

# THE ROBESONIAN

Established 1870.

Country, God and Truth.

Single Copies Five Cents.

VOL XLI NO. 7.

LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA, MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1910

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## ROWLAND.

### A Town That Glitters With Great Prospects—Situating in a Good Farming Section—Something of Its Industries.

Having had occasion to spend part of Friday and Saturday, the 4th and 5th inst., in the town of Rowland, I will in a brief way undertake to mention a few of the visible evidences of progress in and about this hustling town.

Rowland is situated in the south-western part of the county on the main line of the Atlantic Coast Line railroad and is within about two miles of the South Carolina line, being in what is considered as the best cotton-growing section of the county. So, as any one can readily see, the place has every reason for being a good town. The population is about 1500. The mercantile establishments number in the neighborhood of 26, and more than half of the stores are brick buildings. One wishing to do justice to all things in an undertaking of this kind could not fail to make special mention of Rowland's two drug stores. The Rowland Drug Company occupies a new building, completed within the last year. The front is made of beautiful pressed brick and plate glass, and the store is fitted up with elegant furniture and fixtures. There is hardly a drug store in the State fitted up much better, though some may cost more. The Ward drug store is about as good, though the building is not so new. Among the leading merchants and mercantile firms might be mentioned A. L. Bullock, Peoples Hdw. & Furniture Co., Rowland Hdw. & Supply Co., Jno. W. Ward, J. McR. Bracy, Hedgpath & Chitty; and there are many others doing a lively business. The town has three sales stables—A. D. McKenzie, Rowland Live Stock Co. and L. P. McLean—and two livery stables—H. K. McCormick and W. T. Naton. Rowland has a good bank—the Bank of Rowland—and there is strong talk of the second one, which can certainly be no bad sign of a live town. Drs. H. Reedy, W. E. Evans, J. Mac Smith, T. W. Carmichael and Pate are the practicing physicians, and Dr. C. H. Lennon is the dentist. Judging from this bunch of doctors one might get the idea that Rowland is not a healthful place, but such is not the case, for they have a large territory in which to practice. Mr. W. H. Flowers is the hotel proprietor and he keeps eyes open to the welfare of the innkeeper. Bracy Bros. operate a brick and plaining mill plant in the town. The largest enterprise in the place is the Rowland Oil & Fertilizer Company's plant, which is built principally of brick and was just completed a few months ago at a cost of \$40,000.

To get down to the things that play a conspicuous part in making Rowland what it is one would have to mention its churches and school. The town has three good churches—Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist—and an excellent school with six teachers, Prof. W. C. Hubbard being principal. The school building is a handsome one, completed two years ago at a cost of about \$15,000.

Mr. Milton Lytch, cotton buyer for Sprunt of Wilmington, handles practically all the cotton sold in the town and he says that the total number of bales marketed for this season will be about 10,000. And the fertilizer that is distributed from the place is something enormous. The farmers are all of the first rank and believe in making much on a small place. Two bales of cotton to the acre is a common occurrence with the farmers of this section.

Rowland has quite a number of handsome residences costing from \$2,000 to \$5,000, and a good system of gas lights, all of which adds greatly to the attractiveness of the town. The town is well laid off and is kept in excellent condition, to the credit of Mayor D. W. Bullock and the board of aldermen, consisting of H. K. McCormick, A. B. Hedgpath, A. D. McKenzie and Alex. Watson.

Toward the last, but by no means the least, should be men-

## MAXTON NEWS.

### Sudden Death of Mrs. Peter Duncan—"Violet" Meeting of the Merry-Go-Rounders—Personal Mention.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Maxton, March 11—The Merry-Go-Round Book Club met this afternoon with Miss Mattie Brown McLean. It was called a violet meeting and these most beautiful of all flowers were arranged in great profusion. As each member of the club entered the house she was served with refreshing punch in the hall. The programme included a musical selection, which was an instrumental duet played by Misses Baldwin and Southerland, and a reading by Miss Sallie Lou McKinnon. A game of hearts' dice, with violets substituted for hearts, was played. Miss Bessie McNair excelled in this game and won the prize, which was a lovely box of candy. Delightful refreshments, which consisted of almond cream and cake, then coffee and mints, were served by Misses Cammie McCaskill and Bessie McLean. All had a most pleasant evening and reluctantly said good-bye.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Dixon McLean returned to Red Springs last night after a short visit with home folks.—Mr. J. P. Wiggins went to Rockingham today.—Miss Virginia Everett is visiting relatives in Lumberton this week.—Mr. J. G. McCormick, of Wilmington, was in Maxton yesterday.—Mr. Hector McLean returned this morning from a business trip to Raleigh.—Mr. C. V. Liles, of Florence, S. C., was in town yesterday.—Mr. R. W. Livermore, of Pates, was in town this morning.—Mr. C. A. Purcell, of Purcepolis, was in town Wednesday.—Dr. W. A. McPhaul, of Lumberton, was in Maxton the first of the week.—Mrs. J. A. McQueen is visiting relatives in Lumberton this week.—Mr. W. H. Humphrey, of Lumberton, was in town Thursday evening.

Mrs. Peter Duncan, an elderly widow, fell dead Wednesday morning about ten o'clock while going up the steps at the home of her brother-in-law here, Mr. S. F. Willard. The funeral took place Thursday morning at eleven o'clock and was preached by her pastor, Rev. A. A. McClelland.

Mr. R. H. Poole, of Elrod, was here today.—Dr. D. S. Currie, of Parkton, was a Maxton visitor Wednesday.—Mrs. J. F. Byrne and Mrs. E. E. Cook are in Lumberton this week visiting Mrs. A. Bicherey.—Mr. G. B. Patterson went to Fayetteville Thursday morning.

### Lumberton Drug Co. Receives Order for 200 Ounces of Strychnine—Wanted to Poison Squirrels.

The Lumberton Drug Co. received an order the other day that was a caution. It was for 200 ounces of strychnine! It came from the far State of Washington, Ephrater town, through Mr. J. D. Sledge, a brother of Mr. R. S. Sledge, manager of the Lumberton Drug Co., and it was wanted to poison squirrels that are playing havoc with wheat. Some idea of the size of the order may be gathered from Mr. Sledge's statement that his drug store would not sell over half an ounce of strychnine in the ordinary course of business in two years, and he doubts if there is a wholesale house in the South that carries that much in stock. Two hundred ounces! That's some strychnine, when you come to think about it.

tioned Rowland's newspaper—The Sun—of which Mr. A. C. Johnson is editor and manager. Mr. Johnson has only had charge of the paper a few months, but during that time has made wonderful improvement in it. The paper has a good circulation and is read with much interest once a week.

In conclusion: But few of the cities that have grown great were able in their infancy to glitter with greater prospects than does Rowland.

W. K. E.

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## BARKER'S NEWS BATCH.

### A Public Debate—News Notes and Personals.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Barker's, March 9—Rev. W. A. Jenkins spent a few days in Fayetteville this week.—Messrs. John McEachin and Mac McNeill went to Maxton Friday, returning home Sunday.—Mr. Wyche M'White, of Jacksonville, Fla., is home spending a few days.—Mr. Jesse Humphrey, of Saddle Tree, spent last Sunday with Mr. Bunyan M'White.—Messrs. Carr Powers and Mac McNeill spent a few pleasant hours last Sunday at the home of Mrs. Minnie Markham, of Lumberton.

Quite a number of Barker's people attended preaching at Ten Mile Sunday.

Miss Bettie Britt, of Lumberton, spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Britt.

Mr. Abner Barker, of Lumberton, filed his regular appointment at Ten Mile Sunday.

Messrs. Fred and Ross Allen, of Tar Heel, spent Sunday at this place.

Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Tyson, who have been living in the dormitory here, moved to Lumberton last week, to our regret.

Miss Lena Russ, who is teaching at Bryant's, spent Sunday at her home.—Miss Pearl Imnn spent last Sunday at Shannon, returning home Monday.

We are very sorry to report the serious illness of Mr. Stephen Mercer. He has our deepest sympathy.

Mrs. J. G. Bynum, of Newbern, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Bethune.—Messrs. John Jones and Charlie Barker attended a concert at Bethesda last week and reported quite a swell time.—Miss Ruth Britt is visiting in Lumberton this week.—Miss Alma Blackwell, of Abbottsburg, spent last Saturday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Russ.

Mr. Luther M'White is all smiles: it's a girl.

Rev. W. S. Ballard spent last Sunday morning at the home of Mrs. Almna Powers.—Mrs. Mary Eliza M'White will leave today for Fayetteville, where she will spend some time with her daughter, Mrs. J. D. Humphrey.

There will be a concert at Centerville Wednesday night which a crowd of our young people are expecting to attend.

There will be a public debate here on the night of March 25th by the Barker boys debating club. The query for debate reads, "Resolved, That intoxicants have damaged our country more than war".

### Murder in Alfordville—Negro Kills Son-in-Law.

Furman Wallace, colored, about 23 years old, was shot and killed by his father-in-law, Eli Southerland, near McRimmon's store, 8 miles south-west of Maxton, Alfordville township, late Saturday afternoon. Sheriff McNeill and Coroner Rancke went to the scene of the murder yesterday and found that Wallace was shot through the heart. The Sheriff did not find Southerland, but it is thought that he will surrender. He is a hard-working negro and bears a good reputation. Wallace was a worthless negro and Southerland had warned him away from his home repeatedly, it is said.

### Fire Alarm, But No Fire.

Between 7 and 7.30 o'clock Friday evening, while cold rain and mud made it particularly disagreeable out of doors and particularly agreeable beside a fire indoors, the inevitable alarm of fire was given. People rushed out in the cold and rain and mud. Some were seen rushing up Third street and it was said that the fire was at Dr. J. D. Regan's, on Second street. After many had tramped about in the mud while it became pretty well established that there was no fire at all. Dr. Regan wondered if folks had turned out to lynch him without cause. No one seems to know who turned in the alarm or whether it was an alarm turned in falsely, or a false alarm turned in innocently.

## MORRISON MUST DIE.

### Governor Refuses to Commute Sentence—Electrocution, First in the State, to Take Place Friday.

Messrs. C. B. Skipper and T. N. McDiarmid, the attorneys who were appointed by the court to defend Walter Morrison, the negro who was convicted at the July term of Robeson Superior Court of criminal assault on Polly Rogers, Croatan, near Elrod last May, saw Governor Kitchin Thursday in a last effort to get the sentence of death commuted to life imprisonment. Their appeal to the Governor was in vain and Morrison will be electrocuted on Friday of this week. He will be the first man to die in the electric chair, which has been installed in the State prison. Morrison's electrocution has been postponed four times on account of delay in installing the electric chair. Neither the trial judge nor the solicitor recommended the commutation asked for and the Governor could find no sound reason for executive clemency.

Mr. McDiarmid says that when he and Mr. Skipper saw Morrison at the State prison Thursday Morrison fell upon his knees and cried pitifully and begged them to save his life.

### Meeting of Lumberton Industrial & Commercial Club—New Officers Elected.

At the call of President R. D. Caldwell a meeting of the Lumberton Industrial & Commercial Club was held in the club rooms Thursday evening. After calling the meeting to order Mr. Caldwell reviewed the life of the club and what has been accomplished since it was organized and said that the meeting had been called to reorganize, elect new officers, and try to infuse new life. He tendered his resignation as president and all offices were declared vacant. Mr. Caldwell had declared his desire to be relieved of the presidency, but Col. N. A. McLean, in a happy talk, placed him in nomination for reelection, and he was unanimously elected, the office being practically forced upon him again in such a way that he could not refuse. Col. McLean was elected vice president, and Mr. R. H. Crinchtion was elected secretary and treasurer to succeed Mr. A. P. Caldwell, who resigned, both being elected by a unanimous vote. Mr. Caldwell has devoted much time and work to the interests of the club since its organization, and Col. McLean voiced the sentiments of the entire membership in stating that he deserved the thanks of the club for his work, for which he did not ask or receive compensation. Five members of the executive committee, of which the president and secretary-treasurer are members ex officio, were to be elected and the following were nominated in the order in which their names appear: H. B. Jennings, G. G. French, A. W. Peace, E. J. Britt, Dr. John Knox, Jr., R. E. Lee, K. M. Biggs, J. F. Head. A motion that the first five nominated be elected was carried unanimously. The president was empowered to appoint a committee to prepare a charter.

Some improvements will be made in the care of the club rooms and the outlook for the club is bright.

### The Proposed R. & S. Extension.

The Fayetteville Observer of the 11th says that President J. A. Mills, of the Raleigh & Southport Railway, placed a contract recently in Baltimore for 50 miles of steel rail for the proposed extension of the R. & S. from Fayetteville to Clarkton via Elizabethtown, but that Mr. Mills has not yet definitely determined whether the extension will go by Hope Mills or closer to the Cape Fear River in going out of Fayetteville.

—Scottish Chief: Among the early probabilities for Maxton is a hosiery mill. This is in addition to the proposed cotton factory of the Alma Lumber Company.

## Closing Exercises at Mt. Tabor—An Occasion Long to be Remembered.

Reported for The Robesonian.

Mt. Tabor has a way of doing things, when she sets her mind to do so. When it was learned that Miss McNeill, the efficient teacher, was to give an entertainment, much was expected, and a great concourse of people assembled. The occasion has come and gone, and it can be truthfully said that the expectations were more than realized.

It was an occasion long to be remembered, as the brightest and most enjoyable entertainment in the history of the district. The school room was beautifully decorated with evergreens, the National colors taking a conspicuous place in the decorations so artistically arranged. It was all planned on a large scale, and every detail proved a perfect success. The programme was as follows:

- PROGRAMME.
- |                                 |            |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| America,                        | School     |
| Welcome,                        | Paul Amos  |
| Columbia,                       | Pantomime  |
| Annie McNeill, Daisy McNeill,   |            |
| Pearl Humphrey, Vinnie Johnson, |            |
| Vacation Time,                  |            |
| The District School at          |            |
| Blueberry Corners,              | Play       |
| That Starry Flag of             |            |
| Ours,                           | Paul Amos  |
| The Musical Asters,             | 7 Girls    |
| Address,                        |            |
| The Old North State,            | School     |
| Grandpa's Aversion to           |            |
| Slang,                          | P. Johnson |
| The Sweet Family,               | Farce      |
| What Sambo Says, Marry Skipper  |            |
| Good Night, Ladies,             | School     |

Mr. J. A. McDougald introduced Mr. Tom L. Johnson, of Lumberton, the speaker of the evening, who spoke for about 40 minutes. The subject of Mr. Johnson's address was "The Intellectual and Material Development of N. C.," and it was a most beautifully-worded address, and delivered in the well-known forceful style of this gentleman. After referring to the wealth of our fertile soil, producing one and two bales of cotton to the acre, the wealth of our rivers, turning millions of factory wheels, and the wealth of our mineral and timber resources, the speaker said: "But there is one resource infinitely richer than all these, and that is the minds of the boys and girls of the State." The speaker then discussed the power of education in the industrial development of the State. The story of Edmond Dantes was told, illustrating the splendid opportunities of the educated boy of today. "For the educated boy in N. C. today," said the speaker, "there is a field richer in magnificent opportunities than the famed garden of Hesperides, and no Dragon stands to guard its golden fruit."

Much regret was felt by reason of Mr. G. B. McLeod's inability to attend. The brilliant scene ended with "Good Night, Ladies."

J. A. McDougald.

### Programme of Laymen's Convention at Antioch March 20.

The following programme has been arranged for the Laymen's Convention at Antioch church, near Red Springs, next Sunday, 20th:

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 10 a. m. Devotional Exercises | —Dr. C. G. Vardell, president of the Southern Presbyterian College at Red Springs.                                  |
| 10.30 a. m.                   | The Object and Significance of the Laymen's Missionary Movement—Dr. W. J. Martin, Davidson College.                 |
| 11.30 a. m.                   | Music by the Choir.   |
| 11.40 a. m.                   | The Needs of the World a Challenge to Men—John W. McLaughlin, of Raeford.   |
|                               | Dinner.   |
| 2 p. m.                       | Music.  |
| 2.30 p. m.                    | Address by H. W. Malloy, of Wilmington.   |
| 3 p. m.                       | Music.  |
| 3.15 p. m.                    | The Bible Basis of Missions—K. M. Barnes, of Barnesville.   |
| 3.45 p. m.                    | Music.  |
| 4 p. m.                       | Recess.   |
| 7.30 p. m.                    | General Conference of Missions. How Can We Bring Our Churches up to the \$4 Standard?—A. F. Patterson, Laurel Hill. |
|                               | What Kind of Men Should We Put on Our Committees—R. W. doJling.   |

## LOCAL BRIEFS.

—Messrs. Caldwell and Carlyle will have their millinery opening Tuesday and Wednesday of next week, the 22d and 23d.

—Miss Flora Boone has accepted a position as saleslady in Caldwell & Carlyle's millinery department. She began work this morning.

—"Tempest and Sunshine," a dramatization of the book of the same name, will be the attraction at the Lumberton opera house Friday evening. Misses Dixie Lee and Crystal Vizzard in the title roles are said to be great.

—Prof. J. R. Poole, county superintendent of public instruction, visited schools in Blue Springs township the latter part of last week, returning Friday night. He spent half a day at the school at Raeford, which he says is an excellent one.

—Charity and Children: Rev. J. M. Dunaway, of Wilson, has been called to Lumber Bridge and Parkton, in the Robeson Association. This is a fine and promising field, and if they secure Mr. Dunaway they will be the luckiest Scotchmen in the land.

—W. H. Shooter was before Mayor Rowland last Wednesday on the charge of being drunk and disorderly the Saturday night before, two cases, and was taxed \$10 and costs in each case, a total of \$27.10, and was recognized to appear before the mayor from time to time and show good conduct.

—The Jennings Cotton Mill has bought from Mrs. Sue Rowland and Mr. Irvin Jenkins 148 acres of land on the Carthage road, about one mile from town, between Mrs. Rowland's and the McMillan mill, for a site for the mill. It is understood that work on the mill building will begin in the near future.

—President W. S. Cobb and the executive committee of the county Farmers' Union will meet with Dr. S. A. Knapp in Washington tomorrow in the interest of getting the government demonstration work well established in this county. President Cobb will give Robesonian readers an account of the visit to Washington when they return.

—Mr. R. E. Lee has purchased from the trustees of the graded school the old school house and lot on Walnut street, the consideration being \$1,800. Some young men of the town are considering renting the house for quarters for an athletic club. If that is not done Mr. Lee will either remodel the house or tear it down and build two or three houses on the lot.

—Mr. O. H. Bracy, bookkeeper for the firm of Caldwell & Carlyle, left Saturday afternoon for the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. Bracy, near Rowland, in response to a message announcing the serious illness of his father. A phone message from Rowland this morning is to the effect that Mr. Bracy's condition is unimproved.

—Rev. M. McG. Shields, of Greensboro, chairman of the Synodical home mission work of the State, preached at the Presbyterian church yesterday morning and evening. Rev. O. L. Stringfield, of Maiden, Gaston county, who is traveling in the interest of the endowment fund for the Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., preached at the First Baptist church last evening. Mr. Stringfield formerly taught school in this county and is well known here.

—Red Springs Citizen, 11th: Mr. A. H. McLeod, of Lumberton, and Miss Alice Saunders, of Monroe, were the guests of Hotel Red Springs yesterday. They came over from Lumberton in Mr. McLeod's beautiful car and a very pleasant day was spent, marred only by a slight accident as they started on their return trip. In backing the machine they ran into a tree, near the hotel, which did enough damage to cause them to seek help from the Motor & Machine Co., when, after the repairs were made, they departed for home.