

PARKTON PARAGRAPHS.

Another Account of the Disastrous Fire—A Play by Local Talent—Other Items.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Parkton, Feb. 26—Many happenings since our last writing, some very exciting and some very pleasant. The first to mention is the large and disastrous fire which occurred last Thursday night about 8 o'clock. The fire started in Croomy Smith's store and burned very rapidly, spreading to T. W. Thompson's, thence to the large double store of H. C. McMillan, F. N. Fisher occupying the first part of this store and the firm of Odum & Marley occupying the main building, first and second floor, all four stores and a beef market, with a large supply of fresh beef. There was nothing saved from Smith's store nor the beef store. Thompson, Fisher, and Odum & Marley saved some of their goods, but goods were damaged to a great extent. There was no insurance on the store building. Three of the above store buildings were owned by A. H. Perry, Thompson, Fisher, and Odum & Marley carried some insurance on their stock. The loss is very heavy on the owners of the stores and the merchants. The depot caught several times but was saved by heroic work of the bucket force; also the residence of Mr. H. C. McMillan was saved only by hard work; also the Simmons restaurant was saved by a close rub. L. E. Hughes' brick store was also watched closely, the roof being kept wet for some time. Fortunately a large crowd of people gathered quickly after the alarm was given and no time was lost to save everything that could be saved. Sandy Simmons and J. R. Beal, of the colored folk, deserve special mention of their manly and effectual work. There will be no more wooden buildings erected on the block. Odum & Marley have moved the remainder of their stock in the Brown brick store; T. W. Thompson and F. N. Fisher occupying the J. D. Gillis stores, while Croomy Smith's was a total loss. The play that was given on last Friday night at the academy—Hearts and Diamonds—was a success. A full house and all enjoyed the occasion to the fullest. Each one carried out their part creditably. The curtains fell promptly at 8 o'clock, the band rendered a selection and the concert was opened with a recitation by Miss Annie Williamson. The door receipts were \$33.20, for which we have been asked to thank everyone present for their patronage. Lumber Bridge and St. Pauls and Rex were well represented. Miss Mamie Parham is to be congratulated on her untiring efforts in getting up the above entertainment. The band also was a feature.

Mr. A. T. Hughes of Ludowica, Ga., is assisting E. B. Daniel, cashier of the bank.—Mr. W. C. Baggett of Red Springs and family visited Mr. T. W. Thompson Sunday.—Mr. Baxter Hodges of John's Station visited home folks Sunday.—Rev. L. E. Stack preached to a full house Sunday. His theme was Masonry and it was a delightful sermon. The singing was especially good, both morning and evening, with Mrs. D. S. Currie at the organ. Mr. Stack left today to attend the district Sunday school convention which meets in Sanford.—We understand that the ladies of the Great Eastern Star will give an entertainment at the academy next Thursday night for the benefit of the Oxford orphanage, so you see there is something doing all the time. This keeps people out of mischief.—The next move on foot of great importance we expect to hear of the graded school building contract.—Show us some more pretty babies' pictures. They are all pretty. Success to them all.

U. S. Civil Service Examinations.
Competitive examinations under the rules of the United States Civil Service Commission will be held throughout the United States at various dates this spring for quite a number of positions. Application forms and full information in regard to the positions and examinations may be obtained by any one interested by addressing the U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C.

"The reader will find on the second page an account of Senator Bankhead's scheme for 'boosting' Mr. Oscar W. Underwood, of Alabama, for the presidential nomination. The Observer received, some days ago, a letter from Senator Bankhead of the kind referred to, offering pay for circulating the Underwood literature—to which, of course, we have paid no attention."

SUGGESTIVE QUESTIONS

On the Sunday School Lesson by Rev. Dr. Linscott For the International Press Bible Question Club.

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March 3, 1912.

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The Call of the First Disciples. Mark 1:14-28; Luke 4:1-11.

Golden Text—The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his harvest. Matt. ix:37-38.

(1.) Verses 14-15—How do you understand the phrase, "preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God?"

(2.) What is repentance?

(3.) If a man is truly penitent does he necessarily believe the gospel? Why or why not?

(4.) Verses 16-18—Take the two occupations, literal fishermen and "fishers of men," and say which would be the more honorable calling to one whom God had called to be a literal fisherman.

(5.) Did Jesus invite or command them to follow him?

(6.) How do you account for the strange fact that these two men so promptly forsook their nets and followed him?

(7.) Verses 19-20—Why did Jesus have a preference for unlearned fishermen rather than scholars to become his chief apostles?

(8.) Why is it probable that Jesus knew these men in advance and selected them for their fitness for the work?

(9.) Does God ever call any man to a work for which he is not fitted? Give your reasons.

(10.) Verses 21-22—Is every man under obligation to keep the Sabbath day and to do some good on that day, as Jesus did? Give your reasons.

(11.) Will any preacher who knows the mind of God astonish his hearers as Jesus did?

(12.) Verses 23-25—What proof is there that today a very bad man, possessed with the worst devil we know, may by coming to Jesus be suddenly made a very good man?

(13.) Luke 4:1-3—Should all true preachers be as popular and draw crowds like Jesus did at this time? Why or why not?

(14.) There are thousands of people on the streets and at different resorts who never attend any place of worship. Why is it the duty of the modern church to send the gospel to them where they are?

(15.) Verses 4-7—What reason is there to think that God takes as much interest in our secular business as Jesus did in the business of Peter?

(16.) Do all those who get God's directions on their business matters obtain from him reliable information as to where or how success may be achieved? Why or why not?

(17.) Why should our past business failure be no bar to our faith concerning God's present business directions?

(18.) Verses 8-9—How do you account for it that this great business success made Peter see his sins?

(19.) Do phenomenal business blessings increase or decrease a good man's humility?

(20.) Verse 11—When is it right and when wrong for a Christian to give up his secular business and devote himself wholly to Christian work? (This is one of the questions that may be answered in writing by members of the club.)

Lesson for Sunday, March 10, 1912. Jesus the Healer. Mark 1:29-45; Matt. ix:23-25.

Cut Out and Send to this Office

International Press Bible Question Club.

I have read the Suggestive Questions on the Sunday School Lesson published in The Robesonian, also the Lesson itself for Sunday,

(Date) 19--

and intend to read the series of 52.

Name _____

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