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BETTER TELEPHONE SERVICE.

Bell Telephone Company Buys Out Local Company and is Granted a Franchise—System Here to be Improved and Long-Distance Connections to be Made as Soon as Possible—A Welcome Change.

Praise be! there is the certainty now that Lumberton will not be cut off from the outside world for lack of telephone facilities any longer than it takes to do the necessary work of installation. The Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company has bought out the local telephone company and at a meeting of the town commissioners Tuesday evening it was granted a franchise. The system here will be taken over by the Bell people about the first of next month.

As stated in last Thursday's Robesonian, negotiations had been under way for some time, but up to that time—up to the first of this week, in fact—the Lumberton Telephone Co. and the Bell people had not been able to get together, and it looked as though all efforts to reach some satisfactory basis for a deal by which the Bell phone would be put in here, thereby securing long-distance, which has been badly needed, would fail. Messrs. A. E. White and A. W. McLean, however, owners of the local plant, realized that the demand for relief was urgent and being unwilling to stand in the way of what is needed so badly and being anxious to serve the public good, came to terms with the Bell people and the rest was easy. Mr. M. B. Speir, of Charlotte, who is in charge of this territory for the Bell Telephone Company, came to Lumberton Tuesday and completed a deal with Messrs. White and McLean by which his company should take over the Lumberton Telephone Co.'s plant as soon as a franchise could be secured for the Bell Co.

A special meeting of the town commissioners had been called for Tuesday evening and Mr. Speir and some gentlemen who are vitally interested in the telephone service appeared before the board and the situation was thoroughly sifted. Mr. McLean reviewed the formation of the Lumberton Telephone Co. and what it has done. Heretofore it had stood in the way of the Bell people entering Lumberton and the people of the town have stood loyally by the local company. The need for better service has become greater, however, and the demand has become greater, so a deal had been made, Mr. McLean stated, whereby the Bell company would take over the local plant and that so far as the local company was concerned the board need not hesitate to grant the Bell company a franchise. Mr. Speir then read an ordinance such as his company is willing to come in under, the same being similar to ordinances in force in regard to the company in other places and practically the same as the one under which the local company has been operating, except that the former contains some concessions to the town that the latter does not contain.

After Mr. Speir had fully gone into the plans and purposes of his company and had explained what might be expected, and after some discussion by the business men present, the ordinance as submitted by Mr. Speir was adopted, with some minor changes and subject to some additions.

Until the line is practically rebuilt, as is proposed, and metallic-circuited the rates will be the same as those now in force, except that perhaps a charge will be made for service to the towns in the county, which has been free. As soon as the line has been rebuilt, the rates will be as follows: Single-line office phones, \$3; party office phones, \$2.50; residence phones, \$2; party residence phones, \$1.50. These rates will obtain until 300 phones are in use, when the rates will be advanced 50 cents as regards business phones, until 500 phones are placed; after that the rates in force in other

AMUSEMENTS.

Special Train Carries Large Crowd to Fayetteville to Witness Splendid Play.

A special train was run from Lumberton to Fayetteville and return Monday night over the Virginia & Carolina Southern on account of the play "The Lion and the Mouse", produced there that evening, and a large crowd went from Lumberton, St. Pauls, and Parkton. It was one of the most thoroughly enjoyable evenings of the season. The train was loaded down with congenial people, the play was all that the most enthusiastic hoped it would be, and everything went off smoothly. There was no hitch anywhere and nothing to mar the pleasure of the trip. On the return trip the management of the special train treated the crowd to fruit of various kinds.

And the play was a notable production. To begin with, it is one of the strongest plays on the stage today, and it was so meant that it interpreted it to that large crowd at the LaFayette theatre in Fayetteville Monday evening. Only a hypercritical person could fail to give that production the hearty praise it deserves.

Allen's Minstrels Last Evening.

A. G. Allen's minstrels gave a performance to a large crowd in its own tent on Chestnut street last evening. That company certainly puts its best foot forward in its band, and many who would not otherwise have gone, perhaps, were drawn out by the excellent music discoursed by the band in the street concert yesterday about noon. Which is not saying that the show was not all right, for it was. The show is given by a bunch of sure-enough negroes, and at least one of them acts a negro about as well as a white man who is good at the part can act the negro, which is saying a great deal; and other members of the troupe are winners. It was a very good show and it would have been just as good or better if a few suggestive things had been left off entirely. They did not add at all to the play and made it uncomfortable for the ladies. That business should be reformed altogether. The contortionist and hoop-roller and others who gave specialties were all right.

towns under same conditions will obtain.

One of the advantages in rebuilding the line will be that cables will be put in and thus exposed wires will be done away with. It is thought that the entire work of putting in metallic circuit will be completed within 6 months. Long-distance service will probably be ready within something like 60 days. The Bell company will take charge of the local line about the first of next month.

The cost will be greater, but the service will be better and the Bell people claim that the rate, service considered, will not be as high as formerly. In any event, free service to the nearby towns, which has been given by the local company to regular subscribers, would have been an end, for it has been found too expensive. Better service is demanded and it will cost more. The local company has given as good service as could have been expected at the rates charged, but they could not, at those rates, improve the service or continue free service to other towns, so they have gracefully stepped aside and opened they way for better service.

There is no doubt but that the change will be welcomed. Lumberton has been cut off too long from the outside world by lack of phone connections. That that cannot be said much longer is cause for rejoicing.

Many people delude themselves by saying "It will wear away," when they notice symptoms of kidney and bladder trouble. This is a mistake. Take Foley's Kidney Remedy, and stop the drain on the vitality. It cures backache, rheumatism, kidney and bladder trouble, and makes every trace of pain, weakness, and urinary trouble disappear. Sold by all druggists.

'NEWARK TONY.'

Notorious Safe-Cracker Convicted and Sentenced—Camped Near Lumberton in 1905 and Arrested by Deputy Sheriff Barker.

Thomas F. Lacey, who has had a notorious career as a safe-blower and bank robber, was tried and convicted in Bennettsville, S. C., Monday on the charge of house-breaking and larceny and safe-cracking and sentenced to a term of 12 years in the penitentiary. Among the witnesses called by the State was Mr. J. A. Barker, of Lumberton, a former deputy sheriff. "Newark Tony" and his pal appeared between Lumberton and Kingsdale in February, 1905, and camped for a few days, conducting themselves as they had done near McColl, S. C., between which place and Hasty they had camped and disappeared after two safes had been blown open at McColl. On the afternoon of February 20, 1905, Deputy Barker took "Newark Tony" into custody about 2 miles from Lumberton and found in his possession complete equipment for safe-blowing. He had no revolver on his person and told the officers they would have to release him. He was evidently planning a robbery at Lumberton when captured. He applied for a writ of habeas corpus and had almost obtained his release when he was recognized as being in the vicinity of McColl when the postoffice robbery was committed and was subsequently removed to Greenville, S. C., where he was convicted in the Federal court and sentenced to the penitentiary in Atlanta for 5 years. With the usual commutation for good behavior he had completed his sentence and was dismissed July 2 last, when he was immediately arrested and taken to South Carolina to await trial for the offences for which has just been convicted and sentenced at Bennettsville.

Pythian Lodge Instituted at St. Pauls.

A Pythian lodge which will be known as St. Pauls Lodge No. 212, was instituted at St. Pauls Tuesday by Lumberton Lodge No. 35. A special train was run from Lumberton, returning the same night—returning, rather, during the wee sma' hours yesterday morning—and a large crowd went from here, some members of the new Pythian lodge here joining the crowd. Thirteen members were initiated into the mysteries and that unlucky number will be increased this evening by the initiation of others. All who took part had a great time. It was a tired crowd that returned to Lumberton about 4 of the clock yesterday a.m., but they were happy withal, for they had the comforting assurance of having made 13 fellow mortals exceedingly miserable for a while before leading them into the full light where those same 13 are now chuckling over what they will do to the others who could not go through Tuesday night.

Notices of New Advertisements.

Great bargains at fall opening sale—A. Weinstein.
Remedy for dyspepsia—J. D. McMillan & Son.
Buggies, carriages and harness—C. M. Fuller & Son.
Keeping up with the world—The Observer Company.
Thoroughly equipped to fill any prescription—J. D. McMillan & Son.
An overcoat has been lost. Beacon shoes—Jno. T. Biggs & Co.
Wedding presents—Boylin's Jewelry Store.
Rings for all purposes—McLean-Sledge Co.
House and lot for sale in Lumberton.

Frightful Fate Averted.

"I would have been a cripple for life, from a terrible cut on my knee cap," writes Frank Disbury, Kellier, Minn. "Without Bucklen's Arnica Salve, which soon cured me." Infallible for wounds, cuts and bruises, it soon cures Burns, Scalds, Old Sores, Boils, Skin Eruptions. World's best for Piles. 25c. at all druggists.

THE DRUMMER GOT HUFFY.

Because He Could Not Sit at a Reserved Seat the Drummer Got so. His Ear.

When a gentleman cannot eat at the exact spot at a table he wants to eat "at" it's a bloomin' shame. So it is. And the only proper way for a gentleman to act under such circumstances is to get huffy and leave the dining-room and not eat there at all. Siree! That's the way to show 'em. Don't take no dragging. That's the way a man did at the Waverly hotel the other morning. He walked into the dining-room and started to sit down at a place which, as the position of the chair indicated, had been reserved for some one else. The waiter politely informed the gentleman that that place was reserved and pulled out another chair and invited him to sit there. No, indeed. If he could not sit where he wanted to sit he would not eat there at all, so he marched out of the room!

That's the way for a grown man to act. You bet your life. When you enter a hotel dining room and see one place reserved, make for that, and if a waiter politely ventures to inform you that the place is reserved and invites you to sit elsewhere, just tilt your chin and walk out. That's the medicine.

At last accounts, however, Capt. Bicherey was still doing business at the same stand. It did not quite put him out of business. It was a close call, though, you bet.

In the Mayor's Court—Other Miscellaneous Cases.

Haywood Davis, colored, who lives just across the river near the wooden bridge, was arrested Saturday by Policeman Currie on a warrant charging him with retailing and was released on bond until yesterday, when he was tried before Mayor Rowland. About 20 witnesses were examined, all of whom swore that they never purchased liquor from Davis, so the case was dismissed.

David McLean, of Fairmont, was tried before Justice J. A. Rowland yesterday on a charge of false pretense in a swap of horses, the charge being preferred by C. M. Parker, also of Fairmont. McLean was bound to court in a bond in the sum of \$100, which he gave. There was an array of counsel unusual for such a case, Messrs. McLean, McLean & Snow, McIntyre, Lawrence & Proctor and E. J. Britt representing the State and Parker, Mr. R. E. Lee appearing for the defendant.

Emory McNeill, Jr., and Marvin Barker were tried before Mayor Rowland Thursday afternoon for a fight on Elm street about dark Wednesday evening and McNeill was taxed \$25 and costs, a total of \$31.95. The case against Barker was dismissed. Friday morning they were before Mayor Rowland again, McNeill on the charge of being drunk and using profane language at the time of the fight and Barker for using profane language at the same time. McNeill was taxed in this case \$5 and costs, a total of \$9.15, and Barker was taxed \$2.50 and costs, a total of \$4.45.

Howard Matterson, colored, was arrested on the show grounds last night by Policeman Currie and locked up for being drunk. This morning he submitted before Mayor Rowland and was taxed \$5 and costs, a total of \$6.95.

Geo. Swan, colored, is wanted for being drunk Saturday night and shooting off his pistol on Second street, near the Lumberton cotton mills office. Some white men saw him shoot, but when policeman Currie went after him he had disappeared and his whereabouts could not be learned.

More Than Enough is Too Much.

To maintain health, a mature man or woman needs just enough food to repair the waste and supply energy and body heat. The habitual consumption of more food than is necessary for these purposes is the prime cause of stomach troubles, rheumatism and disorders of the kidneys. If troubled with indigestion, revise your diet, eat less and not appetite control and take a few doses of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets and you will soon be all right again. For sale by all Druggists.

LOCAL BRIEFS.

Messrs. A. K. Morrison and W. F. French returned this morning from Atlanta, where they went to purchase horses and mules for A. K. Morrison's sales stables.

Mr. T. A. McNeill, Jr., underwent an operation for appendicitis in Raleigh Sunday night at the Rex hospital. The operation was successful and Mr. McNeill's condition is improving.

A fire which created some excitement but was extinguished before any damage was done broke out yesterday on land belonging to Mr. J. H. Wishart in Wishart's township, just on the edge of town, near the Lumberton cotton mills.

Rev. E. M. Hoyle will begin a protracted meeting at the Methodist church Sunday morning. The singing will be conducted by Prof. W. H. Overton, of the Durham Conservatory of Music. Mr. Overton is expected to arrive Saturday night.

Messrs. R. A. McLean, S. F. Caldwell, Rudolph Carlyle, Richard Norment, J. Abner Barker, Jas. D. Proctor, John Fuller, and R. McA. Nixon; Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Floyd; Miss Pearl Floyd; Mrs. A. Nash and son, Mr. Shepherd Nash, are among the Lumberton people who are attending the fair in Raleigh this week.

Examination in Bankruptcy.

The following is taken from today's Wilmington Star: "Before Geo. H. Howell, Esq., referee in bankruptcy, in the United States court room yesterday there was a continuance of the examination of members of the bankrupt corporation of Floyd Bros. & Mitchell, of Fairmont, N. C., begun in this city a few weeks ago. The corporation did an extensive mercantile business at Fairmont. Those examined yesterday were Messrs. O. I. and C. A. Floyd, members of the corporation, and Captain Jones, of Fairmont. The trustee, S. B. McLean, Esq., of Maxton, was present, representing some of the creditors were B. F. McLean, Esq., of Maxton; George Rountree and R. G. Grady, of this city, while R. C. Lawrence and A. W. McLean, Esqs., of Lumberton, appeared for the bankrupt. The examination was not completed yesterday, adjournment being taken to a time and place to be announced later."

News Notes And Personals From Maxton.

Correspondence of The Robesonian

Miss Sallie Austin is home from Linden, where she has been teaching but on account of diphtheria the school has closed.

Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Nunn and son, Master Paisley, left yesterday for Raleigh. Mrs. W. J. Green and son, Master Alton, left yesterday for Greensboro to spend several days. Miss Mattie Williams McLean returned home from Lumberton yesterday and will spend several days with Misses Bessie and Clarkie Bell McNeill and then return to Lumberton. Mr. J. H. Turner, of Lumberton, is in Maxton.

A. J. Allen's colored minstrel gave a show here last night. Mrs. Alex. Shaw and son, Mr. Russell, of Wagram, spent yesterday in Maxton. Miss Mary McLaurin is spending several days at Mr. Martin McQueen's. Mr. J. B. Weatherly Jr. is attending the State fair in Raleigh.

The South Singers will give a concert in the graded school auditorium to-night.

Mr. S. B. McLean went to Wilmington last night. Miss Cammie McCaskill returned from Red Springs Monday. Miss Pearl Morrison, of McColl, S. C., is visiting Misses Bessie and Clarkie Bell McNeill. Mr. Preston Coggins, of Wilmington, spent Sunday in Maxton. Maxton, N. C., Oct. 20, 1909.

To help the Kidneys when they need help, use Pineules—the new kidney remedy. Pineules will promptly relieve backache, rheumatic pains, pains in the bladder, urinary disorders, etc. They are for weak kidneys. Sold by J. D. McMillan & Son.

The merchant who doesn't advertise stands in his own light.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

MISS HELEN STAINBACK

PUBLIC STENOGRAPHER.
Desk in Southern Express Office.
Will call at private offices for work. 10-14-1m.

WOODBERRY LENNON.

ATTORNEY AT LAW
Lumberton, N. C.
Office over Post Office.

Dr. W. O. EDMUND

Veterinary Surgeon.
Manufacturer of horse Remedies.
Lumberton, N. C.
Calls filled promptly. Phone No. 52. 3-21

DR. J. J. CROWE,

EYE SPECIALIST
Will be in his office Tuesdays and Saturdays over First National Bank. 9-27

D. P. Shaw, T. L. Johnson,

SHAW & JOHNSON,
Attorneys and Counsellors at Law,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
Practice in State and Federal Courts.
Prompt attention given to all business.
Offices over First National Bank.

Wade Wishart, E. M. Britt,

WISHART & BRITT,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
All business given prompt and careful attention. Office upstairs in Argus Building. 9-10

Stephen McIntyre, R. C. Lawrence

James D. Proctor,
McIntyre, Lawrence & Proctor,
Attorneys and Counsellors at Law,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
Practice in State and Federal Courts.
Prompt attention given to all business.

T. A. McNeill, T. A. McNeill, Jr.

McNEILL & McNEILL,
Attorneys at Law,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
Will practice in all the Courts. Business attended to promptly.

N. A. McLean, A. W. McLean,

W. B. Snow,
McLean, McLean & Snow,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
Offices on 2nd floor of Bank of Lumberton Building, Rooms 1, 2, 3, and 4.
Prompt attention given to all business.

E. J. BRITT,

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
Office over Pope's Drug Store.

THOMAS N. McDIARMID

Attorney at Law,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
Office over Pope Drug Store. 2-25

Thurman D. Kitchin, M. D.,

Physician and Surgeon,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
Office McLean-Sledge Drug Store.
Office phone 26 Residence phone 124 7-9

Dr. Thomas C. Johnson,

Physician and Surgeon,
Lumberton, N. C.
Office over McMillan's Drug Store.
Calls answered promptly day or night.
Residence at Prof. J. R. Poole's. 4-27-tf.

DR. N. A. THOMPSON,

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
Office at Hospital. Phone No. 41.
Down town office over McMillan's Drug Store. Calls promptly answered night or day, in town or in the country.

DR. R. T. ALLEN,

DENTIST,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
Office over Dr. McMillan's Drug Store.

DR. R. F. GRAHAM,

DENTIST,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
Office over Bank of Lumberton.
Rooms No. 7 and 8. 1-23-08

E. G. SIPHER,

ELECTRICIAN,
Lumberton, N. C.
Office in Shaw Building, Phone No. 1-3