

THE ROBESONIAN

PUBLISHED MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS

By
ROBESONIAN PUBLISHING CO.
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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1909.

SOIL SURVEY OF ROBESON.

We have received from Mr. W. Edward Hearn, of the United States Department of Agriculture, who is now making a soil survey of Gaston county, a copy of the soil survey made last summer by Mr. Hearn, assisted by Messrs. G.M. MacNider and J. E. Turlington, of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. The book contains a mass of valuable information about Robeson county and it carries a large folding map, scale one mile to the inch, in colors, showing different soil formations, depth of soils, towns, railroads, rivers, swamps—a very complete and comprehensive map, in short, that will repay careful study. The book is issued from the Government Printing Office at Washington. The following facts, some of them well known, gleaned here and there from the pages of this Survey, will be found of interest and will serve to show the nature of the work:

Robeson is the largest county in North Carolina, its greatest length from north to South being 52 miles, with a width varying from 25 to 37 miles. It has an area of 1,058 square miles, or 677,120 acres. The general surface features consist of level, undulating, gently rolling and rolling areas, intersected by strips of swamp following the streams and dotted by many slight depressions and bays. The general slope of the county is to the south and south-west, and the difference in elevation of the two ends of the county is considerable.

Robeson was formed in 1786 from Bladen county and named in honor of Colonel Robeson, who distinguished himself in the battle of Elizabethtown. The majority of the first white settlers were Scotch and they located principally in the northern and western parts of the county. There were also some of English descent. The Croatans came from eastern North Carolina about 250 years ago and settled along Lumber river. They number 3,500 to 4,000.

Probably not more than 30 per cent of the land in the county is under cultivation. The largest per cent. under cultivation lies around Rowland, McDonald, Red Springs and Maxton. If all the swamps and depressions were drained there would be but little if any waste land, and if all the arable land were properly cultivated Robeson could easily support several times its present population, which is about 45,000. Good roads can be maintained in all parts of the county by a judicious mixing of the sand and clay materials at hand and by keeping the roadbed well rounded, so that the rain water will readily run off.

An interesting table is given showing the normal monthly, seasonal, and annual temperatures and precipitation at Lumberton. Eleven distinct types of soil were mapped in the county, and these are described in detail. Swamps are treated and the statement made is that, "generally speaking, a large part of the

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swamp soil, if properly drained, cleared, and devoted to the crops to which it is adapted, would prove valuable farming land." And under the head of "Drainage" we find the following, among other things of interest: "There is no one thing that would benefit the farmers and landowners of Robeson county as much as complete drainage of the soils and particularly the swamp areas. Some of the most fertile soils in the county which are adapted to corn, oats, rice, cabbage, onions, celery and other crops remain uncultivated on account of insufficient drainage. When the swamps are drained the upland areas will also be better drained. By better drainage large areas of good land can be reclaimed and the healthfulness of the region improved."

We understand that the book is for free distribution and may be obtained by writing to Congressman H. L. Godwin, though we have not yet been advised that it is ready for general distribution. It contains information that is of immense value to every citizen, or prospective citizen, of the county.

Time, Sunday morning last; place, Dallas, Texas. Great excitement. Somebody had stolen President Taft's 'possum. Great sorrow there was, too, on the President's train. The Presidential smile vanished and deep gloom settled upon all. Long-view, same State; time, noon, same day. Gloom dispelled, sorrow gone, great rejoicing, Presidential smile back on the job. Another 'possum had been supplied.

Wilmington is going to entertain the President during his visit to that city on November 9th with credit to herself and the State. Great preparations are being made and it is going to be worth while to go a long way to be there that day.



Fascinating Fashions

We are showing the fashionable style in **Ladies' Hats, Millinery Goods, Ladies' Coat Suits, Dress Goods, Etc.**

We have opened a regular **Coat Suit Department**, and we are prepared to please **Ladies and Misses** with **Coat Suits of latest style** as to material and workmanship. We are also showing a good line of **Shirt Waists and separate Skirts.**

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Caldwell & Carlyle
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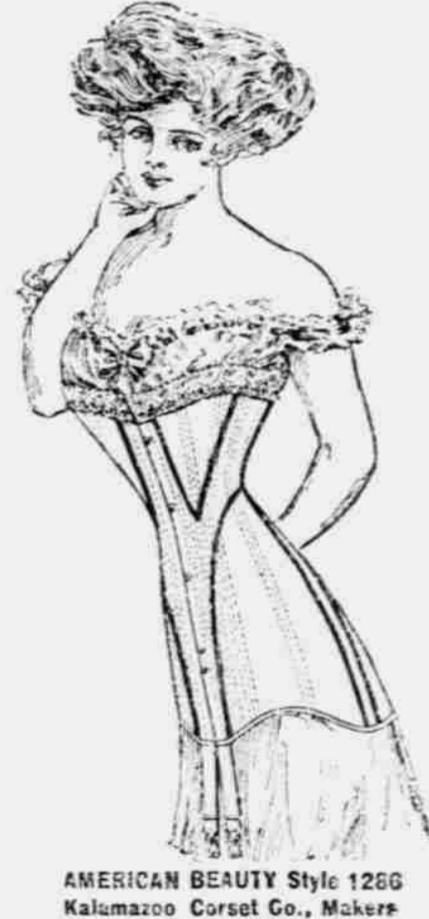
10-28 Lumberton, - - - - - N. C.



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10-28-11

Notice of Bond Election.
Notice is hereby given that by order of the board of commissioners of Robeson county there will be an election held at each voting precinct in Robeson county on Friday, the 26th day of November, 1909, to determine the question as to whether or not the county of Robeson will issue bonds to subscribe to the capital stock for the construction of the Trans-Continental Railroad company. By order of the board of commissioners of Robeson county.
This the 25th day of Oct. 1909.
T. N. Higley,
Clerk Board of Commissioners.
10-18-11m.

New Goods! New Goods!

AT **K. M. BIGGS'**

We are now showing a line of **Beacon Light Clothing** for Men. Suits ranging in prices from \$7.00 up. Big values in the celebrated **Levey Pants** for men and boys. We sell **Chesterfield Hats** for men and boys \$1.00 to \$3.00. Good things in **Gent's and Boys' Underwear** at 50cts a suit complete. Higher grade **Underwear** at \$1 and \$2 per suit. Choice line of men's and boys' **sweaters** at 50cts. Complete lines of work and dress **Shirts** from 25cts to \$1. Nobby things in **Neckwear** for 25cts. There is none better than the **Mechanic Overalls**. We have them. We are exclusive agents for **Packard Shoes** for men \$3.00 to \$5.00. Every pair guaranteed. We also sell the **Craddock Long-wear Bell Shoes** for men and boys. Anything in medium and high priced **Furniture and House Furnishing Goods**. Try a barrel of our **Potapso Flour**. Complete line of **Groceries**. A chance to sell to you is all we ask. Sell us your seed cotton.

Yours to please.
K. M. BIGGS