

# THE ROBESONIAN

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WHOLE NO. 2648

## UP TO LUMBERTON.

**Town Again Has Opportunity of Securing Plant of Raft Swamp Milling Co.—First Year's Operation Showed Net Earnings of 10 per Cent—Wheat Acreage Increased Three-Fold—Plant to be Enlarged.**

Lumberton has again a chance of getting the Raft Swamp Co-operative Milling & Ginning Co. to bring its plant, which has been in operation at Pembroke for about a year, here. The delay of a telegram conveying Lumberton's offer of inducements for the plant a year ago caused the directors to decide in favor of Pembroke, but it is now the intention to enlarge the plant, and it is a better proposition now than it was thought to be first; for while many were doubtful at first it is now an assured success.

A meeting of the directors of the mill was held at Pembroke Tuesday and President W. K. Culbreth's report showed that the mill earned 10 per cent net during its first season. The increased acreage in wheat in the county is enough to keep the mill busy three times as long this year as last, and it is the intention to double the capacity of the plant and to put in machinery for grinding corn—it has been only a roller flour mill—so that it may be kept in operation the year round. The plant is now worth \$4,900 and its capacity is 30 barrels of flour per day. This will be increased to 50 barrels of flour, besides the addition of the roller mill for meal. In order to do this it would be necessary to double the size of the building at Pembroke and as Lumberton is considered much the better location the directors are ready to consider favorably an offer for the plant. In addition to the mill the company will also build two houses here for employes. It will be a \$10,000 plant when the additions are made. A bond issue of \$5,000 will be floated to liquidate outstanding indebtedness and make the additions contemplated. The stockholders will meet at Pembroke to decide on these questions on Tuesday, the 28th inst.

It is up to Lumberton. If proper inducements are offered the enlarged plant will be located here. Mr. R. E. Lee of Lumberton is attorney for the company and will do what he can to secure the plant for this place. Mr. W. L. Prevatt is secretary-treasurer.

## Dr. W. A. McPhaul Purchases Pope Building.

Dr. W. A. McPhaul purchased yesterday through Mr. J. A. McDougall the Pope building on Elm street, occupied by the Pope Drug Co., from Dr. H. T. and Mr. I. L. Pope. The consideration was \$8,500. Some days ago Mr. McDougall secured for Mr. M. G. McKenzie an option on the building for \$8,000, paying \$300, and the balance of the purchase price agreed upon was to be paid yesterday, or an additional \$500 was to be paid to extend the option to the 31st inst. Dr. McPhaul, who is principal stockholder in the Pope Drug Co., purchased Mr. McKenzie's interest for \$500 and will enter into possession of the building the first of April. It is his intention to put in tile floor and make other improvements, and he may decide to add another story. It is one of the most desirable locations in town.

## Mrs. Mary C. Norment Critically Ill at Her Home at Purvis.

Mrs. Mary C. Norment is critically ill with pneumonia at her home at Purvis. She is in her 73d year. Her brother Mr. A. C. Bridges and her nephew Dr. T. A. Norment returned last night from her bedside and will go to see her again this afternoon. Her recovery is considered very doubtful. Mrs. Norment is remembered as the author of a history of the outlaw Lowrie band, by whom her husband, who was a brother of Dr. R. M. Norment of Lumberton, was killed.

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## ANTIOCH NEWS NOTES.

**New County Officers—Land Booming—Raeford Moving Forward—Educational Rally at School Closing—New Church Furniture—Personal.**

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Antioch, Mar. 14.—The election in Hoke passed off very quietly and resulted in the election of the following officers: Sheriff, Edgar Hall of Dundarach; clerk of court, W. B. McQueen of Blue Springs; register of deeds, J. Hector Smith of Little River; treasurer, W. J. McRaney of Raeford. Dr. Dixon was elected coroner without opposition. The board of commissioners is composed of J. A. McPhaul of Antioch, J. W. Johnson of Raeford and S. J. Cameron of Timberland. We feel that we have as competent set of officers as any county in North Carolina and from them we are expecting great things. Our board of education is composed of Messrs. J. A. Hodgkin, Neill McKinnon and McDonald. We predict that these gentlemen will keep the schools of Hoke county up to that high standard already attained by many of them. Mr. J. A. Hodgkin is also chairman of the Democratic executive committee for Hoke county, which means the democracy of our county is in good hands.

Already land is booming in the new county, quite a number of acres having changed hands within the last few days. There is quite a lot of undeveloped territory in Hoke county but all these lands are susceptible of the highest state of cultivation and will easily produce a bale of cotton and fifty bushels of corn per acre. It is also specially adapted to the production of fruit. Here we find the finest kind of peaches and grapes being grown. At Southern Pines, which is just across the Hoke county line, the fruit is equal to that of California and as our Hoke county land, part of it, is the same kind of land, we expect in a few years that fruit culture will be even a better paying proposition in this section than the cultivation of cotton.

Raeford is also going forward now with leaps and bounds. Plans are now on foot for the erection of a new and modern hotel, to be built of brick. Raeford has now a good hotel, the only objection being that it is too small for the accommodation of the great number of transients who are daily visitors in the city. The completion of the new road from Southern Pines to Raeford, also from Aberdeen and Pinehurst, puts Raeford in direct touch with the whole outside world. What Raeford needs now is a live commercial club to boom her interests and thoroughly advertise her, and in a few years, with the good back country she has, Raeford will easily take her place among the most progressive and up-to-date cities in North Carolina. Our motto now is no longer to "Hold Robeson and save the State" but to "Hold Hoke and build up Raeford."

We hope Raeford will offer our farmers sufficient inducements this fall so that every bale of cotton produced in Hoke county can be marketed at Raeford, and thus keep the money in our own county. This is the only way to build up our county—to keep our money in our own county. This can easily be done if Raeford will play her part, which we know she will.

The academy here closes for spring term Wednesday, March 29th. The exercises will probably begin on Tuesday evening with a musical concert by pupils of Miss Witherspoon. Wednesday they want to have a big educational rally with an address by Hon. W. W. Kitchen and Wednesday night the annual concert. This program, however, is subject to change. This has been a very successful year with the school and our people regret very much to see the teachers leave. They have added so much to the volume of both the social and religious life of the community, we shall follow them all with our best wishes.

Among the visitors in town this week we note Maj. A. J. McKinnon, Rev. Dr. A. P. Tyre, Mr. Pierce and Messrs. Jno. Allen McLean and R. D. Croom of

## RED SPRINGS REVIEWS.

**A Play by College Expression Class—Old-Fashioned Spelling Match—Personal.**

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Red Springs, Mar. 14.—Mr. R. F. de Vane spent the week-end with his family, returning to his mill at Town Creek Monday morning.—Mrs. Louis Hall and little daughter, of Wilmington, are spending a few days at the home of Capt. W. F. Williams. Mr. Hall spent Sunday here with Mrs. Hall.—Miss Williams, of the conservatory faculty, spent a few days of last week in Lumberton. She accompanied Miss Emma Higley and was a guest at her father's home during her stay.

Mr. Ernest Roberts, who is a student at A. & M. in Raleigh, was called home Monday, on account of the serious illness of his mother. We are glad to report that Mrs. Roberts is slightly better today.

Mr. and Mrs. June Stanley spent several days of last week in Wilson.—Mrs. James McNeill, of Fayetteville, has been the guest of relatives in Red Springs for the past week.—Misses Mary and Annie Smith, of Rowland, are visiting their sister, Mrs. John F. Brown.

The play given by the expression class of the college, under the management of Miss Nichols, Monday evening was quite a success, but owing to the bad weather, very few had the pleasure of seeing it, so it will be repeated next Monday night. It is a Japanese comedy, all the characters are Japanese and the stage decorations make one think it might be a little garden spot of Japan, as the beautiful purple wisteria, tulips and lilies looked so natural. We advise all who can to be sure and see the "Revenge of Shari-Hot-Su" next Monday evening.

Miss Jessie Singleton visited relatives in Bingham, S. C., last week.—Mr. and Mrs. Wadsworth, of Charlotte, are guests at Hotel Red Springs.—Miss Lita Serpell, of Norfolk, is spending several weeks at the hotel.—Miss Rosalie Williams has returned from a visit of several weeks in Wilmington.—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Howard have returned to their home in Halifax, Nova Scotia, after spending several months here at Hotel Red Springs. They will return next winter.

The ladies of the Methodist church gave an old-fashioned spelling match and candy-pulling last Friday evening. Quite a crowd of young people was present and a neat little sum was realized, which will go to the building of the new church.

## Successful Test of New Fire Alarm System—Works Perfectly.

Promptly at noon Tuesday the test mentioned in Monday's Robesonian was made of the new fire alarm system. It was found not only that the alarm registers perfectly the box from which it is turned in but that there is no difficulty in determining the location from the whistles. Mr. J. P. Townsend turned in the alarm, the general alarm was blown, then two short blasts, a pause, followed by two short blasts, and there was no trouble at all in determining that the alarm was turned in from box No. 22, corner of Fourth and Walnut streets.

It is not necessary, in order to locate a fire, to try to carry the numbers of the boxes in one's head. It is only necessary to know the wards and remember that the first blasts of the whistle, after the general long alarm, indicate the second figure in the number of the box. The number of every box in ward 2, for instance, begins with 2, every number in ward 3 with 3, etc. And so, in the test Tuesday, the first two short blasts indicated ward 2, and the second two short blasts indicated that the second figure of the number of the box was also 2.

Another test will be made next Tuesday at noon.

## Maxton.

The new furniture for the Presbyterian church here has been ordered and is expected to be installed within a few weeks. When installed and carpeted it will give us one of the most modern country churches in this entire section.

## DAYTIME DARKNESS.

**Severe Wind and Hail Storm in Raynham and McDonald Sections—Phenomenal Daytime Darkness.**

It became alarmingly dark here about 3:30 o'clock Monday afternoon and there was some wind and a little hail, but Lumberton escaped lightly, no damage being done here. The storm seems to have been more severe about Raynham and McDonald than anywhere else in the county. Mr. E. Wheeler Stone sends The Robesonian the following from McDonald:

"Monday afternoon we were visited by one of the most severe wind and hail storms in many years, if not the worst ever. Window lights on the north and northwest sides of most buildings suffered severely, none being left at all in some instances. I learn that Mr. B. O. Townsend's store at Raynham had all lights broken out and the roof practically broken off.

"At one time the hail stones fell the size of hen eggs—in fact I measured one with tape line that was 6½ inches around, and it was not picked up until about 30 minutes after the storm had passed.

"Mr. J. A. Thompson of Back Swamp had the frame of a building to come down during the storm. I also understand a buggy house at Mr. C. M. Townsend's was blown down.

"Early cabbage suffered severely and fruit trees were battered badly.

"Scared? Yes, all of us—turned so dark—it seemed as if twilight was passing into darkness. I am sure the most of us felt our littleness and dependence upon our Maker."

It was a scary time for a fact and no doubt many people thought their time had come. The Observer says that it was dark as midnight in Fayetteville at about the same time it became dark here, about two hours later the same phenomenon struck Wilmington, and the following Monday's dispatch from Charlotte tells how it was in that city and also gives the weather man's explanation:

"Darkness so dense that every business house was lighted, and surpassing the phenomenon of a total eclipse of the sun, suddenly fell over this city and section at one o'clock this afternoon, causing great uneasiness to prevail, while clouds that shut out the sunlight almost completely suddenly came up from the west.

"Chickens in some instances started to their roosts, and up town it was not possible to see objects across the streets, except to decipher their dim outlines. The local weather bureau explained the phenomenon as due to the rushing in of an area of high pressure over a low area which was central over this section in the morning.

"Violent electrical displays followed the strange darkness, but the storm otherwise was not above a gale."

## Another Special School Tax District—Hoke Takes 8 But Robeson is Still in Front Row.

A special school tax election was held in district No. 3, Thompson township, last Saturday and carried, voting 30 cents on property and 90 cents on the poll. Centenary school is in this district. On the same day an election was held in district No. 1, Burnt Swamp, in which is located Philadelphia high school, to vote an extra special tax of 15 cents on property and 45 cents on the poll. The election was carried in favor of the tax, which gives this district a special school tax of 30 cents on property and 90 cents on the poll.

District No. 3, Thompson's, brings the special school tax districts in the county up to 51; but newly-created Hoke county takes 8 of these, which will leave Robeson only 43. Supt. Pool says that even then Robeson is ahead of any other county in the State except Guilford, and other districts are expected to carry soon.

—Mr. Walter Bowden left Monday evening for Wilmington, where he has accepted a position in the Seaboard freight depot.

## MAYOR'S COURT.

**Rounding Up Dispensers and Heavy Imbibers of Booze—A Witness Falls Down and is Himself Tried and Convicted.**

There was something of a busy time in Mayor Rowland's court Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning.

Will Rozier, colored, who was locked up Saturday night by Policeman Strange for being drunk, was tried Monday afternoon and judgment was suspended on payment of costs, \$4.65.

A case against Howard Metheson, colored, for retailing was not pressed but he was tried for being drunk, for which offense he had been locked up Saturday night by Policeman Strange, and was taxed \$1 and costs, a total of \$8.05. He was found with a gallon jar about half full of whiskey.

Hector Gilchrist, colored, was tried on the charge of retailing and was bound to court in a \$50 justified bond, which he gave with Mr. T. N. Higley as surety.

Bob McNair, colored, was tried on the charge of retailing and was bound to court in a justified \$100 bond, in default of which he was sent to jail to await trial in the higher court. And by this case hangs a tale. Saturday afternoon last Chief Redfern watched a couple of boys whose actions were suspicious, saw them talking to Bob McNair, later arrested them and they said they got their liquor from McNair. McNair was then brought into camp and he deposed and said that while he got the liquor for the boys he did not sell it to them but got it for them from Hec. Gavin. Gavin was arrested and locked up but was released on bond the following morning. When the case against Gavin came up for trial Monday afternoon Gavin went back on what he had told Chief Redfern, said he could not swear to a lie against his brother Mason Gavin, and deposed further and said that he got the liquor from one "Fighting Bill." Who "Fighting Bill" was or is did not appear. Anyway, the case against Gavin was dismissed and McNair himself was put on trial for retailing, with the result given above. The court considered that an absolute case was made out against him. McNair was the witness upon whom the prosecution relied against Gavin and when he fell down he got into the toils himself.

## Temporary Organization of Gun Club.

At a meeting held in the rooms of the Industrial and Commercial Club Tuesday evening a gun club was temporarily organized as follows: W. P. McAllister, president; Edward McMillan, vice president; L. B. Townsend, secretary-treasurer; A. F. Ward, captain. W. P. McAllister, A. F. Ward, L. B. Townsend, E. J. Britt and R. H. Crichton were named as executive board. A committee composed of E. J. Britt, L. B. Townsend and W. P. McAllister was appointed to select a site and see about securing two traps. Another meeting will be held at an early date at which time the club will be named, permanent organization formed and dues determined. The club will start with a membership of about 20.

## Raising Money For Fire House.

Mr. J. P. Townsend began yesterday soliciting funds to build the fire house which the town commissioners at their last meeting authorized the fire company to erect on the corner of Fourth and Water streets, as mentioned in last Thursday's Robesonian. In a little while Mr. Townsend secured about \$200 and will have no difficulty in raising the amount desired, \$500. When the house is built by private subscription the commissioners will equip a hose wagon with the necessary amount of hose, purchase a horse, and employ a man to stay on the job all the time. With this equipment the town's preparedness for fire will be so much better that insurance rates will be reduced, so it is no trouble to induce men to contribute to the fund Mr. Townsend is raising.

—Tomorrow will be after being St. Patrick's Day in the morning.

## THE FINAL SUMMONS.

**Mr. Edward E. Page Died This Morning of Pneumonia.**

Mr. Edward E. Page, 20 years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Page, died this morning at 9:30 o'clock at the home of his parents, who live just across the river on the Fairmont road. Mr. Page had been ill with pneumonia for something over two weeks and but little hope of his recovery had been entertained for several days. The funeral and interment will take place tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock at White Pond church, near the old home, about seven miles below Fairmont. The services will be conducted in the White Pond Gospel tabernacle by an uncle of the deceased, Rev. N. J. Page.

The deceased was the oldest member of a family of nine children and is survived by his parents and five brothers and three sisters. Up until the time of his illness Mr. Page was a student at the graded school.

## Death of Mr. Daniel W. McGougan of Lumber Bridge.

Mr. Daniel W. McGougan, 84 years old, died at his home at Lumber Bridge Monday morning. Deceased was a highly-esteemed citizen, a Confederate veteran and Mason. He was never married. He is survived by 3 brothers—Messrs. Jas. A. and C. P. McGougan of Lumber Bridge and Dr. John McGougan of Whiteville—and 2 sisters—Miss Catherine White McGougan and Mrs. Jno. D. Malloy. The funeral took place at Lumber Bridge Tuesday afternoon.

## LOCAL BRIEFS.

—A quarterly meeting of the Robeson County Farmers' Union is being held in the court house here today.

—Mr. Percy McKenzie, who recently resigned a position as salesman in the big department store of White & Gough, left Tuesday for Standard, Fla., where he has accepted a position with the Standard Turpentine Co.

—At the second biennial convention of Head Camp, Jurisdiction W., Woodmen of the World, held in Greensboro this week, Mr. E. G. Sipher of Lumberton, consul of the Robeson County Woodmen, was elected head escort.

—Deputy Sheriff T. C. Barnes brought to jail from Pembroke this morning an Indian by the name of Lowrie for whom a warrant was issued by Justice J. A. Rowland charging him with severely cutting Mr. Sandy McIntyre some time ago. The preliminary trial will be held probably Saturday.

—Lightning struck and splintered a post between two stalls in Prof. R. E. Sentelle's stables, in rear of his residence, Walnut and Eight streets, Tuesday afternoon. No further damage was done. Prof. Sentelle's horse was not in the stables at the time but some puppies that were escaped injury.

—Mr. A. H. Hines left his beef market on Fourth street about 8 o'clock Tuesday evening and went to his home across the Seaboard railroad feeling some uneasiness about some tramps that had been observed near by. Going in the rear door he heard a noise in the kitchen, secured his pistol, went to investigate, found a window up and heard some one running away in the darkness. Mr. Hines took several shots at the intruder, but without effect, and his sister-in-law, Miss Whittington, also took an ineffectual shot. If the intruder carried anything away with him it has not been missed.

## Catholic Services Sunday.

Rev. Father Thos. F. Hayden of Wilmington will conduct mass at the opera house Sunday morning at 8 o'clock and will lecture at the same place Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The public is cordially invited to attend both services. Father Hayden has been coming to Lumberton regularly for some time and has many friends here who are always glad of the opportunity of hearing him.