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Blacker Brothers, 3-4 LUMBERTON, N. C. STATEMENT OF CONDITION OF BANK OF BLADENBORO, BLADENBORO, N. C. At the close of business June 23rd, 1909.

Subscribe For The Robesonian.

BOOSTING LUMBERTON.

Some Things Her Enterprising Citizens Have Done—Its Advantages and Opportunities—Bright Prospects for the Future—A Coming City.

Lumberton is one of your coming towns in Eastern North Carolina and it will not be long before it gets in the city class. The citizens of that good town recently got the boosting idea in their heads and started a movement to boom their town.

"We don't think that committee appointed to report to another meeting about ways and means to organize for boosting the town is going to sleep on the job, but it would be well to strike while the iron is hot. All who attended the former meeting were enthusiastic then about the proposed organization, but if there is too long delay their ardor may cool."

Lumberton is a town whose citizens have made it what is. Not many years ago it was a sleepy village nestling on the Lumber river, content with a fairly good mercantile business sustained by a healthy country trade.

However, Lumberton was in need of something to be done for it. When you pass through there on the train look out the car window on both sides of the town and you will observe that somebody did do something. You will see three prosperous cotton mills and a cursory glimpse of the town as you pass it clearly indicates thrift and makes a good impression upon the onlooker.

It is all right to organize the booster brigade, but somehow or other the Star feels like calling attention to the fact that some enterprising spirits about Lumberton have done things instead of talking things. Hot air and boasting and boosting are "all to the mustard" and we approve it, but the practical booming of a town is to have faith in it yourself, get the local capital together and establish industries without waiting for outsiders to come in and do what you neglect to do yourself.

Lumberton's three successful cotton mills are proof that she has citizens of initiative, organizing and administrative ability, and the town has a start that will place it in the ranks of North Carolina's best towns. The town is surrounded by an ideal agricultural region, and it has three railroads, giving it the advantage of freight facilities over two of the South's great trunk lines—the Atlantic Coast Line and the Seaboard Air Line.

Lumberton is a good town in an unrivaled county inhabited by splendid people, and it is worth being boosted. Let the boosting business proceed whenever the boosters get their plans in shape.

MT. ELIAM MATTERS.

Happy Jack Pays his Respects to Deceitful Women—Autos Plentiful—Movements of the People.

I have noticed one thing for some time that is enough to make the healthiest person in America sick. It is this common everyday, and Sunday too, stuff called deceitfulness. I have seen women and girls meet each other like this: "How are you, Miss Lucy, then a kiss, (which is alright) I never wanted to see anyone so bad. I was just crazy to see you. When did you come? Where is Mary? Why didn't you bring her? bless her little time, I am just dead to see her. Why didn't you come when you promised? And on they would go till everything tasted like honey. Then just as soon as Lucy is gone another came in and it is the same old tale to her and then it is like this: I believe Lucy Smith is always away from home. I just dread to see her come, those children of hers are so bad. I never saw such "kids," that Mary, I'd kill her if she was mine. She is old enough to do better. And the woman had just told Mary's mother that she was just dead to see the "blessed" little creature. Don't think I am trying to say any more about women than men for a woman is the best thing that ever crossed the ocean.

Four men started fishing last week two of whom were so sure they would get more fish than the others that they run about a mile to get to the river first. But the last I heard the ones that run didn't have a fish and the ones that didn't run had six nice ones. Autos and motorcycles were three deep here last week.

Mrs. Mary Anderson, of Orrum, spent this week here with relatives. Lots of our folks attended the children's day at Orrum Sunday and report a nice time.

Mr. and Mrs. Moses Warwick, of Barnesville, spent Sunday at the home of Mr. I. V. Britt. Mr. Cheston Branch, of Center, spent Sunday with "Happy Jack". Mr. Francis Stephens suffered a stroke of paralysis last week and is very sick.

Mr. Dave Britt was taken to the Thompson Hospital Saturday. He has typhoid fever. We hope for him a speedy recovery. Mr. Eli Phillips and son, Archie, spent Sunday here. Mr. Richard Stone and family, of Cerro Gordo, are visiting relatives here.

Our tobacco farmers are beginning to haul their crops to market, and are well satisfied with the prices. Mr. George Lawson spent Saturday night with friends on the Broad Ridge. Mr. Arthur Bissell went to Linden Sunday. Mr. Alex Britt, of McDonald, was here Saturday. Mr. Ben Israel, of Antioch, spent Saturday and Sunday here. Messrs. Tom Martin and Stacy Phillips, of Norment, spent Sunday here.

Mrs. Jane Britt and her daughter went to Lumberton Monday on business. Rev. I. P. Hedgepeth, of Lumberton, will preach at the Broad Ridge school house the first Sunday afternoon at 2:30. Everybody come. "Happy Jack," Mt. Eliam, N. C., July 24, '09. The Farmer's Vast Output.

FOR THE STATE'S SEAPORT.

The Deepening of the Channel From Wilmington to the Seashore.

In a recent private letter from Representative Godwin, of the sixth district, in reference to the deepening of the channel from Wilmington to the sea he says: "I consider this one of the most important matters for North Carolina and that section of the country generally now pending before Congress. It is a matter that cannot be agitated too much. I have the support and influence of the entire North Carolina delegation and of many others in behalf of this thirty-foot project, and I feel satisfied that its accomplishment is assured."

Mr. Godwin truly says this is a matter that cannot be agitated too much. By agitation the people will be made acquainted with the advantages to them to be derived from the carrying out of the plan, and learning of them the people to be benefitted will become interested in the success of the movement and will do their part in the effort to make it a success.

News From Rural Route No. 1, St. Pauls. We are sorry to note the serious illness of Mr. James Johnson. He has been sick for several weeks, and his condition is not much improved.

Mr. Stinson Humphrey spent Sunday at Saddle Tree, the guest of relatives and friends. Mr. and Mrs. F. D. McLean, of Bladenboro, visited their brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Honeycutt, last week.

Among the visitors attending the meeting at Regans, are: Mr. and Mrs. Aytech Floyd, of Lumberton, Mr. and Mrs. Walt Murray, of Barnesville, guests at the home of their brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Butler, and Mr. and Mrs. Will Regan, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel McNeill, of Lumberton, guests at their mother's home, Mrs. Cattie King.

Mrs. M. A. Humphrey, and daughter, Mrs. Carrie Hedgpeth, went to St. Paul's Saturday shopping. Mr. and Mrs. Capers Roberts visited their parents in South Carolina last week. They returned home yesterday, accompanied by Mr. Roberts' mother, Mr. R. J. Roberts and her brother, Mr. Ras Ray. Mrs. Roberts will stay two or three weeks. After having lived here nine years, she says, it seems like she has been off on a visit and just came back home.

Mr. Shaw, of St. Pauls, with his crew of hands, has been out here this week fixing up his pasture fence, which is much appreciated by those whose fields are near by. Mr. and Mrs. Elias Humphrey, of Oklahoma, Texas, are visiting Mr. Humphrey's mother, Mrs. Serepta Humphrey, at Saddle Tree, and are expected to visit relatives in this community Saturday.

ROBESON COUNTY PROGRESS.

A Remarkable Corn Field— Astonishing Advancement in Farming Interest— Rapid Development of Resources— The New Railroad— Fine Crops.

Decidedly the finest field of growing corn I remember ever to have seen is on the farm of Mr. E. L. Odum, two miles east of Pembroke, on the road to Lumberton. When I saw it, Saturday afternoon, July 17th, it was as green as corn ever gets to be, the stalks were stout and strong and tall, and each had two, and most of them three and some four, ears developing on it. It was sowed like cotton with a corn planter, stood from eight to twelve inches in the drill, and the rows were very nearly or quite 100 bushels of grain to the acre, besides tons of forage. I learned that Mr. Odum uses all the modern improved farm machinery in cultivating and gathering his crops, that for corn he uses 700 to 800 pounds of high grade commercial fertilizer to the acre.

I am told he breaks his corn land deep with a two horse plow, beds it up high and sows his corn in deep troughs between the beds. By the time he "lays by," the corn is on ridges, but they are not high. In this particular corn "patch" there is, I suppose, about 30 acres, and like all of his large farm the land is "level as a floor" and the soil is dark and "stiff" and low. Like all good Robeson county farmers, he has his rows as straight as a bullet's flight. There is not a stump in the field, they having been pulled out by machinery. It is clean, and corn grows right up to the ditches that drain the land. He has many acres of cotton, and will grow a bale to the acre. I remember when most of his farm was wild woods and water stood over much of the land in winter. E. L. Odum is making money on the farm. But he is not the only farmer in that section doing that sort of thing.

It has been three years since I had passed through this section from Pembroke to Lumberton except by rail, and I was really astonished at the remarkable improvement made in farming there during the interval. The farms along the roadside show the mark of more modern methods, more thorough cultivation and more careful attention. Unsightly "ditch banks" and hedge rows are no more to be seen. The fields are widened out, outlines straightened and corners "squared." The crops generally are finer than I ever saw there. Evidences of thrift and progress are seen on every hand.

Another thing that impressed me is the improvement in educational conditions made in recent years. In place of the small, one-room, rough board, unpainted school houses in the woods a few years ago, with thickets all around them, you find now handsome large school buildings, constructed on modern plans and surrounded by attractive grounds. Instead of one teacher you find from two to three teachers, all better equipped and better paid, with school terms from seven to nine months instead of three as in former days.

Still another remarkable thing is the rapidity with which the woodland has been converted into profitable farms in recent years. I believe it is conservative to say that one half the land in Raft Swamp and Burnt Swamp townships now under cultivation has been cleared within the past 20 years if not within 15 years. Returning Monday, I took my first trip over the new Virginia & Carolina Southern railroad from Lumberton to Hope Mills. This road opens up a rich scope of territory and will be a great benefit to that section, much of which is yet largely undeveloped for lack of transportation facilities. The road has a splendid grade and track had "brand new," clean and comfortable cars.

It is a great thing for Lumberton. Already its freight traffic is heavy. On this trip I traveled about 60 miles in the "State of Robeson," and with few exceptions the farms are in good condition and, speaking generally, the crops are fine, especially cotton. Count De Lambert has postponed his attempt to fly across the English Channel, his aeroplane having been damaged more than was supposed during a trial flight Wednesday. The count has returned to Paris, having decided not to attempt a cross-channel flight until September, when he hopes the weather will be more settled.

The bank at Southern Pines was closed Friday by assistant Bank Examiner, W. L. Williams. There is, according to discovery made by the directors, a shortage of \$15,000, found in the absence of Cashier G. A. Kingall, now on his vacation. C. B. Grant is president of the bank, and the capital is \$10,000.

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Preaching every Sunday at 11 a. m., and 7 p. m. It Sunday school at 9:30 a. m. and 3 p. m. Prayer meeting every Wednesday evening at 7:30. Everybody is cordially invited to attend these services. The merchant who doesn't advertise stands in his own light.

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