

THE ROBESONIAN

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Country, God and Truth

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LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA, MONDAY, MARCH 11, 1907

WHOLE NO. 2238



LADIES!

We have just opened another lot of those Beautiful

Combs and Hat Pins.

These Goods were made especially for the Jewelry Trade and are well worth your inspection.

Boylin's Jewelry Store, Lumberton, N. C.

To Sell At Cost!

The Eagle Furniture and Carpet Co., Lumberton, N. C.

Has decided to sell at COST, their whole entire line of China and Glassware--all new designs. We make this offer because we must have more room to display a more

Complete Line of Musical Instruments.

Give us your Christmas order for House Furnishings and Musical Instruments.

DON'T FORGET

To call on us. Ask our Prices---Compare Quality.

EAGLE FURNITURE AND CARPET CO.

Honest AS A Dollar.

The Best Suit Values in stores today are offered in the "Honest as a Dollar" Clothing. You will surely be surprised not only at their "Superior Quality," but at their "Perfect Fit," and you can get them at moderate prices. See our

Three Button Single Breast Sack at

\$10.00,

And our Three Button Double Breast Sack at \$12.50 and \$14.50, which are equal to the Best Custom Tailored Garments at twice the price. Come in and inspect our garments and see if we can't save you some money on your

Easter Outfit.

We have just received a nice assortment of Ties made especially for our trade, in Silk and Washable Goods, at from 15 cents to 50 cents.

Look out for our big offer in

Shoes

Next week.

Jenrette-Singletary Co

Next Door above Dr. McMillan's Drug Store.



Mr. Lawrence Explains Action of Commissioners.

To the Editor of The Robesonian.

I regret the misunderstanding that seems to exist as to the card of the mayor and town commissioners regarding local legislative matters. Their position has been misunderstood. It has occurred to me that a brief history of the local legislation will clear up this misunderstanding and satisfy all parties concerned. With this view, I have concluded to give the facts as I understand them, so that every citizen of the town may thoroughly understand the matter from the beginning.

The present board of commissioners have adopted the wise policy of submitting all important matters coming before them, to the citizens at large, and to ask for an expression of their opinion before taking action. Therefore, when the question of graded schools came up for consideration the board concluded to call a mass meeting of citizens to the end that the question be laid before them, and such action taken as might be desired. This meeting was largely attended. I have been informed that it was the largest meeting ever held in the town for the discussion of town affairs. The discussion took a wide range and many matters of public interest in addition to the graded schools, were debated by a number of speakers.

The result of the meeting was the appointment of a committee to whom the matter of graded schools, the town limits and a division of the town into wards, was referred.

The chairman of the meeting, Mr. R. D. Caldwell, appointed as this committee the mayor, Sheriff McLeod, Messrs. A. W. McLean, Stephen McIntyre, A. E. White and myself. After the appointment of this committee the mass meeting adjourned to meet again at a later day and receive the committee's report and then take final action.

The committee carefully considered all the questions submitted to them and discussed, in addition, several other things which they considered should be done for the best interest of the town. They finally formulated their report and this report was laid before a second mass meeting held pursuant to the adjournment of the first meeting. This meeting, while not so largely attended as the first, was well attended. The committee submitted their report and several phases of the report was discussed pro and con. As I recall it, the points in controversy before the second meeting were the town limits and the board of audit and finance, which the committee had recommended. It is up to this board of audit and finance that the present misunderstanding seems largely to depend. As I recall it, nothing was said about a board of audit and finance at the first meeting, but a majority of the committee considered it advisable for the town to have such a board, and hence incorporated in their report the recommendation that such a board be established. They made several other recommendations upon matters which were not referred to them. All these matters, however, were taken up fully at the second meeting, and the report of the committee was read in full two or three times. In concluding their report the committee recommended that the present charter of the town be revised to the end that the entire charter of the town be embraced in one act. The report of the committee was almost unanimously adopted. I do not think that more than two citizens voted against its adoption. I remember that Sheriff McLeod spoke against the board of audit and finance and I think the mayor did not exactly approve of the town limits as recommended by the committee on the eastern side of town. Sheriff McLeod and the mayor did not sign the report of the committee.

After the adjournment of the meeting the board of commissioners met and instructed me, as town attorney, to draw an act revising the charter of the town. Pursuant to this direction, I immediately proceeded to entirely re-draft the charter and was en-

gaged in this work about two weeks. When I finished the rough draft of the act, I caused several typewritten copies to be made and handed same to the commissioners and also to Col. McLean. Thereafter, I met with the commissioners and we proceeded to go over the bill carefully, section by section. The board instructed me to make three or four immaterial changes which are not now in controversy. When we came to the board of audit and finance, the board discussed this matter and were all heartily in favor of such a board. But when they came to the section providing that the chairman of this board should act as commissioner of the sinking fund and giving the board of audit and finance a veto power over the acts of the commissioners involving the expenditure of more than five hundred dollars. They did not approve these sections, as written, stating they did not consider the sections necessary or desired by our citizens. Upon their direction, I cut these sections from the bill. Thereupon, I sent the act to Col. McLean, with the request that he introduce and have it passed. Col. McLean sent word to me that he would not introduce it until he could have a conference with me. I ascertained that it was his position that the provisions relating to the audit and finance should be put in the bill just as the mass meeting recommended. The commissioners instructed me to go to Raleigh and take the matter up with the Colonel and I did so. The Colonel told me that he felt bound by the action of the mass meeting upon all the matters embraced in the charter but that if the mayor and board of commissioners disapproved of the sections referred to he was willing to do any of 3 things, to leave the question to another mass meeting, or draw the act so that the board of audit and finance would not go into effect until the expiration of the terms of the present commissioners, or until it was approved at the regular town meeting to be held in May. I considered this proposition to be fair and wired the board accordingly. It was difficult to make my conversation with Col. McLean fully understood by wire and the board did not understand it, and not understanding it, wired me to request the return of the charter from Col. McLean.

I showed this telegram to the Colonel and told him that the board evidently misunderstood my telegram; that I would go home and take the matter up with them and that I felt sure they would adopt one or the other of his suggestions. He told me to do so and he was willing to do any thing that was fair and that while desiring to satisfy the commissioners he did not feel at liberty to depart from the instructions of the mass meeting. I came home and laid Col. McLean's propositions before the board immediately. They saw at once that they had misunderstood my telegram and immediately accepted Col. McLean's proposition that the provisions referred to should not go into effect until approved at the May election. I immediately wired the Colonel that I had made satisfactory arrangements and to hold the bill until I could reach Raleigh the next morning. I went to Raleigh, saw the Colonel, told him of the action of the board. He said that the bill had already been introduced and he did not feel that he ought to make any changes in it at that time. He finally said, however, that he had handed the bill to two or three gentlemen from Lumberton, who were then in Raleigh, with the request that they change the bill so as to make it conform to the direction of the mass meeting and that if I would see them and they would agree that the provisions referred to should not go into effect until approved at the May election, it would be satisfactory to him and he would cause the bill to be amended in that respect. Otherwise he would not do so. I did not see these gentlemen and made no effort to do so, but came home at once, and laid the matter before the commissioners. They then pronounced the card which

appeared in a late issue of your paper. The changes to which the commissioners referred, and to which they intended to refer, were the changes made in the bill which I sent to Col. McLean. This is the only bill that has ever been sent to him. The card states upon its face that they objected to changes being made by two or three persons after delivery to our senator. This is correct. It is also true that only material changes made in the bill after delivery to Col. McLean were changes which were authorized by the mass meeting. The bill has been passed under the direction of Col. McLean.

I think the foregoing gives a full and correct history of the entire matter. I have tried to be accurate as to the fact. I very much trust that with this explanation all parties concerned will be satisfied. I feel assured that all connected with the matter one way or the other have acted in perfect good faith, and while they have differed in opinion as to the advisability of the veto power of the board of audit and finance, still they consider those holding the opposite view honest in their opinion. I think the matter of but little importance in any aspect. It is too small a matter to have any controversy about and I would greatly deprecate any feeling which might be engendered on account of it. I do not believe that such feeling has been engendered nor do I believe any will be.

R. C. Lawrence.

MAXTON NEWS LETTER.

Location for College Decided Upon--Public Debate to be Held--Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding to Live in Maxton--Personal.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Hon. G. B. Patterson and wife returned home Monday morning from Washington. Mr. Patterson and his brother, Mr. J. A. Patterson, were in Wilmington the latter part of the week and attended the banquet given by the Chamber of Commerce there.

Mrs. E. D. Croom has returned from Raleigh where she went to have her eyes treated.

The committee appointed by the Trustees of the Carolina Methodist Seminary to select a site for the location of the school have decided on the Patterson property in the edge of town and known as Patterson's Park. This is a very desirable location and included in the site is a very fine oak grove which will add to the beauty of the campus when completed. The lands secured by this committee was the property of Hon. G. B. and Mr. J. A. Patterson and Gilbert McKinnon. The building committee will meet here about the 1st of April and decide on the plans for the buildings. It is hoped to get to work on the building not later than the 1st of June and to have the same finished in time to open the school for the Spring Term of 1908.

Union services will be held in the new Presbyterian church here Sunday. The seats and carpet have been put down this week and this will be the first time the church has been used.

At a meeting of the Cotton Growers Association here last Saturday it was decided to have a public debate in the town hall on the 14th inst. The subject for discussion is "Resolved that modern exchanges are detrimental to the interests of producers and consumers". Major A. J. McKinnon, Mr. S. B. McLean and Dr. Kirkpatrick represent the affirmative and Capt. J. C. Everett, Mr. L. T. Cook and Dr. A. B. Croom the negative. Maj. Wooten, Dr. Gibson and F. L. Black, Esq. are the judges.

Miss Alvena Currie, of Pike, is visiting relatives here this week.

Maxton N. C. March 9, 1907.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

Wade Wishart, D. P. Shaw,
Wishart & Shaw,
Attorneys at Law,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
All business entrusted to us promptly attended to.
Office in Shaw Building.

T. A. McNEILL,
Attorney at Law,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
Will practice in all the Courts. Business attended to promptly.

A. McLean, J. G. McCormick, A. W. McLean,
McLEAN, McLEAN & McCORMICK,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
Offices on 2nd floor of Bank of Lumberton Building, Rooms 1, 2, 3, & 4
Special attention given to all business

CHAS. B. SKIPPER,
Attorney at Law,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
All business entrusted to him will receive prompt and careful attention.
Office in First National Bank Building over Post Office

E. M. BRITT,
Attorney at Law,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
Office upstairs in Argus Building.
All business promptly transacted.

McIntyre & Lawrence
Attorneys and Counselors at Law,
LUMBERTON, N. C.

E. J. BRITT,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Lumberton, N. C.
Office over Pope's Drug Store.

R. C. PARVIN,
Contractor and Builder,
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Plans, Specifications and Prices furnished on application.

S. L. BLACK,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
MAXTON, N. C.
Office on 2nd floor McCaskill Building, Rooms 6-8.

Dr. N. A. Thompson,
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
Lumberton, N. C.
Office at Hospital. Phone No. 11.
Down town office over Dr. McMillan's Drug Store. Calls promptly answered night or day, in town or in the country.

Dr. R. T. ALLEN,
Dentist,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
See over Dr. McMillan's Drug Store.

DR. J. D. REGAN,
DENTIST,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
See in Shaw Building over Pope's Drug Store.

Dr. F. H. PITMAN,
DENTIST,
ASHPOLE, N. C.

DR. R. G. ROZIER, DR. JOHN KNOX,
Drs. Rozier & Knox,
Physicians and Surgeons,
Office at rear of Robeson County Loan and Trust Company.

Dr. W. A. McPhaul,
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Night calls answered promptly.

The Crawford Mill.
We offer for immediate sale this excellent property, located near St. Pauls, Robeson county, N. C., on Great Marsh, with ample water power all the time. Plant consists of mill pond, three-story building and out-buildings, two steam engines, boiler, saw mill, planer, shingle machine, dry kiln, turning machinery, timber and grist mill. Plenty of timber near by. Excellent local patronage for saw mill and grist mill. The toll from grist mill alone will pay 7 per cent. net on total investment. Address THE OPTIC ODUM CO., St. Pauls, N. C.