

# THE ROBESONIAN

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VOL XLI NO. 24.

LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MAY 12, 1910

WHOLE NO. 2562

## A TRAGIC DEATH.

**Mrs. Virginia P. McDiarmid Falls 60 Feet to Cement Pavement from Roof of Charlotte Sanatorium—Sad Intelligence Casts a Gloom Over Lumberton—Son of Deceased Had Gone to Charlotte to Accompany Mother Home—Remains Interred Here Yesterday.**

People of Lumberton were inexpressibly shocked Tuesday afternoon when news reached here of the tragic death of Mrs. Virginia P. McDiarmid, which occurred that afternoon at the Charlotte sanatorium in Charlotte, where she went some 6 weeks ago for treatment. A large crowd of sorrowing friends yesterday morning met the remains, which were accompanied from Charlotte by Mr. T. N. McDiarmid, only son of the deceased, and Dr. J. P. Monroe, of Charlotte, and they were borne to the home, corner of Walnut and Sixth streets, from which place the funeral took place yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Services were conducted by Rev. A. E. Baker, pastor of the Presbyterian church, of which the deceased was a member, assisted by Rev. E. M. Hoyle, pastor of the Methodist church, and a large crowd accompanied the remains to their last resting place, the cemetery on Fifth street.

The following account of Mrs. McDiarmid's death is taken from yesterday's Charlotte Observer: "Mrs. Virginia P. McDiarmid, of Lumberton, who for the past six weeks had been undergoing treatment at the Charlotte sanatorium, fell from the roof of that institution yesterday afternoon at 3:45 o'clock in a moment of temporary despondency and met death instantly, falling headlong on the cement sidewalk 60 feet below.

"The accident came without the slightest intimation to anyone, least of all to the nurses and attendant physicians. Mrs. McDiarmid had been in the sanatorium for six weeks and had never manifested any signs of aberration other than occasional slight spells of melancholia and never did anyone imagine for a moment that she would do hurt to herself. She had planned to return to Lumberton tomorrow and her son, Mr. Thomas N. McDiarmid, had come up Saturday to see her safely home. Yesterday morning she complained a little of rheumatism in her shoulder and had asked her physician to give her something for it. This he did, arranging for a second visit in the afternoon. When he returned, he learned that she was dead.

"Mrs. McDiarmid fell from the south side of the roof garden on the top of the building. This roof garden is a walled and circumscribed area on the top of the institution for the benefit of convalescents. It is much frequented and very popular on account of the warm sun, fresh air and cooling breezes. Yesterday afternoon there were several patients along with Mrs. McDiarmid on the roof garden. They were sitting about and walking as usual in the company of several nurses. As nothing was feared of Mrs. McDiarmid she was allowed to move about freely. It was at a moment when the eyes of the patients and nurses were fixed in another direction that she climbed over the railing protecting the edge of the roof, which is here about three and one-half feet high, and fell to the pavement below. Death was believed to be instantaneous."

Mr. T. N. McDiarmid went to Charlotte Saturday night and expected to accompany his mother home today. About 3 hours before her death he spent some time with his mother. The enclosure on the roof of the sanatorium was only about three feet high and as Mrs. McDiarmid was unusually tall for a woman it is thought that she simply became overbalanced and fell. Her friends here do not credit the statement that she threw herself from the building.

Mrs. McDiarmid was the widow of William Wallace McDiarmid, who for about 29 years was

## ROWLAND NEWS ITEMS.

**Meeting of Civic League—Social Happenings—Personal.**

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Rowland, May 11—Miss Cattie McArn, of Red Springs, spent Sunday with her mother, Mrs. Ann McArn.—Mr. Charley Walker, of Fayetteville, is visiting relatives in town.—Mr. John McKay, of Maxton, spent Sunday in Rowland.—Mr. James Draughon, of Savannah, Ga., was a visitor here last week.—Mrs. W. F. Flowers spent Tuesday in Fayetteville.

We are sorry to report Mrs. J. P. Smith on the sick list. Miss Eva McKay is visiting relatives in Maxton.—Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Smith left Tuesday for Union, S. C., where they will visit relatives.—Mr. and Mrs. L. E. McCall, of Laurinburg, and Mr. E. C. McCall, of Durham, visited relatives in town this week.—Mr. Clyde McCallum, of Fayetteville, was a visitor here Monday.—After quite an extended visit to friends and relatives in Maxton and Bennettsville, Miss Mattie Draughon is at home again.—Misses Brown and Wilson and Mr. John Brown, of Red Springs, spent Sunday with friends in Rowland.

Mrs. H. K. McCormick carried her little daughter Sarah Pharr to the Highsmith hospital in Fayetteville last week to have an operation on her throat. The operation proved a very successful one and the little lady is getting on nicely.

Last Saturday the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades, chaperoned by the teachers of these grades, Misses Grace McCallum and Carrie Kilgore, thoroughly enjoyed an all-day picnic at Barker's mill.

Tuesday afternoon the Civic League of Rowland met in the graded school building, this evening the second meeting held since the organization of the League. A meeting will be held every Tuesday afternoon until all committees are appointed and each one understands the work she has to do. Though the League is in its infancy, all the members are full of enthusiasm and we expect to see marked improvements in our town in the near future. All who are interested in this work are requested to attend these meetings.

The young men of Rowland received the following invitation Monday: "You are cordially invited to attend a Stag Reception given by the Flowers Hotel May 9th, at eight p. m." A string band from Syracuse, N. Y., furnished music for the evening. Those who attended pronounced it one of the most enjoyable social functions of the season.

**Meeting of Town Board—Election of Officers Postponed.**

A meeting of the board of town commissioners was held Tuesday evening for the purpose of electing officers for the year, but as all the members of the board were not present none was elected except Mr. C. B. Skipper, who was re-elected town clerk and treasurer at the same salary as heretofore, \$400 per year. A meeting will be held Tuesday evening of next week, when the other officers will be elected.

Messrs. A. T. McLean, F. P. Gray and Dr. Jno. Knox spent Tuesday in Richmond, Va.

editor of The Robesonian and who died February 3, 1897. Before marriage she was Miss Virginia P. Norment, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Norment. She was 55 years old. She is survived by one son, Mr. Thomas N. McDiarmid; one brother, Mr. O. C. Norment; and one sister, Mrs. Anna Eliza Higley—all of Lumberton. For 3 or 4 years she had been in poor health and last March she was taken to Charlotte for treatment by her physician, Dr. T. D. Kitchin. It was thought that her condition had improved considerably and, as stated, her son had gone to Charlotte to accompany her home.

Mr. McDiarmid has a host of friends whose hearts go out to him in sympathy in his great bereavement.

## MEMORIAL DAY.

**Observed in Lumberton With Fitting Exercises—Address on the Life of Alfred Rowland—Crosses of Honor Bestowed—Dinner Served Veterans—Annual Meeting of Camp Pope—Graves Decorated.**

Memorial Day was observed here Tuesday with fitting exercises which were enjoyed by 75 or 80 veterans from all parts of the county, a bountiful dinner was served by the Daughters of the Confederacy, and the graves of the Confederate dead were decorated.

At 10 o'clock in the morning the veterans of Camp Willis H. Pope met in the court house and after attending to some routine business, at 11 o'clock they marched in a body, under Gen. F. A. Bord, of Hunters' Lodge, to the opera house, where the exercises were held. The stage decorations here of flags and flowers were exceedingly pretty, reflecting great credit upon the committee, of which Mrs. A. W. McLean was chairman, which had that detail in charge.

The exercises began with prayer by Rev. C. H. Durham, pastor of the First Baptist church, after which there was music by an elegant Regina phonograph which was furnished for the occasion by Gen. and Mrs. F. A. Bond and was operated by Mrs. Bond. Followed the address of the occasion, an excellent and thoroughly enjoyed paper by Commander J. A. McAllister on the Life of Capt. Alfred Rowland. After music by the phonograph, Crosses of Honor were delivered to Veterans Jas. Dent, Lewis Grimsley, Anderson Kinlaw and F. A. Prevatt. (Veterans Murdock McRimmon, W. B. Burchett and Artemus McKay were to have received Crosses also but were not present.) Ex-Judge T. A. McNeill presented the Crosses in a brief but happy speech. Addressing his comrades who were being thus honored, he said that in all ages and countries patriotism, fidelity to duty and courage had commanded admiration and had been honored. He paid tribute to the beautiful devotion of the Daughters of the Confederacy, who have placed veterans upon the pension roll and have erected monuments in their honor, and called attention to the significance of the Crosses—they put those who wear them on a roll of honor here and their actions should always be high and noble. The Crosses were pinned on by Misses Winnifred Rowland, Mary G. McNeill, Rebecca Ward and Arabella Higley. Next followed a phonograph selection, a melody ending with "taps."

Mr. M. G. McKenzie, master of ceremonies announced that all the veterans were cordially invited to a dinner which would be served at the court house by the members of Robeson Chapter, U. D. C., "Lead Kindly Light" was rendered on the phonograph, and the audience was dismissed by Rev. Wesley Thompson, chaplain of Camp Pope.

After dinner, at 2 p. m., the veterans held a business meeting in the court room, this being the regular annual meeting of Camp Willis H. Pope. All the officers were re-elected for the ensuing year, as follows: J. A. McAllister, commander; M. G. McKenzie, adjutant; J. S. Thompson, first lieutenant; ex-Judge T. A. McNeill, 2d Lieut.; Rev. F. A. Prevatt, 3d Lieut.; Gen. F. A. Bond, 4th Lieut.; Rev. Wesley Thompson, chaplain. Miss Pennington Rowland was elected sponsor. During the year Comrades J. J. Britt, Stephens and Capps have passed away and a committee was appointed to draft suitable resolutions. Various other committees were appointed, resolutions of thanks to the Daughters for their excellent dinner and their other courtesies and to Gen. and Mrs. Bond for the pleasure afforded by their phonograph, were adopted, and the meeting adjourned.

Just before the close of the exercises at the opera house Mr. McKenzie announced that the committee on decorating graves—Mesdames R. D. Caldwell, Lizzie G. Proctor and L. T. Towns-

## RED SPRINGS REVIEWS.

**A Delightful Recital—"Scotch" Commencement at S. P. C.—Philadelphus Closing—Personal.**

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Red Springs, May 11—Miss Margaret McNeill gave a beautiful violin recital in the college auditorium on Monday evening. Miss McNeill is a talented and skilled young violinist and she delighted her large and appreciative audience with ten beautiful solos. The programme was well arranged and all of the numbers were exquisite selections from the old masters of music. Miss McNeill was assisted by her sister, Miss Carrie Belle McNeill, who is an artistic performer on the pipe organ. She played three numbers and the last was especially enjoyed by her hearers. This was the "Grand Chorus" and, judging from the volumes of harmony and the swelling tones, every pipe in the large organ must have been used. Miss May Atkinson played Miss McNeill's accompaniments in sweet and soft tones. This recital was quite a treat to the music lovers in Red Springs, and all who were present were loud in their praises of the musicians of the evening. Miss Lillian Farquhar, the violin teacher, is due much praise for the good training of her graduates this year, Misses Margaret Williams and Margaret McNeill. Miss Cora Moore, of Burgaw, was in town Monday evening to attend the recital of Miss McNeill.—Miss Vera Blue, of Aberdeen, was also in Red Springs for Miss McNeill's recital.—Miss Anna McNeill, of Savannah, Ga., was the guest of Hon. D. P. McEachern for several days of this week. Mrs. John McEachern, also of Savannah, was the guest of relatives here this week.—Miss Genevieve Wilcox, of Marion, S. C., is visiting Miss Sallie Pearsall. Miss Wilcox is a former student of S. P. C. and has many friends both in town and in the college who are glad to see her again.

Great preparations are being made for the commencement at S. P. C., which will begin next Sunday, 15th, with the baccalaureate sermon, which will be preached by Dr. Rev. Duncan J. McMillan, of New York City. Monday evening will be "Senior Night," when the senior class will give an entertainment. Tuesday afternoon will be the annual art exhibit and Tuesday evening the students of the conservatory will give their annual concert. Wednesday the usual graduating exercises will be held, the address to the senior class will be delivered by Rev. Dr. Archie McArn, of Cheraw, S. C. This is to be a Scotch commencement, and so the trustees are to be dressed in Scotch plaid, the marshals to have Scotch ribbons, and the speakers are all of Scotch descent. We hope many can attend this commencement, for it promises to be especially interesting.

Mr. Tom McNeill, Jr., and Mrs. Tom McNeill and daughter, Miss Mary, spent several hours in Red Springs Monday afternoon, returning to their home in Lumberton after taking supper at Hotel Red Springs.—Mrs. Jennie McAlester and daughters, Misses Mary and Bessie, spent a day or two with relatives in Lumberton last week.

The commencement exercises of Philadelphus high school will be held tomorrow and Friday. These are always good and well worth going to hear, and many from Red Springs will go out to hear them.

end—requested all who would contribute flowers and conveyances for this purpose to have them at the court house at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Starting from the court house at that hour, the ladies decorated the graves of 46 Confederate dead in the five cemeteries of the town.

Mr. McAllister's address on the Life of Alfred Rowland will be published in Monday's Robesonian.

—Licenses have been issued for the marriage of Minnie Tolar and Claud Hart; Mary A. McRae and J. B. Ingram.

## IN SOCIAL REALMS.

**A Delightful Evening With the Round Dozen Club.**

One of the most delightful social events that has happened in moons took place Saturday evening from 8:30 to 12 o'clock at the home of Mrs. Lizzie G. Proctor, corner of Sixth and Elm streets, when and where the Round Dozen Club made it pleasant for a large crowd. The club is composed of one dozen young ladies and they invited 25 boys, with Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Thomas and Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Caldwell as chaperones.

The guests were met at the door by Mrs. Proctor and received by the Round Dozen, who were lined up in the hall, and then Miss Lillian Proctor presented each gentleman with a rosebud. Shortly after the arrival of the guests they were invited to the punch bowl, where Mesdames Thomas and Caldwell presided.

The joys and amusements of this altogether delightful evening were so many and varied that one hardly knows where to start or stop in an effort to mention some of the things that came to pass; but the next thing that created no little fun was the presentation of souvenirs. The souvenirs had been previously arranged for all the invited guests and placed in a magic box, from which they were drawn in answer to the roll call of the guests. Every souvenir was in some way characteristic of the person or profession of the one receiving it. For instance, Dr. John Knox received a little skeleton; Mr. R. H. Crichton, bookkeeper for the Lumberton Cotton Mills, a small desk; Mr. W. K. Bethune, a talking machine; and so on it went. It was interesting and showed that much time and patience had been spent in preparing the souvenirs. A contest came next, 40 questions to be answered with the names of counties of the State. Messrs. Fred J. Thomas, R. R. Carlyle, Jas. D. Proctor, C. P. McAllister and Ed Rancke answered the same number of questions correctly and in cutting Mr. Thomas won and received a beautiful and large very large pink bow of ribbon. The prize was presented by Miss Leslie Proctor. After the contest the guests were each given a small card cut in the shape of a rose with a rose painted on one side and a number on the other, the number being for the purpose of guiding one in an effort to find a partner for a march to the dining-room, where refreshments were served. The dining-room was beautifully decorated with pink roses. They were draped all around on the wall and in fact almost any one could look were mostany. The ice cream was pink and was pressed in the shape of a rose.

Among the pleasures of this occasion was much good music rendered by Miss Mattie McLean, vocal, Miss Leslie Proctor at the piano and Mr. R. R. Carlyle with his violin. From start to finish the occasion was a most pleasant one.

**Mr. J. A. Barker Not a Candidate for Sheriff's Office This Year—Will be Candidate Two Years Hence.**

Mr. J. A. Barker, of Lumberton, authorizes The Robesonian to announce that he will not be a candidate for the office of sheriff of Robeson county this year but that he will be a candidate for that office two years hence. A statement to this effect from Mr. Barker, held over on account of the crowded condition of the paper, will be published in Monday's Robesonian.

—Col. N. A. McLean returned last night from Charlotte, where Tuesday evening he delivered the annual address to the graduating class of the Presbyterian College. The address was spoken in most complimentary terms by the Charlotte papers. A chronicle news item referring to it as "an interesting compilation of sense, humor, sound advice, depth of thought and flow of eloquence."

Mr. W. H. Regan, of Howellsville, was among the visitors in town Tuesday.

## LOCAL BRIEFS.

—Mrs. E. B. Huggins went yesterday to Fayetteville, where she will undergo an operation at St. Luke's hospital. Mrs. Huggins' condition is not considered serious and it is hoped that she will be able to return in a few days.

—Mr. W. H. Ammons, who lives on rural route No. 3 from Dillon, S. C., attended the Memorial Day exercises in Lumberton Tuesday and met a few that he remembered as comrades of other days. He is contemplating moving to Robeson county before another Memorial Day rolls around.

—Biblical Recorder: From Lumberton writes Rev. J. M. Fleming concerning the excellent field of which he is pastor: "Please give Beulah, East Lumberton, Raft Swamp, and West Lumberton Mission credit for sending their pastor to the Southern Baptist Convention in Baltimore."

—Since mention was last made the following have joined The Robesonian's cotton contest: F. C. Smith, who lives on rural route No. 2 from Fairmont, farm about one mile south of Fairmont, on a place of Dr. J. P. Brown, of Fairmont; J. M. Sparkman, of Marietta; Jas. E. Dial, of Lumberton. The contest is open for any who care to join.

—Rev. C. H. Durham, pastor of the First Baptist church, and Rev. J. M. Fleming, pastor of East Lumberton Baptist church, left Tuesday for Baltimore, Md., to attend the annual Southern Baptist Convention, which convened yesterday afternoon with about 1,200 delegates in attendance, representing 14 Southern States. Joshua Levering, of Baltimore, president of the last Convention, presided.

—The closing exercises of Philadelphus high school begin this evening at 8:30 o'clock with exercises by the primary department. Tomorrow at 10 a. m. the closing exercises proper and presentation of diplomas will take place and at 11 o'clock the literary address will be delivered by Supt. J. E. Avent, of the Goldsboro graded school. At 1:30 p. m. Dr. D. H. Hill, president of the A. and M. College at Raleigh, will deliver an agricultural address, from 3 to 4 there will be a game of baseball, and in the evening at 8:30 a play, "The Noble Outcast," will be presented.

## METHODIST CONFERENCE.

**Second Week of General Conference at Asheville.**

The second week of the 16th quadrennial session of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in session in Asheville, began with the first real live issue debate of the session. This debate occurred over the report of the committee on revisals asking that the board of stewards of the local churches be elected by the members of the church instead of by the quarterly conference, as has been the rule from the organization of the Church. The vote resulted in a victory for the conservative element, the election of stewards standing as the original rule.

A discussion arose Tuesday over the matter of a special assessment of 2 1/2 cents for each member of the Church during the next four years to obtain funds with which to build a representative church in Washington, D. C. It is certain that the church will be erected at a cost of a half a million dollars, but the matter of assessment was left to the board of church extension.

It is thought that the election of bishops and connexional officers will not come up until next week. It is thought that Dr. J. C. Kilgo, president of Trinity College, will be elected on first ballot.

The committee of revisals voted, 17 to 6, against the memorial presented by the women in which they asked for equal representation with men.

The conference voted yesterday against extending the time pastors may remain on one charge.