

THE ROBESONIAN

ESTABLISHED 1870.

COUNTRY, GOD AND TRUTH

SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

VOL. XLV.

LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA, MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1914.

NUMBER 4.

M'LEAN NOT A CANDIDATE

Mr. A. W. McLean Says He is in No Sense a Candidate for Chairmanship of State Democratic Executive Committee—Would Serve Only if Convinced of Special Need—Will Announce Definite Conclusion Within Few Days.

Mr. A. W. McLean returned home Saturday night from Raleigh, where he had been for two weeks on legal business in the Federal Court, being one of the leading counsel for the defense in the famous Newton-McArthur trial. Mr. McLean has been prominently and persistently mentioned recently as the man most likely to succeed Mr. Webb as chairman of the State Democratic executive committee and many complimentary things have been said about him in this connection. It is recognized all over the State that Mr. McLean would make an ideal man for the place if he would accept, but Mr. McLean is now acting national committeeman from North Carolina, and, as has been pointed out by The Robesonian, that is a position of more honor, perhaps, and certainly less arduous work, than the State chairmanship.

When asked yesterday by The Robesonian man if he had arrived at any definite decision as to the chairmanship. Mr. McLean confirmed the following, from yesterday's News and Observer, as a true statement of his position at the present:

"Mr. A. W. McLean of Lumberton, who has been here the past two weeks on legal business in the Federal Court on leaving the city for his home yesterday afternoon, was asked if he had determined what he would do in reference to the chairmanship of the Democratic State executive committee, a matter in which his name has frequently been in print. In reply he said:

"Yes, it is true that I have been urged by many members of the State Democratic committee, as well as by many prominent Democrats, to accept the chairmanship, and naturally I have felt much appreciation of the mention of my name in such a connection. I have not had time during the two weeks that I have been engaged in the McArthur trial here to give the matter proper consideration. However, my attitude is the same now that it has been from the beginning, and that is that I am not a candidate for the position, and moreover, I do not in fact desire the position, nor would I accept it if tendered unless I can be convinced that there is some reason why I can be of peculiar service to the party at this time.

"I confess I cannot see how such a condition could arise, for there are a number of Democrats whose names have been favorably mentioned in connection with the place, and any one of whom would make an admirable chairman. There is one thing which I desire to emphasize, and that is I do not want to be placed in the position of shirking my duty to the party, solely because it might involve a personal sacrifice to myself. I have always made it a rule to respond to the call of my party, even though it imposed some personal loss in time and money, and hope to continue to live up to this idea.

"As soon as I can have a day or two to ascertain if there is any particular reason why I should be further considered in connection with the chairmanship, I will reach a definite conclusion."

CONTRACT FOR FILTER PLANT

Awarded Tucker & Laxton of Charlotte—Will Cost \$6,800—Capacity of Plant Will be 200,000 Gallons Per Day in Excess of the Present Consumption—Will Make River Water Safe for Drinking Purposes.

At a meeting of the town fathers Thursday afternoon contract for the installing of a filter plant was awarded to Tucker & Laxton of Charlotte. The cost of the plant will be \$6,800. The capacity of the plant when completed will be 350,000 gallons per day, while the amount consumed by the town now is only about 150,000. This means that the plant will be sufficient for many years. It will be located at the present water plant. It is not known just when the work will begin, but it is an assured fact that the time will not be long before Lumberton will have just the kind of filter plant it needs. After the plant is installed the river water, which is now unsanitary, can be used for drinking purposes with safety.

The present administration has taken several steps for the betterment of the town, but none that will mean more to the entire citizenship than the one taken Thursday afternoon.

Mr. Nash Becomes Assistant Cashier. At a meeting of the directors of the Bank of Lumberton Saturday night Mr. Shepard K. Nash was elected assistant cashier to succeed Mr. P. V. Doub, whose resignation to accept a position with a bank in Goldsboro has been mentioned in The Robesonian.

It was quite a compliment to Mr. Nash that he has been elected to a position of such responsibility. He had been bookkeeper and teller in this bank for about two years. Before going with the bank of Lumberton he was for about two years book-keeper for the Farmers & Merchants Bank. It has been stated in The Robesonian that Mr. Collin H. Phillips was employed in the bank recently, and he is taking over part of the work heretofore done by Mr. Nash.

Messrs. Thad Stone and Henry Stephens of Mt. Eliam were Lumberton visitors Saturday.

ORDER FOR UNION STATION

Full Text of the Order of the Corporation Commission Requiring Railroads that Enter Lumberton to Maintain a Union Station—Order Effective on or Before April First Next.

It was stated in Thursday's Robesonian that the State Corporation Commission had passed an order requiring the Seaboard Air Line, Virginia & Carolina Southern and Raleigh & Charleston railroads to maintain a union station in Lumberton. A copy of this order was received Saturday by Town Attorney H. E. Stacy and it reads as follows:

ORDER.
CITIZENS OF LUMBERTON vs.
Seaboard Air Line Railway, Raleigh & Charleston Railroad Company, Virginia & Carolina Southern Railroad Company.
PELL, Commissioner.

This comes before us on a petition from citizens of Lumberton, N. C., asking that the depot now used by the Seaboard Air Line Railway and Raleigh & Charleston R.R. in Lumberton be established as a union depot for said city and that the Virginia and Carolina Southern Railroad be compelled to run its tracks and its passenger trains into said station.

Evidence was taken and all parties heard at the office of the Commissioner in Raleigh, N. C., on the 15th day of January, 1914, and it appearing that a union station in said city is practical and that the convenience of the traveling public demand it, it is

ORDERED, That the present station of the Seaboard Air Line Railway in the city of Lumberton be established as the union station for said city, and that said railway, together with the Raleigh and Charleston railroad and the Virginia & Carolina Southern railroad use said station jointly as a union passenger station. That the said Virginia & Carolina Southern Railroad extend its tracks to said depot at its own cost, and that it pay the Seaboard Air Line Railway a monthly rental of \$20 per month for the use of said station. That the expenses of the proper maintenance of said station shall be borne by the three railroads as follows: Fifty-five per cent by the Seaboard Air Line Railway; thirty-one percent by the Virginia and Carolina Southern Railroad Company and fourteen per cent by the Raleigh & Charleston Railroad Company.

That the three railroad companies be required to grade the surroundings of the said depot and supply it with gravel so as to avoid standing water and to make the location sanitary, and to divide the expense of same in the same proportion as is provided for the maintenance of said depot.

That this order be effective on or before April 1, 1914.

PHILADELPHUS GETS FARM-LIFE SCHOOL

The farm-life school for which the county board of education made an appropriation of \$1,500 at its meeting in February will be established at Philadelphia high school, four miles from Red Springs in Burnt Swamp township, district No. 1.

This was determined at 2 o'clock this afternoon when the county board of education, in regular monthly session, considered the bid of this school, the only bid submitted. The fact that other schools did not submit bids is not due to indifference but to the fact that this school had taken the initiative in the matter and to the further fact that other townships may secure schools of like nature at any time when they comply with the requirements.

The bid of the Philadelphia school, signed by D. P. Bpie, chairman, and Paisley McMillan, chairman, was as follows: "One new \$15,000 brick school building, containing nine standard-size class rooms, office, library and a large auditorium; one new 12 room dormitory, having carbide lights; one old 8-room dormitory; one ten to 25 acre farm of good arable land as the school may require; one suitable barn on said farm."

It is understood that a laboratory will be furnished for the school.

The order of the county board that the school be established at Philadelphia is subject to the approval of the State Board of Education, which will appropriate the same amount that the county has appropriated—\$1,500—for the maintenance of the school.

Sentence Against Mr. Fred Chason Stricken Out.

Some time ago Mr. Fred Chason, of Lumber Bridge, was tried before Recorder Rowland on the charge of disposing of crops and failing and refusing to pay the rent and was sentenced to the roads. The land was rented from the Cobb estate, and the case was prosecuted by the administrators of this estate.

Mr. Chason was afterwards able to satisfy the administrators that he had not wilfully refused to pay the rent, and has now paid same in full and has also paid the costs of the action. In view of this fact and upon the recommendation of Mr. Thomas L. Johnson and Mr. H. E. Stacy, counsel for the private prosecution, as well as Solicitor Lennon, the court has stricken out the sentence, and the matter goes off on the payment of the costs.

For a mild, easy action of the bowels, try Doan's Regulax, a modern laxative. 25¢ at all stores.

JURY DISAGREES.

No Verdict in Newton-McArthur Case—Must be Tried Again, Probably in May.

Raleigh News and Observer, Feb. 28. The jury in the Citizens Bank vs. McArthur case, after a patient struggle of twenty-four hours with the evidence, returned yesterday afternoon about four o'clock and reported its inability to agree.

It brought back an interesting story of the wrestle with testimony and argument. Having heard that the jury stood ten to two on one issue and eleven to one on another, the defense had concluded that it had won a majority victory. The comfort of that faith was brief. Jurors in open court told how they had debated the issues and the plaintiff had the majority from the start.

The first ballot in the case was taken Thursday evening. It then stood seven to five for the plaintiff bank. The jury retired and yesterday morning the second was 8 to 4 for the bank. The third was 10 to 2 for bank. Jurors disagree as to whether there was a vote of 11 to 1 on all issues, but there was a willingness on one, they say to stand 11 to 1 as affecting Adam McArthur's liability. But no agreement of eleven as to Mrs. McArthur's genuine signature.

It was a surprise to the defense. It had made a big impression upon the public, though the plaintiff had produced evidence of much power to establish the genuineness of the disputed signatures. The plaintiff brought no paid experts, but it had strong testifiers who had known the McArthur handwriting. It was stronger in that aspect of the case than the defense was.

The plaintiff made the stronger conclusion with its evidence. It came back on rebuttal in powerful fashion. The defense had ended two days too late. These are "expert" comments, admissions after the battle. They are what opposing lawyers have said. They are the conclusions of the general. The arguments to the jury were a standoff. Both sides were presented in great shape for it was a masterly aggregation of lawyers.

The disagreement means that the case must be tried here in May, perhaps, certainly it must be tried here again. Both have shown their hand and the testimony is to be typewritten and used in future trials. In the nature of things the disappointment is greater with the defense than with the plaintiff, which came so near to receiving agreement upon all issues.

The trial began February 16 and ran uninterruptedly through yesterday. It is believed that a future trial can be concluded within eight working days if not less. There are thirteen of these cases now subject to jury trial. It is said nearly a quarter of a million dollars will be tied up in these litigations. Something of the time required in their trial may be imagined in the light of yesterday's ending.

The issues involved in this action were just two, the simple signing of the disputed \$25,000 note owned by the Citizens National Bank of Norfolk and alleged to have been signed by Mrs. M. C. McArthur and Adam McArthur.

The bank had bought the note in good faith, the testimony went, and had issued notice to the endorsers that they had signed it and would have to pay it. The plaintiff did not hear from the alleged endorsers for some days. The bank took this to mean a tacit admission of the genuineness of the signatures. The defense used it to show that something was being done by the McArthur family to pay the note off and save exposure of the principal on the note J. Sprunt Newton. These ramifications made the case of exceptional interest.

RECITAL POSTPONED.

On Account of Cold Weather the Recital Which Was to Have Been Given at Opera House Tonight Has Been Postponed to Some Future Date.

On account of the fact that it would be impossible to keep the opera house comfortable on such a night as tonight bids fair to be, it has been decided to postpone the recital which was to have been given there this evening by Misses Julia Culbreth and Elizabeth Donaghy of the faculty of Carolina College, Maxton, and Mrs. H. M. McAllister of Lumberton.

Misses Culbreth and Donaghy came down from Maxton this morning and this decision was reached after a conference with Manager Wishart of the opera house. They are guests today at the home of Dr. and Mrs. B. W. Page, Miss Culbreth being a sister of Mrs. Page.

This recital will be given later and the date will be well advertised.

Would Make an Admirable Chairman.

"I hear from many sources that A. W. McLean of Lumberton is being considered," Mr. Cameron Morrison of Charlotte told a News and Observer reporter in Raleigh the other day in talking about who might succeed Mr. Webb as chairman of the State Democratic executive committee, and added: "He would make an admirable chairman of the State committee. He is a man of executive ability, level-headed and an active Democrat. I do not think there would be any mistake in selecting him for the position of chairman."

Heavy, impure blood makes a muddy, pimply complexion, headaches, nausea, indigestion. Thin blood makes you weak pale and sickly. For pure blood, sound digestion use Burdock Blood Bitters. \$1.00 at all stores

MONEY IN HEALTH WORK.

How Our Health is Profitable to Others—About Three-fourths of a County's Worth is in Human Life—The Choicest Property Suffers When There is an Epidemic of Malaria.

Robeson County Board of Health Bulletin.
Political economists tell us that the lives of a county are worth from three to five times as much as its property valuation. In other words from 65 to 80 per cent of a county's worth is in human life. In 1910, \$11,233,980 worth of property was listed in Robeson county. If one-fourth of Robeson's population were to die today the county would suffer a loss equal to its property valuation.

If a fire alarm is heard at midnight the streets are soon filled with half-dressed people all ready to help. Property at stake. If an epidemic of malaria or some other disease begins, the choicest property of the town suffers. Yes, human vitality is wasting and may be destroyed. Something superior to a house is at stake.

It must be worth while to live these days. At least our life insurance companies seem to think so. But there is a reason for their interest in our living. They have an axe to grind, i. e., they are anxious to postpone the day of settlement and increase the number of premiums paid into their treasury.

A rather low motive, you say. Well, so it is, but the point is this: If it pays an insurance company to see to it that their policy-holders live a few years longer, in order to collect premiums, it is surely a great deal more to our own interest to live out our allotted time. We have more at stake than the insurance company.

Health work has been taken up by insurance companies only during the last few years, but it has been found to be such a profitable investment that nearly all the companies are beginning to do something along this line.

Why are health policies so hard to get in some sections of our State? Malaria. Ask the fourteen-year-old school boy if that disease is preventable. He will tell you that only two things are needed: A more abundant use of quinine and a more effective fight against the pesky mosquito.

HOW BENTON WAS MURDERED.

Unarmed. Was Shot to Death in Villa's Office—British Government Probably "Will Docket the Case" for Future Reference.

Washington Dispatch, Feb. 28. William S. Benton, the British subject slain at Juarez, was unarmed and shot to death in Villa's office, pistol bullets through the stomach ended his life, according to conclusive information which has reached Washington officials. While no statement to this effect was forthcoming today, slackening of official interest in the proposed post mortem of Benton's body was evident, the belief being that the examination would be useful only that it might serve to supplement the evidence of timid witnesses who possibly otherwise would withdraw their oral statements.

Benton carried no arms when he approached Villa's office in Juarez, according to information; he spent two hours waiting for the interview that ended in his death, walking back and forth in front of office building; he was shot through the stomach after he entered the office and received other wounds afterward, although the first was mortal.

General instructions as to the method of investigation to be pursued were issued today by the State and War Departments to the their representatives at El Paso. It is realized that local conditions must determine the details and only broad lines were drawn in the directions.

It was not known exactly today when the commission would start for Chihuahua. Secretary Garrison early in the day authorized General Scott, in command of the post at El Paso, to select two Army surgeons to make a medical examination of the body.

The examination of Benton's body will be conducted by the United States authorities, the British view being that the responsibility rests on the State-Department.

The British Ambassador has taken frequent opportunity to show the satisfaction his Government feels at the attitude of the State Department, adding another tribute today to the activity which has marked the prosecution of the inquiry.

It is believed that when the facts connected with the killing of Benton are developed fully, unless the United States Government feels called upon to demand reparation, the British Government simply will docket the case and place it on file to be presented to the future Government of Mexico for settlement when the day of reckoning comes.

Superior Court Tomorrow.

Robeson Superior Court, civil term, will resume tomorrow, weather permitting. As stated in Thursday's Robesonian, the 2-weeks' term which convened last Monday struck a snag Thursday—snow, if you have not heard about it—and Judge Rountree decided that it would be useless to try to hold court and announced a recess till 9:30 o'clock tomorrow morning. Judge Rountree returned to his home at Wilmington and is expected to return to Lumberton this evening.

PARKTON PARAGRAPHS.

Old School Building Burned—Biggest Fire in History of Town—A Sound Sleeper—Everybody Snowballing—A Church Social Friday Night—Personal and Other Items.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.
Parkton, Feb. 28.—Our town was greatly disturbed last night at half past one o'clock when the alarm of fire was sounded. Mr. and Mrs. A. McM. Blount were the first to discover the fire which was at the old school building. They heard the roar of the fire and immediately saw the tremendous light of the fire, as the building is located nearly opposite Mr. Blount's house just across the street. The fire was one of the largest ever witnessed in the history of our town, as the building was a very large one and of the best material; and it didn't fail to burn. The entire building and its contents were consumed within a few minutes time—as follows: More than 300 empty Irish potato barrels, a car load of dressed lumber owned by Mr. J. J. Cobb, and a quantity of hay belonging to Mr. W. T. Fisher. The building was the property of Mr. Collier Cobb, a valuable building that was made of the best material. We have been advised that the building only is partly covered by insurance.

The origin of the fire is unknown, but is generally thought to have been caused by some unknown tramp. Soon after the fire alarm was sounded the neighbors responded and in a short time a large crowd of citizens was on the scene; and by the aid of the bucket and ladder department of the Parkton fire company Mr. Blount's house was saved from burning. Amid all the alarm that was given—shrill screams and all the hollering you ever heard in all your life, and dozens of guns and pistol signals sounding to arouse the neighbors, yet there was one young man within 50 yards, or a stone's throw, of the burning building sound asleep and was undisturbed and was totally ignorant of what had happened until after sunrise the following morning. Some people seem to die when they are only sound asleep.

Well, how about snow? It snowed the biggest and prettiest snow the writer ever saw in all his life, and we never witnessed so much snowballing. Teachers, pupils, preachers, doctors, merchants, clerks, agents, operators, merry widows and old maids, all snowballing—and children especially. But rabbit hunting is the order of the day at present.

It is strange to say, as fair warning as we all had, yet some wood boxes and coal piles are almost out. Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Daniel returned home yesterday from Mr. Daniel's old home in Georgia. They report a grand time. As they left Savannah they left it wrapped up in a grand sleet. Mr. Daniel is quite a sport and he says he killed more than 125 quail and duck—no end of them. Of course he did not kill more than 15 per day. Killed as high as fifteen from one covey, and as many as three from one shot. It is a blessing to our township that he has a most confining job, or there would be no game left for the rest of us poor shots.

The ladies of the First Baptist church are to give an entertainment at the academy on next Friday night. Of course a good time is in store for all that will attend, and as they represent a good cause everybody should be there. Benefit new Baptist church.

FARMERS' UNION MEETING

County Meeting Will Be Held in Lumberton March 18.

The county meeting of the Robeson Division of the Farmers' Union will be held in the court house in Lumberton Wednesday, March 18. This will be a very important meeting, one in which all members of the Union should be especially interested, and it is hoped that all who can possibly do so will attend. Take a day off and come. It will pay you, and pay you well. Remember the date and be on the scene at 10 o'clock, sharp.

F. GROVER BRITT,
Sec-Treas. Robeson Division.

Married at McColl, S. C.

Mr. J. C. Bryant, section foreman on the Lumberton division of the S. A. L. was married yesterday to Miss Monnie McCrenly of McColl, S. C. The wedding took place in McColl and the bride and groom arrived here last evening. Mr. Bryant is well known here and his many friends will wish him and his bride a joyful future.

No R. F. D. Service Two Days Last Week.

Because of the deepness of the snow, making it impossible for stock to travel, there was no mail service on the R. F. D. routes leading from Lumberton Thursday and Friday of last week.

15 Days For Shooting Up Parkton.

Deputy Sheriff T. B. McNeill placed M. B. Haywood of Parkton in jail Saturday night to serve a 15-day sentence imposed on him by the mayor of Parkton Saturday, when he was tried for shooting a pistol on the streets.

Baltimore School Closing Postponed to Wednesday Night of This Week.

The closing exercises of Baltimore school near Fairmont, which were to have been held last week, were postponed on account of the weather to Wednesday night of this week, March 4. Prof. C. A. Waldrop is principal of the school.

BRIEF LOCAL NEWS ITEMS.

—In like a lion.
—License has been issued for the marriage of C. C. Fennell and Staud Ivey, both of Proctorville. They were married at the home of Rev. M. A. Stephens at Orrum, who performed the ceremony that made them one Friday night.

—Miss Amelia Linkhaver, who has charge of the millinery department of Messrs. R. D. Caldwell & Son's department store, will leave this evening for New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore, where she will purchase goods for this department.

—"My Old Kentucky Home," a Western drama, will be the attraction at the opera house Thursday night. Musical specialties between the acts. Show has brass band which will doubtless draw a large crowd. Seats on sale at McMillan's tomorrow, prices 50 cents.

—From the looks of things about the express office Saturday morning it must be good weather for "tanking up." There were at least one hundred and fifty suspicious packages here and the crowd round about there was large and seemed to be anxious to get the goods.

—Mr. F. W. Grooms, who for some time had held a position in the office of the V. & C. S. Railroad Company here, resigned his position Saturday to accept a position as bookkeeper for the Birmingham Company, brokers, for which company he began work this morning.

—Mr. A. A. Pedneau, manager of the Pedneau Garage & Iron Works, left Thursday night for Birmingham, Ala., where he will take a special course in oxyacetylene welding. Mr. Pedneau will be away for several weeks and on his return his company will install a plant for doing this kind of work.

—It is the easiest kind of thing to make things unpleasant for others and a mighty good way to do that is to go to the postoffice, get your mail and read it before moving, because of the fact that somebody else may want to get theirs and you right in their way. One man can block the way to many boxes.

—Business has been very good with Register of Deeds T. N. Higley since December 1. He has sold 167 marriage licenses. He issued 41 during the month of February and all this was done without any advertising. However marriage license is the only thing that will go so well without advertising. Somebody should worry.

—Mr. L. Pate, who lives on route 2 from Lumberton, was among the visitors in town Saturday. Mr. Pate says he doesn't know why it was, but his section was blessed, or furnished, with more of the beautiful than any other place he has been. No need to worry if the old saying "the heavier the snow the greater the harvest" carries any truth with it.

—The young folks of the town had a great time while the snow was on snow-balling, and some of the older ones joined in and enjoyed the fun. This is great sport and good exercise, but it is well to confine it to those playing, and not, as is very often the case, carry to the extreme by attacking strangers and others who don't have time to enjoy life in that way.

Prof. C. F. Mitchell, principal of the school at Smith's, Howellsville township, received a telegram yesterday to the effect that his brother, who is a student at the State University, Columbia, S. C., was very ill, having both pneumonia and measles, and was not expected to live. Mr. Mitchell passed through town last evening en route to Columbia to see his brother.

—A letter received by The Robesonian from Mr. George W. Thorn-dyke of Fort Riley, Kan. stated that he would be honorably discharged from the U. S. Army on March 1, having served the time for which he enlisted, and that he expects to return to Lumberton, his old home. Mr. Thorn-dyke has many friends here who will be pleased to learn that he is coming back.

—On account of the deepness of the snow Thursday the V. & C. S. passenger train from Hope Mills, due at Lumberton at 8:20 a. m., did not arrive till 3:23 p. m., only making one trip that day whereas it usually makes two. The Raleigh & Charleston, which is due to leave for Marion, S. C., at 10:20 a. m. did not leave till 2 p. m., but made the trip and returned about the usual time.

—Messrs. R. D. Caldwell & Son have placed an order with James Cunningham, Son & Co. of Rochester, N. Y., for the handsome kind of funeral car for their undertaking establishment. It is a full wood draped, hand-carved car, the finest kind used in large cities. Messrs. R. D. Caldwell & Son rightly judge that Lumberton has reached the point where it will take the finest of everything, from the cradle to the grave. The car has been shipped and is expected to arrive almost any day.

—It was indeed a sad time in Register of Deeds T. N. Higley's office Saturday afternoon for a young couple from one of the cotton mills. They went in and called for license which would make it possible for them to be man and wife, but, sad to say, they were too little, and for this reason, including the fact that the girl was too young, they were turned away with heavy hearts. Quite a crowd of people gathered in the office to see them made happy, but instead saw their pleasant anticipations overpowered with sadness.