.

The X. Y. Z. Club at this place had under consideration the propriety of sending Miss Alice a wedding present, but was unable to decide upon the proper kind. A majority wanted a chafing dish, but the minority insisted that a pastor would be more fashionable. They are still undecided and I fear Miss Alice will lose her Red Springs present.

Old Dr. Hector McNeil, who lived on Rockfish years ago, was an unique character. He was a bachelor and well off for those days, owning several slaves. He said of him that the way he had of entertaining his friends was to take them out to the woods and selecting the biggest pine tree he could find (and there were some big pines on Rockfish in those days) he'd call up eight of his best negroes and start them cutting the tree down (what would Jim Williams give for such a tree today!) The musical rhythm of the axes as the chips began to fly was sweet to the old man's ears.

If the reported interview of Dr. McArthur on social equality is true then I hope the president and students of Wake Forest will tell him to stay a while longer up North, as we not only don't want to hear such people speak, but we don't want to be seen in their company. To make himself a downright ass, give me a wrong-headed Scotchman every time. We can come nearer filling the bill than any other long-eared animal I know of.

The Bell Ringers appeared in the auditorium last night and were greeted by a large and appreciative audience. The performance was all that the most enthusiastic audience could anticipate. It was unique, grand, inspiring, ennobling and everything else, a la Henry Blount, that you can imagine.

## KING OPENS PARLIAMENT.

Pageant Was Rather Less Brilliant Than Usual.

London, Feb. 19.—The pointed reference to Ireland contained in King Edward's speech to the Houses of Parliament today, coupled with the announcement of the determination to grant constitutional government to the Transvaal, brought these two questions immediately to the forefront in the debate in the House of Lords and the House of Commons on the motions or the address in reply to the speech from the throne. In the former House the debate was almost perfunctory except where Lord Lansdowne, assuming his new role of leader of the opposition in the upper House, pointed out certain dangers connected with the proposed changes and incidentally commented on the Algeciras conference and the situation in Macedonia, warning the government of possible difficulties arising in the near East unless Great Britain maintained a firm attitude. It was in the House of Commons that the debate on the address became interesting, when Joseph Chamberlain, in the absence of former Premier Balfour, took the place of the leader of the opposition and in a brilliant and lengthy speech attacked the government on all points, and especially on its South African policy. He threw down the gauntlet regarding home rule for Ireland. Regarding tariff reform, Mr. Chamberlain promised to give the government several bad quarter-hours.

## NEW THREE-STORY BUILDING.

Large House Will be Erected for the Eagle Furniture Co.

Material is being purchased by Mr. W. W. Carlyle for the purpose of having a large three story building erected on the vacant site between the stores of Messrs. Blacker Bros., and W. J. Prevatt. The building will be occupied by the Eagle Furniture & Carpet Company, which although a new enterprise, is rapidly growing, and the daily increasing stock demands more room. The new building will be one of the most commodious, handsomest and in every way, one of the most modern and up-to-date business houses in Lumberton. Among numerous conveniences, Mr. Carlyle will install an elevator.

## ALLENTON NEWS NOTES.

Mr. N. Wade is suffering from an attack of grippe.

Mr. Charles Speight has moved from Hamlet to near Allenton.

Mr. and Mrs. Conoly have moved from Allenton to Mr. Cottingham's Saw Mill.

Miss Nicie Hammond is seriously ill, your correspondent regrets to chronicle.

Mr. J. E. Carlyle visited Allenton recently in the interest of the Cotton Growers Association.

Mr. W. C. West has returned from a visit of one week in Marion county, S. C., where he visited his daughter, Miss Rosa E. West, who is very sick.

## MAXTON NEWS LETTER.

The New McCaskill Building Already Occupied.

Maxton, N. C., Feb. 22.—The new McCaskill building is now completed and the following have already moved in it: Dr. H. W. McNatt, drug store on the corner, and D. W. Townsend next store, groceries, and Messrs. L. T. Cook and McLean & Black, lawyers up stairs. Several more are to come in shortly.

Mr. Jordan, a contractor, of Hendersonville, N. C., arrived here Monday with a large force of workmen to begin work on the dwellings of Messrs. R. D. Croom and J. C. McCaskill, Jr.

Miss Mary Eliza Robinson was the guest of her friend Miss Cammie McCaskill, Sunday, returning to her home at Red Springs Monday.

Miss Sallie McLean has returned from Florida and is now at the home of her brother, Mr. A. A. McLean, who is still seriously ill.

Hon. G. B. Patterson arrived Friday night from Washington to be here on business, and left again last night.

Misses Beatrice and Mary McEachern, of Red Springs were the guests of Miss Clarkie McLean last week.

Bishop Strange, of Wilmington, preached in the Episcopal church here Sunday morning and night.

Mr. S. B. McLean was in Lumberton Saturday and Monday on legal business.

Mr. R. C. Everett and wife, of Laurinburg, were in town Tuesday.

Mr. A. P. McLean, of Laurinburg, was here Tuesday.

## MUCH ACTIVITY NOW IN LOCAL RAILROAD CIRCLES

With Seaboard's Talk of Putting Down New Rails and Projected Roads Makes It Interesting.

There is much activity in local railway circles just at this time. Preliminary surveys and proposed lines are common. A conference here this week of Seaboard officials was held in order to devise means for moving the large number of freight cars now side-tracked along the line. The Seaboard recently lost ten engines in one day by collisions and fire, thus badly crippling its rolling stock.

The rumored extension of the Carolina Northern to Fayetteville or the building of a road to St. Pauls has created considerable interest among Robeson county people, who are anxious to get a road from Lumberton northward. It is hoped that some means will be devised by which the city can have better railway facilities.

## Blue and Gray United.

The Robesonian acknowledges the receipt of the following invitation:

"The Association of the Blue and the Gray especially invite you to attend a Reunion and Camp-Fire of the Blue and the Gray at Clarke's Opera House, Southern Pines, North Carolina, on Saturday, the Twenty-Fourth day of February, Nineteen Hundred and Six, all day. We want you with us, particularly the Veterans of the Blue and the Gray. Let us make this the great day of Old North Carolina."

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Porter passed through Wednesday afternoon en route to Tampa, Fla., on their bridal tour. They will return Wednesday to their future home at Emerson, where a reception will be given them at the home of the groom's mother.

## NICK LONGWORTH AND BRIDE OFF

Pass Through North Carolina on Their Southern Tour.

## WILL GO TO HAVANA, CUBA

Ride to Station in an Automobile—Pass Through Greensboro, Charlotte and Other Towns—Wreck Near Salisbury Delays Train Several Hours.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Longworth started on their honeymoon from Alexandria, Va., this morning at 11:18 o'clock over the Southern Railway. They will go to Tampa and from there take a boat for Havana, which point they expect to reach Thursday morning. They will make the trip to Tampa in the private car Elysian, which was awaiting them in the yards of the Southern at Alexandria about a half mile from the station.

The bride and bridegroom made the trip from Friendship, near Washington this morning in an open automobile, accompanied by Mrs. Longworth's maid and chauffeur. The machine went at an easy gait and they arrived at the little station at Spring Garden which is the Southern's station in the suburbs of Alexandria at 10:30 o'clock.

Mr. Longworth got out of the machine, lit a cigar and spent some time chatting with his wife who remained in the automobile.

Mrs. Longworth wore a tan colored broadcloth suit with handsome sable fur, and a tan hat trimmed with pink plumes.

After they had been there for about half an hour a little girl, daughter of one of the railway employees, asked the bride if she would give her her autograph.

"Certainly I will; where is your pencil," replied Mrs. Longworth. Pencil and paper were quickly produced and Mrs. Longworth wrote her autograph, "Alice Lee Longworth."

"Now, get his," she said, pointing to her husband. Beneath the name of his wife, Mr. Longworth wrote his signature and the date. The little girl thanked them both and went away happy.

She spread the news to the few people at the station as to the identity of the couple, but they were not bothered by a curious crowd as there were not more than a dozen people in and about the station.

As they got on the car a number of newspaper men alighted from the coach of the train but the bride and bridegroom were safely in their car before they could be overtaken.

The train pulled out of the station into the yards where the private car, Elysian, was attached. Mr. and Mrs. Longworth had a delightful ride from Friendship as the day was warm and sunny. They took a round about course so as to escape recognition.

Mr. A. B. Little, of Lumberton R. F. D. 5, was in town yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Watson are expected to arrive today from Mt. Airy.

Mrs. Sledge, who has been in Danville, Va., is expected the first of next week. She will be accompanied by Mr. Sledge's two little daughters, Etta and Beatrice Sledge. Mr. Sledge has rented the Jas. Jones cottage, and they will move in at once.