

THE ROBESONIAN

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WHOL

FIRE ON FOURTH STREET

Early Sunday Morning Blaze Cleans Out National Pressing Club and Negro Restaurant—Mr. C. B. Redmond's Parlor Grocery Stock Damaged by Water—Robesonian Has Close Call—Western Union Office Out of Commission Yesterday—Building Will Be Repaired.

The fire alarm was turned in yesterday morning about 2:30 o'clock for a fire discovered in the National Pressing Club room, conducted by Will F. Faulk, colored, over Mr. C. B. Redmond's grocery store on Fourth street. The building is owned by Mr. W. W. Carlyle and Faulk rented all the second floor, using it for a restaurant and his clothes pressing business. The fire started in the pressing room and was all in a blaze when discovered by Night Policeman Roach. The fire-fighting force did quick and effective work and within 30 minutes from the time the alarm was turned in the fire was out, but everything in Faulk's apartments was ruined. The fire did not reach through the floor to Mr. Redmond's store, but the water practically ruined everything in his store. The Western Union Telegraph office, which is next door to Mr. Redmond's, and directly under Faulk's restaurant, was also flooded with water, though the fire did not reach it. The Robesonian office had a close call, though no damage was done except two window lights of a rear window were broken out by a stream of water that was unintentionally thrown against it. The Robesonian building adjoins the building in which the fire was, but it was protected by a heavy brick wall.

Faulk says that he is unable to account for the fire. He left his place of business Saturday night about 10:30 o'clock and says that he put out all the fire in his pressing room, where the fire started. He had no insurance and estimates his loss at no less than \$1,000. He had just installed a new steam presser at a cost of \$300. Faulk opened up again this morning for business over Mr. U. M. Edward's bicycle shop, but on account of lack of room he will not conduct anything but a pressing business in his new quarters.

Mr. Redmond has \$1,700 insurance on his stock of goods and \$500 on his fountain. The store is closed and an inventory of the stock of goods is being taken today for insurance adjustment. Mr. Redmond is fortunate in having another store on Elm street, between the stores of Miss Josephine Breece and the John T. Biggs Co., and says that he is in position to take care of all orders at this store. It has been only a little over a year ago since Mr. Redmond sustained considerable damage by fire on the corner of second and Elm streets, in O. C. Norment & Company's old store.

The wires into Western Union office were burned out and all messages yesterday had to be handled at the Seaboard station, but the wires have been fixed and messages are being taken care of this morning at the same old place.

It is understood that Mr. Carlyle will have the work of repairing the building started at once.

Superior Court—Cases Set For May Term.

The civil term of Robeson Superior Court which convened on the 31st ult., came to an end Friday afternoon. Judge G. S. Ferguson, who presided, went to Raleigh Saturday and yesterday he went to Whiteville, where he holds court this week. A number of judgments were signed and many other cases were disposed of but none of special interest other than already mentioned in The Robesonian. The following cases were set for trial at the May term of court, the next term of court that will be held here, a civil term of one week, which will convene May 19: Gattie Ann Locklear vs. W. A. Savage et al, Virginia-Carolina Chemical Co. vs. A. T. Floyd, et al, Murdock Smith vs. Patterson & Ware, A. Weinstein vs. A. C. L. Ry. Co, J. B. Bridgers vs J. F. McDonald, admr, M. B. Griffin vs A. C. L. Ry. Co., Butters Lumber Co. vs. Thos F. Walters, Sellers & Co. vs. R. C. Townsend (protest by defendant), Geo. Rhody vs. Western Union Telegraph Co., Tobias Hunt vs. L. Z. Hedgpeh, W. R. Mitchell vs. A. C. L. Ry. Co., W. C. Lewis vs. J. F. Pitman.

Mrs. Florida J. Barnes and daughters, Misses Gladys and Ruth, spent Saturday and yesterday at Bladenboro on a visit to friends.

CIVIL SERVICE FRAUDS.

Many Employes Not Examined and Men Designated from States They Never Saw.

Washington Cor., 12th Charlotte Observer. Senator Overman's resolution aimed at Federal employes who have been put in the Civil Service by executive order and who have never stood an examination that would entitle them to such protection caused an interesting debate in the Senate today. The Civil Service Commission admits that one out of five employes in the Civil Service has been placed there without an examination.

There was much criticism of the manner in which the service has been administered and the debate was dignified as showing that the Democrats are not going to tolerate inefficient Government employes who are inaugurating the "spoils system," of the Civil Service rules.

Even at the risk of the charge of inaugurating the "spoils system," they are going to revise the Civil Service lists. In addition to the names of those places under Civil Service by executive order, Senator Overman wants to know the number of Civil Service employes promoted for causes other than efficiency, and the number and names of those detailed to clerkships without regard to their ability to do clerical work.

A letter was received from the Civil Service Commission stating that to prepare a report on the 297,000 individuals, would require an outlay for clerical work of \$29,000 and an additional \$27,000 for printing.

"If one half the charges which are being made against the manner in which the Civil Service is conducted are true," said Mr. Overman, "the money will be well spent."

Senator Smoot of Utah said that there were undoubtedly many Civil Service employes designated from the various States, "who had never seen those States. He joined with Senator Overman in the demand that this information be laid before the Senate.

AROUND MT. MORIAH.

Cotton Planting Time—Smallpox and Measles Break Up School—Owing to Vaccination Disease Did Not Spread—Personal Items.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. Maxton, R. F. D. 3, April 11—Farmers in this community have planted corn but have not planted any cotton yet. The coming week will doubtless be the "cotton planting time" with the bulk of our farmers, especially if weather conditions are favorable.

A case or two of smallpox followed by measles broke up our school on Friday, the 28th of March, to the great sorrow of everybody. Something was missed this time, because we usually have a good commencement at Mt. Moriah. And the sudden standstill caused it to be left off. The school has been a success. The principal Miss Glennie Kendall after spending a few days with her friends of this community left for a short visit with friends at Laurinburg.

We are glad to report that probably because of vaccination, smallpox has so far failed to spread further than one family and only two of that family, those who had not been vaccinated had it, the balance of the family having been vaccinated a month or so ago by Dr. Page at school when he vaccinated other school children.

"Josh Dooley" heard Rev. J. W. Bradley, of Lumberton deliver that masterful and eloquent commencement sermon at Purvis Sunday a. m. at 11 o'clock. "Josh" was also among those of this community who attended the closing exercises of the commencement. The entertainment was another one of those kind that is characteristic of those Purvis folks.

Misses Mittie and Bessie McCall attended the commencement of the graded school at Laurinburg last week. Among those mentioned as desirable candidates for road trustees for Alfordville township, under the new road law, are Mr. Arthur McLean, Mr. B. S. McLean and Mr. Fred Alford.

Mrs. W. H. Thompson and little daughter Annie Lee spent a few days recently visiting relatives in Moore county.

Immediate free sugar was rejected Saturday by the House of Congress Democratic caucus by an overwhelming vote after an appeal of the Democratic leaders to stand by the President and the ways and means committee. This leaves the sugar schedule unchanged from the compromise form in which it was presented to the caucus by Chairman Underwood and his colleagues of the committee after conference between the White House and leaders of both houses of Congress.

RED SPRINGS REVIEWS.

Concert This Evening—A Marriage—Only One Candidate for Mayor—Personal and Other Items.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Red Springs, April 11—The entertainment given by the Ladies Betterment Association last Tuesday night was a decided success.—Miss Sallie Pearsall has returned from a visit to Mrs. Sparrow of Gastonia.—Mr. M. A. Buie returned Wednesday to his home in Florida after a few days visit to relatives and friends in Red Springs.—Mrs. D. S. Stuart, of Maxton, who visited her aunt, Mrs. J. H. Morgan returned to her home last week.—Mr. John F. Brown and family have moved to Florida. The people of this community are sorry to lose them as friends and neighbors.—Miss Gertrude Bostick has returned from Highsmith hospital, Fayetteville, much improved after having spent two weeks there under treatment.—Mr. and Mrs. A. G. McCallum and Mrs. Lon Fulmore expect to leave for Hot Spring, Ark., within the next few days for a month's absence.

The third quarterly concert of the Southern Presbyterian College takes place next Monday evening. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Misses Georgia Pearsall, Gladys Toon, Alice Hall, Beulah Edens and Vera Branch left Saturday morning for Charlotte to attend a meeting of Sunday school workers.

Mr. Monroe McNeill and Miss Donnie Herndon were married last Sunday afternoon at the home of the bride's parents near Red Springs, Rev. Mr. Dixon performing the ceremony. Only the family and a few friends were present.

By request the name of Mr. B. W. Townsend has been withdrawn as a candidate for mayor of Red Springs. The withdrawal of Mr. Townsend leaves Mr. J. D. McLean as the only candidate announced through the columns of The Citizen.

Mrs. D. P. McEachern returned from Porto Rico last Tuesday evening after a visit to her daughter, Mrs. Geo. T. Bullock. She was accompanied by her granddaughter, little Mary Watkins Bullock.

Mrs. J. S. Jones returned this week from Winston where he was called to the bedside of his aged father. He reports his father's condition unchanged. The elder Mr. Jones is most pleasantly remembered here and his sickness will be a source of regret to his many friends in and around Red Springs.

Captain J. G. Williams returned from Virginia last Monday evening. He reports the burning of the home of his brother, Mr. C. B. Williams, at Winston, Va., last Sunday night. As the family was at church at the time of the fire the destruction was complete, not even their personal effects being saved. The loss is estimated at between five and six thousand dollars, partially covered by insurance.

The latter part of April, the date to be announced later, the Daughters of the Confederacy will present the Chinese opera "The Feast of the Little Lanterns," in the opera house. The entertainment is for the benefit of the daughters and should meet with the encouragement and patronage it deserves.

Mrs. Marsh and daughter Miss Alie are visiting relatives in Richmond. They will go to Norfolk before returning.

State Trust Co. Agent Operated in Whiteville. Whiteville Cor., 12th, Wilmington Star.

The recent disclosures concerning the affairs of the State Trust Co., of Wilmington, has created considerable interest among the citizens here. C. H. Bowlds, who is now in the city prison at Raleigh, was here a few weeks ago, and succeeded in getting a number of men interested in his proposition.

He claimed to have the backing of one of Wilmington's most prominent business men, and on the strength of his representations several thousand dollars worth of stock was subscribed. The fact that there was not a suitable building available is probably responsible for the deals not going through.

Mr. Alf. H. McLeod Withdraws From Mayorality Race.

TO THE PUBLIC:

I desire to say to the voters of the town of Lumberton that after carefully and more maturely considering the matter, I have decided to withdraw from the approaching mayorality contest. I desire in this connection to heartily thank my friends who have pledged me their support and influence.

Very truly yours,
ALF. H. McLEOD.

RADICAL REFORMS PROPOSED.

The Postmaster General has determined to Effect Radical Re-organization of Postal Service—Would Make Efficiency the Test.

Washington Cor. Greensboro Daily News.

Postmaster General Burleson has determined to effect the most radical re-organization of the postal service ever proposed in the history of the civil service reform of this country. The plan upon which he is at work is distinguished by these features: All postmasters shall be placed under the civil service and required to pass an examination for admission, retention and promotion. Postmasters shall be appointed and transferred without regard to locality so that, for example, a resident of New York could be made postmaster at Greensboro and a resident at Greensboro could be made postmaster at San Francisco.

The Postmaster General has reached the conclusion that politics is a blight on the postal service; that postmasters are appointed as a reward for political services and not for their fitness to discharge the duties of the office.

Mr. Burleson, however, does not expect to spring this comprehensive plan on congress all at once. He will begin in a modest way to give a demonstration of his ideas.

His radical change by holding examinations for the 36,000 postmasters which were placed under the civil service by President Taft. Those who pass the examination will be retained and those who do not will be removed. This examination will be open to outsiders also and an eligible list of fourth class postmasters will be established and vacancies will be filled from this list.

It is Mr. Burleson's intention in the appointment of fourth class postmasters to experiment with the proposition of ignoring geographical considerations. Whenever a vacancy occurs the man at the top of the list will be appointed regardless of the fact that he does not reside in the community affected. If this scheme works well, Mr. Burleson will ask Congress to enact legislation placing first, second and third class postmasters under similar regulations and subject to assignment without regard to locality.

NEW HOTEL PRACTICALLY ASSURED

It is now practically certain that Lumberton Will Have a New Hotel But The Robesonian is Not at Liberty to Go Into Details.

A deal will in all probability be closed this afternoon for a valuable piece of real estate on which the purchaser will obligate himself to build a hotel. It is the purpose to build an up-to-date hotel with not less than 40 rooms. All the papers have not been signed for the real estate deal and The Robesonian is not at liberty to go into particulars on that account, though all the papers may be signed later this afternoon.

Among Transgressors.

Charley Dillard, colored, was before the mayor this morning to answer charge of being drunk and carrying concealed weapon. For the drunk he was fined \$5 and costs and was bound over to court on the pistol charge, being required to give a \$25 justified bond. Failing to pay costs and make bond he was remanded to jail Dillard was locked up yesterday.

Gertie Ward was arrested at Proctorville Saturday by Deputy W. C. Britt on a warrant charging him with jumping a board bill of \$4.85 at W. M. Gray's at the Jennings cotton mill, Ward is lodged in jail here, but as The Robesonian goes to press the matter is being settled and he will be released.

Stores Will Close at 6 p. m.

Nearly all the merchants of Lumberton have agreed to close their places of business at six o'clock in the evening every day except Saturdays, during the summer, from May 1 to Sept. 1. This is the usual custom with Lumberton merchants. The ladies can help and win the lasting gratitude of clerks and proprietors by bearing this fact in mind after May 1 and doing their shopping before 6 p. m.

President Wilson is in favor of exempting labor unions and farmers' organizations from the operation of the Sherman anti-trust law as provided in the amendments attached to the sundry civil bill last session. President Taft vetoed the bill March 4 because of these amendments which prohibited any part of the appropriation of \$300,000 being used to prosecute either farmers or organized labor.

WRITTEN AND SPOKEN WORD.

Old Songs and Giddy new Tunes—Why Mrs Dr?—Hello!—Flower Seed—An Inside-Sprouting Hickory Bark.

The Robesonian man is not a fool about the "good old things" of long ago. He does not want to cling to things because they are old, just. If the new is better, all right; he welcomes it. But is it always well to forsake for the new and unfamiliar a good old tune that has been associated always with one of the dear old hymns that has stirred thousands of contrite hearts? You don't pride yourself on being able to sing very well, maybe, and you don't dare lift your voice on anything difficult. Very well. You are sitting in church and the preacher gives out a hymn that you have loved all your life. You have never heard it sung to but one tune, that tune as dear as the song, fitting it so well that you can't think of the tune without thinking of the hymn. You turn to the number—which isn't necessary, for you know the hymn by heart—you turn to the number and intend to enjoy singing that hymn with the congregation whether those near enough to hear you enjoy hearing you or not. And then the tune that is "histed" makes the familiar so strange that you would not recognize it if you had it under a microscope—one of these tunes that makes the untrained voice fall off and break its neck, so to speak, when a sudden tumble is made off a high note—a tune that it takes a vocal acrobat to compass.

It's all right, of course. The choir sang it beautifully, and you're not kicking about it, but you did have a longing to hear the old familiar tune; and dogged if you don't go home and sing it like your mother and grandmother and maybe mothers and grandmothers before that, sang it. Fancy doing violence to a perfectly respectable hymn that's been melting hearts of stone from time immemorial, when in company with its proper tune, but which has no more power for good than a seed on a rock when out of its companion tune. How'd you like to see your dear old mother in tight-fitting hobbles doing the Turkey trot?

New things are all right but you don't want somebody monkeying with the Lord's Prayer, for instance, putting it up on stilts. The simple prayer as you learned it long ago is good enough. Same with some old tunes.

In the name of all the doctors at once, why will people insist, without rhyme or reason, in calling the wife of a physician or a dentist Mrs. Doctor? If you are going to do that, why don't you put some face on it and call the wife of a plain American sovereign Mrs. Mr? *

The Robesonian man always hesitates to criticize telephone service, for he realizes that the "hello" girls have a pretty trying time of it sometimes and people are not always considerate. The Robesonian man fears he sins by being impatient sometimes himself during the heat and burden of a day when many things are to be done in short time. Users of the "phone can help out a lot by remembering that the girl at the other end of the wire whom you are calling on for a connection is being called on by many others at the same time who are just as impatient and in as big a hurry as you. And the "hello" girl can help by refraining from butting into the conversation after you get your connection with the never-failing inquiry as to whether you are through or not. Please let a body have a chance to get in at least a word before coming in. If the Bell people would take out these sausage-grinder 'phones and put in up-to-date 'phones there would be no excuse for that annoyance.

Congressman Godwin has sent The Robesonian office a whole mail sack of flower seed and any of The Robesonian's friends among the ladies who want to try some of the seed the Government sends out will be welcome to all they want if they will call at The Robesonian office. *

Mr. L. E. Tyner, of Lowe, who was in town Friday, left with The Robesonian man what he said was a curiosity—The Robesonian man is not versed in woodcraft enough to know. It is a hickory bark that has sprouted on the inside. This piece of bark was cut off the tree a year ago and a sprout has grown on the inside, the like of which Mr. Tyner says he has never seen before. It would not have been anything unusual for the sprout to grow on the outside.

At a party at a school house in Pitt county Thursday night two boys, Wade Moore and Moses Tyson, both less than 17 years old, engaged in a fight, Tyson struck Moore across the temple with a piece of board, and Moore died the next morning. Tyson was placed in jail at Greenville Friday.

BRIEF LOCAL NEWS ITEMS.

—Middling cotton today, 11 1/2 cents. —Mr. C. M. Prevatt, who had been sick at his home on East Fourth street for several weeks, is able to be out again today.

—Besides those of local interest already mentioned in The Robesonian, Congressman Godwin has endorsed P. J. Caudall for postmaster at St. Paul.

—Mr. W. S. Wishart recalls that it snowed in Lumberton 40 years ago today. And it's an eagle and mipping air in this neck of the woods today, which feels altogether out of place amid so much that is green and springtime in appearance.

—Mr. Paul Pettinger of Raleigh has succeeded Mr. H. F. Lee as superintendent of the Yadkin River Power Company's station on the edge of town. Mr. Lee has been transferred to Wadesboro, where he will hold a similar position.

—Maxton Dispatch, 12th: R. T. Maness returned from Charlotte, where he had been to consult an oculist in regard to an accident he had a few days before. While superintending the erection of a house a nail flew out from under the hammer of one of the carpenters and struck him in the eye. As a result he will lose the sight of the member.

—Mr. W. O. Thompson and family are moving today into their handsome new home just completed, Chestnut and Seventh streets. As has been mentioned in The Robesonian, Mr. Thompson sold the house on North Elm street from which he is moving to Mrs. Rosa Nance, of Back Swamp, and she is moving in today.

—Charity and Children: Rev. C. H. Durham, president of the Baptist State Convention and pastor of the church at Lumberton, will preach the sermon at our annual meeting on Tuesday evening June 24th. Mr. Durham is worthy of the proud name he bears, and our people will hear him with delight. To say that he is a fine preacher is not necessary; we need only remind our friends that his name is Durham.

—Prof. W. T. Jenrette, principal of the Marietta school, was in town Friday. He says that his school will close Friday, May 2, with a big picnic dinner. Mr. H. E. Stacy of Lumberton will be the principal speaker for the occasion. On Thursday evening, the 1st, there will be a concert, and Prof. Jenrette says that they will probably have their commencement sermon on Sunday, 27th of this month.

—Mrs. B. W. Page and her sister Miss Julia Culbreth of Raleigh, a member of the faculty of Carolina College at Maton, sang a duet at Chestnut Street Methodist church last evening which delighted the congregation. Miss Culbreth is a guest at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Page, East Fifth street. Mrs. A. E. White and Mrs. Page went to Maxton after her in the former's auto yesterday afternoon. She will return to Maxton tomorrow.

—"Half a Hero," Vitagraph, and "Lure of the Footlights," Pathe, will be the pictures presented at the Pastime theatre this evening. These are among the best makes of pictures. The management of the theatre regrets to announce the failure of the arrival of the inauguration pictures which were booked several days ago to be shown tonight. The exchange furnishing films for Lumberton gave notice last week that this picture would be shipped on the 12th, but it has failed to show up.

—The dormitory at Barker's (school district No. 4, Saddle Tree township) was sold at public auction Saturday by Rev. S. E. Mercer, president of Carolina College at Maxton, and was purchased by Mr. Duncan M'White for \$430. As stated in Thursday's Robesonian, the school house at Barker's was purchased by the county board of education last Monday from Carolina College for \$550. This school house and dormitory were owned by private parties, who built them for the purpose of running a high school, and they were given to Carolina College after the high school was discontinued.

—Word was received here last week that Mr. Rapp, who had charge of the work of constructing the substitution of the Yadkin River Power Co. on the edge of town last fall, had been murdered by a Spaniard in Spain, where he was sent from here to take charge of a contract for the company. The information is to the effect that Mr. Rapp was shot twice in the back, by a Spaniard with whom he had evidently had some difficulty. Mr. Rapp and Mrs. Rapp, who were from Pennsylvania, made many friends during their stay in Lumberton.