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FAIRMONT NEWS LETTER.

Business Changes and New Enterprises—The New Town of The Beaufort Lumber Co.—Good Cotton Yields—Other Items of Interest.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Fairmont, Jan. 7.—Our little town begins the new year with vigor and jollity, glad of another chance to court prosperity. There have been several business changes and new enterprises begun, and we bid fair to have the best year of our existence.

The holiday season passed off quietly, but with a great deal of pleasure. All our young people who were away came home and many social gatherings were enjoyed.

Miss Susie McMurray spent the holiday season with some folks at Sharon, S. C., and Miss Willie Weatherly with home folks at Bennettsville, S. C., but both have returned and are hard at work in the school, which opened last week with almost more pupils than the house could hold.

McKellar Bros., who have had a mercantile business at Boardman for some time, have opened a nice new stock of goods in the Pitman building on Main street. We are glad to welcome this enterprising firm and hope they will be pleased with Fairmont. We understand that Mr. Berry Ansley, who has been with W. A. Jones & Co. the past season, will be with the new firm as salesman.

The Silas Griffin store on Main street has been rented by a new furniture firm, which expect to open up at once. We have not as yet, learned the title of the firm, but hope it may be successful. This leaves only one small store building unoccupied in town.

Mr. John Gaddy, who lives near the South Carolina line, has bought a lot north of town and will build and move his family here.

Mr. E. J. Chambers has bought the old Floyd hotel lot from A. J. Floyd and, we understand, expect to build a handsome residence on it in the near future.

Mr. Edgar Thompson spent the holidays at home and was accompanied back to school by Messrs. Tom Baker, Alva Floyd, James Galloway and Rowland Pitman. They are at a private school at Delway, Sampson county.

Mr. Burney Floyd, who is at the A. and M. College, Raleigh, had as his companion back Mr. Carl Thompson, who will also enter the A. and M.

Miss Maggie Floyd, went back to Louisburg College last week after a delightful vacation. We were glad to see her looking so well.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Townsend, of McDonald, were down last Sunday for a farewell visit before moving to their new home near Richmond, Va.

Mr. Clayton Brice has purchased from Dr. Brown two lots on Center street and will build at once a stable for his stock-selling business and a large vehicle repository. The building will be of brick and up to date in every respect.

Mr. C. F. Elwanger, of McDonald, has moved his family here and they are occupying the C. F. Ashley house on Cottage street. We gladly welcome them to Fairmont.

Miss Lorena Lewis spent the holiday season with home folks in Whiteville.

Mr. P. B. Thompson and family have returned from Rowland and are in their own home once more. Mr. Thompson is clerking for White & Gough.

Mr. Lock McLean, of Maxton, is again bookkeeper for J. D. McLean & Co. His friends gladly welcome him back.

Mr. N. A. Carter, Mrs. Carter and little Miss Frances, of Laurinburg, were among the welcome holiday visitors in town.

We regret to report Mrs. Mary Ivey, whom everybody knows and loves, in quite feeble health, and trust she may soon be recovered.

Among the many new enterprises being launched for the

new year is a first-class livery stable by two gentlemen from Chadbourn.

Messrs. Perry and Morgan Inman have opened a repair shop on Center street. They are both skilled workmen and will no doubt have plenty of work to do.

Messrs. A. L. and J. R. Jones are partners in a lumber business which promises to be one of our best ventures. They have a saw mill, planer, grist mill and novelty wood working plant, all under one roof on the site of the old S. E. Lumber Co.'s plant, which they recently purchased from Dr. Brown, and will soon be ready to make things hum. Messrs. Ernest and Phil Jones are also part of the company, we understand.

Mr. C. T. Cashwell, who has been in feeble health for some time, was well enough to visit friends at Rowland last week, but we regret to know, came back not so well.

To those who have not been to Fairmont in several months the new town of the Beaufort Co. in the northern part of town would be a revelation. The work done has already changed the looks of everything. With the holidays over, now the buildings will be finished up much faster and by summer everything is expected to be in working order.

Mr. Billie Kyle was gladly welcomed home from Henderson for the holidays. He returned last week to his work.

"Wilfred the Wizard" and the ever-blooming "Rastus," his mate, made a great evening of fun last Monday night at the school building. Mr. Wilfred is a fine ventriloquist and mystifier, and we all enjoyed the performance very much indeed and thank Mr. F. L. Blue for the pleasure.

If you don't believe South Robeson can make successful cotton crops just cast your eyes on the figures given below, which are all sworn to by reputable gentlemen of this vicinity, and which are equal to anybody's corn or cotton test: H. G. Byrd, 3,582 pounds lint on 4 acres; Albert Sellers, 6,500 pounds lint on 8½ acres; R. A. Harden, 4,367 pounds lint on 4 acres; Dawson B. Lewis, 1,704 pounds lint on 1¼ acres.

Is there any use for a Robesonian to go away from home to make a living?

Mr. A. J. Floyd is remodeling his residence on Iona avenue.

Mr. Ernest McLean will be with the Ionia Supply Co. this year at McDonald, and his place at the Fairmont Hdw. Co. is filled by Mr. Neill Arch. Andrews.

The Bank of Fairmont, at its annual meeting of directors this week, will make the finest report it has ever made. Watch for it.

Carlton, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Floyd, was seriously burned last week, but we are glad to hear is doing well.

Townsend Bros. Purchase Stock of the Jenrette-Singletary Co.—Will Continue the Business at the Same Stand.

Messrs. J. P. and Lloyd Townsend, who for a number of years have conducted a clothing store on the corner of Elm and Fourth streets under the firm name of Townsend Bros., have purchased the entire stock of the Jenrette-Singletary Co., which has been conducting a clothing store on Elm street, just two doors from the store of Townsend Bros. The deal was closed this morning and inventory is being taken. The Messrs. Townsend will conduct the business at the same stand, in addition to their present business, perhaps making some changes that will be announced later. The Jenrette-Singletary Co. was composed of Prof. W. T. Jenrette, principal of the Baltimore school near Fairmont, and Messrs. J. A. and S. R. Thompson. Mr. S. R. Thompson will for the present continue with the business under the new management.

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Millsaps and children returned Thursday from Orangeburg, S. C., where they moved some 7 months ago, and are boarding for the present with Mrs. W. P. Markham, who is keeping a boarding house at Mr. Millsaps' home on Elm street.

FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

To be Held at Parkton and Rowland This Week—Women's Institutes to be Held at Same Places on Same Days—Programs.

Farmers' and Women's Institutes will be held at Parkton on Wednesday of this week, the 12th, and at Rowland on the following day by the State Department of Agriculture, in co-operation with the county farmers' institute committee. Following is the program for the Farmers' Institutes:

Morning session will open at 10 o'clock and afternoon session at 1:30.

SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION.

Soil Improvement, by J. L. Burgess.
Corn Culture, by Hartwell Scarborough.
The Home Garden, by S. B. Shaw.

Afternoon.

Soil Types and Crop Varieties, by J. L. Burgess.
Peanut Culture or Hog Raising, by Hartwell Scarborough.
Truck Crop Suggestions, by S. B. Shaw.

Boy's Corn Club contest explained.

Opening of question box and discussion.

Appointment of committee.

Joint meeting of Men's and Women's Institutes at 3:30.

to the Farmers of the County:

The above program is given to indicate the nature of the institute, but it may be changed or added to, as those present desire. A question box will also be open, into which all are invited to put such questions as they desire discussed. A large number of intelligent questions means an interesting institute, and special attention will be given to this feature.

The Farmers' Institutes are held for the benefit of farmers, and none but strictly farming questions will be discussed. It is, therefore, especially desired that a large attendance of farmers and their families be secured, and to this end you are urged to be present and to induce your neighbors to do the same.

Bring a pencil and blank book in which to take notes.

A premium of one dollar will be awarded for the best five ears of corn exhibited. The five ears exhibited must be of one variety, uniform in shape, size and color. Mixed corn or mixed varieties will not be allowed to compete for the premium. The exhibitor must be able to give, as far as possible, the name of the variety, its productivity, yield per acre, and whether grown on upland or lowland. This offer is made solely with the view of studying corn and the comparing of different varieties.

T. B. Parker,

Director Farmers' Institutes.

The program for the Women's Institutes to be held at Parkton on Wednesday and at Rowland Thursday is as follows:

Morning session will open at 10 o'clock and afternoon session at 1:30.

SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION.

Saving Steps, by Mrs. F. L. Stevens.

The Prevention of Diseases, by Mrs. F. L. Stevens.

Afternoon.

Co-operation in the Farm Home, by Mrs. F. L. Stevens.

The appointment of committee.

Opening of question box and discussion.

Joint meeting of Men's and Women's Institutes at 3:30.

To the Women of the Farm Homes of the County:

It is the purpose of the Department to make these Institutes of value to you in your daily duties and home life. Come out and help accomplish this purpose by letting us know what you want, that we may send lecturers to the next Institute who will give you the kind of talks you want. These Institutes are yours and you can make out of them what you will. We will help you to make a success of them if you will let us.

Bring a pencil and tablet, so as to take notes during the Institute.

RED SPRINGS REVIEWS.

Miss Bessie Powell and Mr. Robert Lindsay to be Married Wednesday—New Business Firms—Personal.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Red Springs, Jan. 8.—Mr. M. A. Buie, of Jonesboro, Fla., is visiting relatives and friends here this week.—Mr. Morton Emerson, of Boston, visited friends in Red Springs during the holidays.—Mr. George Hall, Jr., who holds a position in a big lumber company at Roseboro, spent last week at home with his parents.—Miss Flora Cunningham, who spent several weeks in Florida with her brother, Mr. Will McKinnon, has returned home.—Mrs. Bain and children, of Greensboro, have been visiting at the home of Mr. J. A. Love, Mrs. Bain's brother. They left here for their home Tuesday.—Mr. Kenneth Hardison, of Wadesboro, visited Mr. Douglas McMillan a few days of last week. Mr. McMillan and Mr. Hardison are both in school at Warrenton and they left for that place Tuesday. Mr. Jim Hall is also a student at Warrenton high school and he also left Tuesday.—Mr. Malcolm Ruple has returned to his home in Davidson after a pleasant visit to relatives here.—Mrs. D. T. Robeson has returned from a visit to her daughter, Mrs. S. L. Morgan, who lives in Burlington—Mrs. Louis Hall, of Wilmington, was the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Williams, during the holidays.

Miss Clara Smith has returned to the college as the efficient secretary of Dr. Vardell. Miss Smith is quite a favorite with all who know her and she has been much missed during her year's absence. We are also glad to have with us again Miss Emma Brown, who was a member of the conservatory faculty last year but who, on account of ill health, was not here for the fall term of school.

Mr. Blythe has returned from a visit to relatives at his home in Huntersville.—Mrs. J. R. Edmondson and children, of Wilson, were guests of Mr. A. T. McCallum during the holiday season.—Misses Annie Belle and Clara de Vane, who spent the holidays at home, have returned to their respective schools at Princeton, W. Va., and Norfolk, Va.—Mr. John G. McAlester has gone back to his school in Memphis Tenn.—Mr. John L. Fairly has returned to his school work here after spending the Christmas holidays at his home in Laurinburg.

The vacation is all over and everybody has gone back to work. The S. P. C. opened again on the fourth with almost all the old girls back and with quite an addition of new ones, fifteen in number. All the boys that have been home for the holidays have returned to their respective schools.

Invitations have been issued by Mr. and Mrs. John T. Powell to the marriage of their daughter, Miss Bessie, to Mr. Robert Lindsay. The wedding is to be at the home of the bride's parents Wednesday afternoon, January 12, at three o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin McKinnon spent several days of last week in Maxton.—Miss Lura Britton spent a few days in Charlotte lately doing some shopping.

Several new firms are starting business, among these the J. J. Flower Co., Covington & Bright, and one or two others.

—Mr. D. W. Bullock, former register of deeds, was a Lumberton visitor Saturday. Mr. Bullock has just returned from Hot Springs, Ark., where he goes occasionally for treatment for rheumatism, and seems to have been restored to perfect health. He is now sporting a fetching chin beard of which he is very proud and which he nurses with extreme care.

A premium of one dollar will be awarded for the best loaf of light bread baked and exhibited by a woman or girl living on the farm.

T. B. Parker,
Director Farmers' Institutes.

TOWN AFFAIRS.

Mayor Rowland Calls to Attention of the Town Fathers Some Matters That Need Attention—Complaints About Charges for Lights to be Investigated—Some Buildings on Elm Street Should be Moved Back—Other Matters of Interest.

At the meeting of the board of town commissioners last Tuesday evening, mentioned in Thursday's paper, a petition, signed by a number of citizens, was presented by Mr. W. H. Kinlaw asking that a drain pipe be put in the big ditch on the Whiteville road from the V. & C. S. Ry. to the cemetery. Messrs. J. H. Wishart and L. H. Caldwell were appointed a committee to look after the matter. The mayor and town attorney were requested to look into the matter of having an official map of the town recorded. Bills amounting to \$168.33 for town supplies were ordered paid.

Mayor J. A. Rowland submitted his annual report. Last year some important litigation was settled satisfactorily to the and there are now 3 suits pending, but it is hoped that it will soon be possible to close these matters up. The board has been called upon to contribute from the general fund to aid the graded school and it has been necessary to make considerable improvements in the water and light plants, causing the financial condition of the town to be somewhat strained, but the mayor thinks that if the tax collector collects the taxes at once it will be possible to show a fairly good financial condition when the term of the present administration expires. The health condition is satisfactory at present. There is very little interest in the new cemetery, not enough lots having been sold to keep the cemetery in proper shape if the entire purchase money were used for that purpose. Mayor Rowland recommends that a certain portion be set aside for the burial of people who are not able to purchase lots. Attention is called to the trouble with the garbage system last summer and the mayor thinks that unless some satisfactory method is determined upon of getting rid of trash, etc., that accumulates the same trouble will be had again. He urges that this matter be taken up at once.

"As every member of the board well knows," says the mayor, "the fire department of our town is simply a farce." The present chief of the fire department is anxious to get an organization with which to fight fire. There should be some better system of giving the alarm, because it is impossible to keep up a sufficient amount of steam to blow the whistle in case of fire. To illustrate, attention is called to a recent fire at midday when the fire whistle could not be blown, the fire department did not show up, and a house went up in flames, practically no effort being made to save it. The chief of the fire department is at work on a system which it is hoped will be satisfactory and will report at an early meeting of the board.

Attention is called to the work on the streets, which in some places are in a deplorable condition. Owing to the material at hand, keeping the streets in repair has been an up-hill job. Quite a number of new streets have been opened. The mayor thinks it is only a question of time when the town will be compelled to pave Elm street from the depot to the opera house, and he recommends that any work done on that street be done with that end in view. He calls attention to certain property on Elm street which is an eyesore and he finds that there was some kind of agreement between the owners of this property and the town officials that when the property was improved in any way they would move back to the proper line. This agreement has been violated by the owners of this property and the mayor sees no reason why they should not be compelled to get on the street. There are some build-

LOCAL BRIEFS.

At the Baptist Sunday school yesterday morning prizes were awarded Miss Vivian McNeill, Rufus Sanderson, Furman McNeill and Clarence McNeill for not missing Sunday school during the past year.

Rev. A. E. Baker returned Friday evening from Laurel, Md., where he went the first of last week to visit at the home of Mrs. H. W. Coale, who is sick with pneumonia. Mrs. Coale's condition, at the time Mr. Baker left, was thought to be somewhat improved.

Mr. Stephen McIntyre returned Friday night from Wingate, Union county, where he spent a few days at the home of his brother with his father, Mr. Isaiah McIntyre, who suffered a stroke of paralysis a week ago Saturday. There is practically no change in Mr. McIntyre's condition.

The following party from Red Springs came over in an automobile Thursday afternoon, were guests at supper at the Waverly hotel, and returned to Red Springs at night: Miss Margaret Williams and her guest, Miss Florence Vass of Culpepper, Va.; Messrs. Hector Currie and Tom Brown. Mr. T. A. McNeill, Jr., took supper with the party.

"Along the Kennebec," presented at the opera house Thursday evening, was enjoyed by a very good house. This play has been presented here a time or two before and never fails to bring forth a good crowd. The next attraction at the opera house will be Barlow and Wilson's Minstrels, which will hold the boards Wednesday evening, the 19th.

Mr. Geo. T. Graham has moved with his family from his farm at Orrum to a farm which he purchased recently at Tolarsville from Mr. W. H. Fisher, Jr., and on which he is erecting a residence. He sold part of his farm at Orrum and has left the balance in charge of his brother, Mr. J. H. Graham. Mr. Geo. Graham was a Lumberton visitor Friday.

Mr. Lester B. Townsend, assistant cashier of the Bank of Hamlet, is just recovering from an attack of jaundice and is spending a few days with home folks in Lumberton. Mr. Henry Jones, formerly collector for the Bank of Lumberton, went to Hamlet Friday to take Mr. Townsend's place until the last of this week. Mr. Jones spent yesterday in Lumberton and returned to Hamlet this morning.

In a private letter to the editor, Rev. A. L. Davis, whose occasional letters to The Robesonian are very much enjoyed, states that he left Pratt City, Ala., on the 15th ult. that he will be at New Decatur, Ala., until he recovers from the effects of a carbuncle, which has given him intolerable pain, and that he will probably go to his new home at Tuscaloosa, Ala., in about a month. Mr. Davis has among Robesonian readers many friends who will regret to learn of his affliction.

ings located on what is known as the town common and Mr. Rowland thinks as the town is growing rapidly steps should be taken to regain possession of this property.

The water department is not in satisfactory condition on account of the fact that some subscribers are without meters, causing a considerable loss of revenue. During the summer about 125,000 gallons were used every 24 hours while the town received pay for only 75,000 or 80,000. The mayor recommends that the necessary meters be put in at once. The electric light department is giving more trouble than any other and the board does not understand where the trouble lies. Mayor Rowland has been in communication with an expert electrician who has agreed to go over the plant and examine fixtures in residences, etc., and make a report to the board that will enable it to correct any evils that exist and determine upon a system of prices that will be fair to all.