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IMPORTANT MEETING AUG. 24.

Mass Meeting to Devise Plans to Protect the Price of Cotton—Prominent Men Expected—Co-operation Imperative.

The mass meeting which will be held in the court house here Monday for the purpose of devising plans by which the farmers may get a fair price for this year's cotton crop is of vast importance not only to the farmer, but to every citizen of the county, no matter what his profession may be, and it is hoped that all who possibly can do so will show their interest in a matter that gravely concerns all, by attending this meeting. It is expected that Mr. Clarence H. Poe, editor of the Progressive Farmer, and Dr. H. Q. Alexander, State president of the Farmers' Union, will be present. Major A. J. McKinnon, who is in a position to know quite a bit about the situation, having attended the Southern Cotton Congress held in Washington, D. C. last week, will be present.

It is a known fact that there is no market for cotton, a thing that means a billion dollars to the South, and if the crop is rushed on the market when there is no demand for it the South will suffer a disaster that it will take 25 years to get over. There is a way by which a part at least, of this calamity may be averted, but nothing short of the co-operation of the government, the farmers, the bankers, the commercial enterprises and all other classes may bring this about.

Remember, it is not so much, especially at this time, in what you make, but much more in what you get for what you make, and don't fail to be on the scene Monday at 11 a. m. and by so doing show to the world and the government that you are willing to co-operate in any way to get relief.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTES.

A Large Number of Teachers Attending and Much Interest Being Shown in Work—Women Greatly in Majority.

The Robeson Teacher's Institute which has been in session since Monday is progressing nicely, there being 108 white teachers in attendance at the institute for white teachers, which is being held at the graded school building, and seventy-eight colored teachers, which is being conducted in Allen hall. The institute is being conducted by Supt. E. D. Pusey of the Durham graded school. Supt. R. E. Sentelle, superintendent of the Lumberton graded school and Miss Mildred Moses of Chapel Hill are assisting Prof. Pusey. The institute will last through next week.

Prof. J. R. Poole, county superintendent of public instruction, is highly pleased with the number attending the institute. The teachers seem to be taking great interest in the work. Of the 108 teachers in attendance only 14 are males, which shows that the teachers of Robeson are mostly ladies, and they are a good looking bunch. Prof. Pusey says this is the case in all counties where he has conducted institutes. In one county he found only one male teacher.

A fuller report of the institute will be published in Monday's Robesonian. As was mentioned in Monday's Robesonian, a two-weeks institute for Indians will be held in Lumberton beginning Monday, August 31.

Congress Will Be Asked for \$25,000,000 For Ships.

Washington Dispatch, 19th. The administration today mapped out comprehensive plans for building up the government merchant marine with government money, for the immediate purpose of transporting products of the United States to warring European nations and to South and Central America.

President Wilson in consultation with Democratic congressional leaders, approved a project contemplating the expenditure of approximately \$25,000,000 to purchase ocean going vessels to be operated under the direction of a government shipping board.

Pope Pius X, Head of Catholic Church Passes.

Rome Dispatch, 20th. Pope Pius X, died at 1:20 o'clock this morning. He had been ill for several days but alarming symptoms did not develop until Wednesday morning.

Grief over the war in Europe caused the Pope much depression from the first outbreak and several days ago symptoms appeared of the old bronchial affection from which the pontiff has suffered in times past.

A Long Time Dead But Not Yet Buried.

In Laurinburg there is the body of a man who has been dead about eight years and has never been buried. This man was a foreigner, it is said, and was traveling with a circus and was killed at Laurinburg by a comrade. His body was taken in charge by an undertaker and embalmed. The man's father came from a Northern city and lacked just a few dollars of having enough money to pay the bill, so the undertaker refused to let the father have the body of the son after which the father refused to let the undertaker bury the son, and he still has the body in his building, it having mummified.

CORRUPT PRACTICES CONDEMNED.

Mass Meeting of Citizens to Condemn Use of Liquor at Primary Attended by Large Crowd—Sentiment Unmistakably in Favor of Clean Elections in Future—Some Say Conditions at Recent Primary Not So Bad as at Previous Elections.

At a mass meeting held at the court house Tuesday evening for the purpose of registering the condemnation of the best citizens of Lumberton town and township of the alleged free use of liquor during the primary held here on the 8th inst., a sweeping resolution was passed condemning such practices and pledging every one who voted for it to use his best endeavors to prevent such practices in the future.

The meeting was attended by a large crowd that completely filled the court room, a fact which speaks well for the community. Mr. R. D. Caldwell pointed out in his remarks, for it indicated keen interest in the meeting.

The resolution was passed after remarks by several citizens, and there are not lacking those who claim that the meeting accomplished more than its promoters hoped for in that it brought forth statements that more liquor had been used in previous primaries than was used in the recent primary, indicating that the moral sense of the community has become keener. Some appeared to regard the whole affair lightly—as was to have been expected—and some seemed to try to twist the meeting from its real purpose; still it was quite evident to the duller that running underneath and through the whole there was a serious and stern purpose never to allow such practices here in the future.

Mr. J. P. Russell, who presided, called the meeting to order at 8:20 o'clock. In stating the object of the meeting he was careful to set right those who had been misled to believe that the meeting had political significance. He told why he and Mr. E. B. Freeman, who were the prime movers in the call, decided to see if there was not sentiment enough in the community against the use of liquor at the polls to cause others to join with them in such a move, the only object being to protest against and stop, in the future, such practices.

Mr. Freeman was next called upon. He corroborated Mr. Russell's statement as to the non-political character of the meeting, and denounced the use of whiskey. Mr. R. D. Caldwell was also called upon. He thought the meeting a good sign, a sign of a healthful sentiment in the community. Remarks were made also by State Senator G. B. McLeod, Chairman T. A. McNeill, Jr., of the county Democratic executive committee, Messrs. K. M. Barnes, W. J. Prevatt, C. B. Skipper, J. B. Bowen and T. L. Johnson. None of the speakers denied whiskey had been used here in the recent primary, but some asserted more had been used at previous primaries. Mr. McLeod, speaking as one of the candidates, declared that he had used no money nor liquor in the recent election and that it would be necessary to go back farther to lay anything at his door. He asserted that the use of whiskey had been worse at previous primaries and challenged some man—name not called—whose name was signed to the call for the meeting to get up and deny that. He said he had in his jeans proof and would use it.

Mr. J. A. Barker said "produce the proof," which caused a little tilt between him and Mr. McLeod, the latter bridling and saying "I could prove some things on you, too, Sandy." Mr. Barker's vigorous denial was drowned in laughter of certain of the crowd. Mr. Barker challenged production of the proof. Mr. McLeod acknowledged that he was at fault and the incident closed.

Mr. McLeod said he voted for prohibition and that he voted for the search and seizure law, that he was opposed to the use of whiskey at elections, and called on his friends to vote for a resolution condemning it.

Chairman McNeill said Mr. McLeod's remarks proved that the use of liquor at elections should stop. He said it was not a question of whether more liquor was used two or four years ago and asked all to join in helping to see that it does not occur in the future.

Mr. McNeill and Mr. K. M. Barnes, as erstwhile candidates who were defeated, cleared their skirts of the accusation made by Mr. McLeod that some men who had been defeated in politics and had come back had used liquor and he could prove it. They were not the men referred to.

Mr. Bowen, one of the managers of the primary, said there was absolutely no disorder at the polls, that he smelt liquor on very few voters. He could not say as to the conduct outside the polling place. He favored something definite; a general resolution would do no good.

All who spoke were agreed as to the use of liquor; there was only difference of opinion as to relative amounts used at the recent and previous primaries, which was natural. Some saw more one time, others saw more another time; which was all there was to that.

Mr. T. L. Johnson agreed with what had been said by Mr. Bowen and took occasion to refer to a news item published in Monday's Robesonian, and Chief of Police Redfern replied. This is covered in another item in

THE OTHER SIDE GIVEN.

Assistant Recorder Johnson Says Chief Redfern Gave Incorrect Report to Paper of Testimony at Trial of T. Bass—Says Charge Against Defendant Not Proven and Action of Court Approved by Good Men—Denies That Fines Have Not Been Paid—Chief Stands Pat.

In the report in Monday's Robesonian of cases tried in the recorder's court was the following item:

"Andrew Huggins was before Recorder R. A. McLean Friday charged with being drunk and disorderly at the polls here on August 8. As this was the first time the defendant had been up for any charge he was let off with a fine of \$2.50 and cost. T. Bass was also before the recorder charged with being drunk at the polls, but was released. It is said that the defendant's own witness testified that he was drunk."

These cases were tried before Assistant Recorder E. M. Johnson. The error was of course unintentional and was due to the fact that some other cases that had been tried before Recorder McLean were given to the reporter at the same time.

Mr. Johnson thinks that an injustice was done him in the last statement in the item as reported Monday. There was no intention, of course, of doing Mr. Johnson an injustice. Chief of Police Redfern, who arrested Mr. Bass, and who was the authority for statement in the news item, is reported on the subject, that the defendant's own witness testified that he was drunk. The Robesonian gladly gives Mr. Johnson's statement in regard to this case. Mr. Johnson said that nobody testified that the defendant was drunk except Mr. Redfern, and that he did not think Mr. Bass drunk enough to warrant his arrest; that Policeman Boyle testified on the stand that Bass even helped to quiet some others who were making more noise than they should; that others testified that his conduct was not bad enough to warrant arrest; that Messrs. Jas. D. Proctor and C. B. Skipper who heard the trial, had stated that they thought the assistant recorder did right in turning the defendant loose.

At the mass meeting at the court house Tuesday evening Mr. T. L. Johnson, brother of assistant recorder, stated that he had investigated this case and was satisfied that no man could have convicted Mr. Bass upon the evidence and that an injustice had been done his brother; that good men, Mr. C. B. Skipper among them, had testified that the defendant was not drunk; that the assistant recorder convicted when the evidence warranted conviction and had the nerve to inflict proper punishment.

Mr. Redfern, replying to Mr. Johnson, said that he was responsible for the statement in the paper. He said that when Joe Edwards was tried recently and found guilty of being drunk on the night when the candidates spoke in Lumberton that the assistant recorder in passing judgment in this case remarked that he felt there was some personal feeling against Mr. Edwards which accounted for his arrest, that he knew that others were equally as drunk on the same occasion, one of them being Mr. Bass, and that the others should have been arrested. Edwards paid fines and costs amounting to about \$25.

Chief of Police Redfern authorizes The Robesonian to state that none of the cases referred to in his public remarks last Thursday night, reported in Monday's Robesonian, were tried before Recorder McLean.

Assistant Recorder Johnson states that it is not true, as stated by Mr. Redfern, that fines that have been imposed in the recorder's court have not been collected.

First Bale of New Cotton for Robeson.

Mr. C. H. Odum, who lives near McDonald, had a bale of this year's cotton ginned at the oil mill, near town, yesterday. Mr. Odum was offered 10c per pound for the cotton, is said, but did the right thing by holding it off the market. This is the first bale reported for Robeson this year and about the second for the State.

Recorder's Court.

The following cases were tried before Recorder R. A. McLean yesterday: Robert Neal, colored, retailing, six months on roads; Jesse Rogers, colored, retailing, judgment suspended till defendant is examined by Dr. B. W. Page, county physician; Jerry Smith, colored, retailing, \$10 and costs; Odell Strickland, retailing, \$10 and cost or 60 days on the roads.

Frank Parnell was before Recorder R. A. McLean this morning charged with retailing and was fined \$10 and cost.

This issue. It was apparent that those who issued the call for the meeting, and who had previously denounced the use of liquor at the recent primary purposely refrained from speaking, leaving that to those who put the matter in the best possible light, so that the action of the meeting was taken after viewing the conduct at the recent primary in the most favorable light possible.

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EMERGENCY FUND FOR COTTON

Ample Funds Will Be Furnished by Government to Take Care of Surplus Cotton—Producers Should Co-operate With Government—A Time to Cut Out Luxuries and Live at Home.

In his address before the mass meeting held here Monday Maj. A. J. McKinnon of Maxton explained how the government is willing to aid the South in any reasonable way to avert one of the most serious disasters that has been on since the Civil War. He said at this time there is no market for cotton, the thing the South at large is most dependent upon. However, he thinks that with the co-operation of the people with the government the way can be made much clearer.

He said that England couldn't exist long unless the seas are opened up to commerce, therefore he thinks if farmers can arrange by the aid of the government to hold their cotton and not try to sell when there is no demand that in a few months the situation can be mastered. The American spinners can use 6,000,000 bales of the crop, provided they can dispose of the manufactured product. He said that he was informed by Senator Simmons that there were 112 ships owned by citizens or corporations of the United States that were flying the flag of another country, and he thinks that they can be caused to float the American flag, which will aid greatly in mastering the situation.

By losing Germany's trade the market for 3,000,000 bales is lost. All law makers fully realize that the country at large is up against it, and are ready and willing to use their influence in any way to better the situation. There will be ample currency furnished by the government through certain channels to take care of surplus cotton. The emergency fund will be let out to State banks and trust companies as well as National banks. This fund, which will not be ready before November 1, will be let out to the banks at 3 1/2 per cent the first of the month and increases 1/2 per cent each month till it reaches 6 per cent. The banks will be allowed to issue currency to 75 per cent of the average price of cotton for the last five years which would be about 12 1/2c per pound, cotton to be stored in bonded warehouses. The government has so arranged that most any kind of a storage warehouse can become a licensed warehouse.

Major McKinnon said the producers should be willing to co-operate with the government in getting 12 1/2c for the cotton crop, as this is only a living price, and while there is not sufficient warehouse room to store all the cotton the surplus could easily be stored. The government realizes that it cannot take care of all this year's cotton crop, and it will take the earnest co-operation on the part of the government, bankers, cotton growers, commercial enterprises and all classes to take care of the situation. This kind of co-operation is the only salvation for the South. We must show the world said Mr. McKinnon, that we have the cotton and will continue to have it till a fair price is offered.

In closing Mr. McKinnon advised all to go home and save their corn stalks and everything that could be used for food for man and beast, plant turnips and Irish potatoes and resolve to live on what they have, cut out the luxuries and buy only necessities.

Robeson County Youth Pardoned by Governor.

Raleigh News and Observer, 19th. Governor Craig on yesterday issued a conditional pardon to Roy Haynes of Robeson county, convicted at the December term of Robeson county Superior Court and sentenced to 12 months on the chain gang, his offense being forcible trespass. The reasons for the pardon are given herewith:

The defendant will be released upon condition that he be hereafter a good citizen and observe the law.

The defendant was 16 years old at the time of the commission of the crime. He has served upon the chain gang eight months. From the evidence I conclude that he had no serious intent in making the assault. Upon the most reliable information I conclude that the recorder would have recommended pardon but for his death. The pardon is recommended by the solicitor, by prosecuting attorney and by many other good citizens. In my opinion the defendant has been punished sufficiently considering his age.

This is the youth who frightened Misses Lillian and Bertha Barker on a deserted street in Lumberton one evening last winter, catching hold of one of the young ladies but being frightened off when she tore herself loose from his grasp and she and her sister screamed and ran.

McReynolds Named for Supreme Court.

Washington dispatch, 19th. Attorney General James McReynolds, of Tennessee was nominated by President Wilson today to succeed the late H. H. Lurton, as a Justice of the Supreme Court. Thomas Watt Gregory of Texas was nominated for Attorney-General.

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GREAT BATTLE IN PROGRESS

But it is Impossible to Get News—British Have Landed Large Army in France and Belgium—Belgian Seat of Government Moved to Antwerp.

London Dispatch, 20th, 2:55 a. m. Dispatches from Brussels announce that the British, French and Russian Ministers, with their staffs have left for Antwerp.

The Brussels correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company says it is becoming practically impossible to get news away from Brussels as the censor forbids information concerning troop movements being published. However, it is certain that a tremendous battle is in progress within the area stretched from Diest and Tirlemont, as far as Givet.

The general impression here is that no effort will be made to concentrate for the defense of Brussels as the attacking Germans would not be of sufficient strength to warrant such concentration.

St. Petersburg reports say that mobilization of Russian army is complete and Czar and 11 members of imperial family are at the front. The Russian armies began a general advance Sunday.

A large British army of 100,000 to 120,000 men has been landed in France and Belgium.

Belgium's seat of government has been removed from Brussels to Antwerp.

FARMERS' UNION MEETING.

Committee Appointed to Secure Places for Storing Cotton—Simmons and Godwin Commended—Committee to Arrange for Union Rally September 12.

A county meeting of the Robeson Division of the Farmers' Union was held in the court house here yesterday. Owing to the busy season with the farmers—saving fodder—there was not a very large attendance, but a very enthusiastic meeting was held.

Messrs. W. P. Barker, W. K. Culbreth and Kelly Johnson were appointed to look after securing places for storing the cotton raised by Union members. Messrs. W. P. Barker and Grover Britt were appointed a committee to make arrangements for the Union rally to be held in Lumberton, Saturday, September 12, when Dr. H. Q. Alexander, State president of the Farmers' Union, will deliver a Union address.

The county president, Mr. D. H. Britt, was appointed a delegate to a Union meeting which will be held in Raleigh October 2. Mr. Grover Britt was appointed alternate.

Letters of commendation were sent to Senator F. M. Simmons and Congressman H. L. Godwin, commending them for the interest they have taken in welfare of the farmers, and soliciting a continuance of the same. Letters were also sent to Dr. H. Q. Alexander and Clarence Poe, commending them for the stand they took in the interest of the farmer at the Southern Cotton Congress held in Washington last week.

SMYRNA NEWS NOTES

All Dogs Should Be Muzzled—Rabbit Crossing Road Brings Bad Luck—Good Sunday School—Personal.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. Smyrna (Lumberton, R. 4), Aug. 18.—Pulling fodder seems to be the order of the day around here now.

Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Collins of Laurinburg spent last week in this section.

Messrs. Calton Flowers and Raymond Lamb of Lumberton spent Sunday with Mr. Lamb's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Thompson.

Mr. J. M. Williamson, who holds a position with the Lumberton barber shop, spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Williamson. Mr. and Mrs. Oakley Cox of McDonalds spent part of last week visiting in this community.

Messrs. Sam Edwards and George Collins of Lumberton spent Sunday afternoon in this section.

Mr. Dave Cox and sister, Miss Mary, spent a few days last week visiting at McDonalds.

Miss Nena Wilkerson and Mr. Carla Prevatt spent last Sunday at Wrightsville Beach. Both report a nice time.

We have Sunday school every Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Everybody is invited to attend, and let me say right here, while we have a Philathea or Baraca classes, we have as good Sunday school as there is in the county. Mr. Wade H. Lamb is our superintendent and we dare say no better could be found anywhere.

We remember seeing in The Robesonian just a few days past where the law in regard to having dogs muzzled in town was going to be enforced, and it seems to us that this should be a State-wide law, for dogs go mad and will bite in the country just the same as in town.

It is an old-time saying that if a rabbit crosses the road in front of anybody that it is bad luck and we shall believe it evermore, for just a few evenings past as we were on the way to see somebody's girl, some number under 50 crossed the road, or the same rabbit crossed about 50 times. Anyway there was crossing done, and hereafter just let one rabbit cross the road just one time, then back home for us; for we have never had such luck, and it was all so bad.

BRIEF LOCAL NEWS ITEMS

—License has been issued for the marriage of L. W. Ayers and Lora McLean.

—Miss Emma Spivey, daughter of Mr. Arch Spivey, has accepted a position as clerk in the Lumberton Bakery.

—Born to Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Hood last night, an eleven pound boy. Both Mrs. Hood and the boy are getting along nicely.

—Mr. F. Gough left last evening for Winston-Salem in response to a telegram notifying him that his sister was sick in a hospital there.

—The Freeman Printing Co. has just installed a new "Mogul" 6 horse power engine made by the International Harvester Co. It is a dandy.

—Over 100 Sunday school excursionists passed here this morning on the early train bound for the beach. The excursion was from Laurel Hill.

—Mr. J. H. Turner of Red Springs is in a hospital at Salisbury for an operation for appendicitis. He expects to be at the hospital for three or four weeks.

—Annie May, four-day-old infant of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Britt, died Sunday morning. Interment was made in the Meadowbrook cemetery Sunday afternoon.

—It is expected that a large crowd will go to the beach next Sunday, which will probably be the last big crowd of the season, though the rates continue until September 13th.

—Messrs. L. James and Grover

open up a motion picture show for colored people in the Pedneau Garage building, Second street. They expect to open about September 1.

—Unto the 3rd and 4th Generation," a two-reel Selig feature will be shown at the Pastime theatre this evening. Those who fail to see it will be the losers. The third reel will be "Bunny's Mistake," featuring John Bunny.

—Mr. M. A. Geddie and family, consisting of his wife and two children, who had been living at Stedman, moved last week into the A. L. Jones house, Cedar street. It has not been learned what business Mr. Geddie is engaged in.

—Mr. J. A. Barker recently bought a house and lot, corner of Ninth and Cedar streets, from the Fidelity Insurance & Realty Company. The consideration was \$4,000. Mr. Barker and family will move into the house about September 1.

—Mr. S. F. Caldwell, of the firm of R. D. Caldwell & Son, and Mr. R. R. Carlyle, proprietor of Carlyle's ladies' store, and Mrs. Carlyle have returned from New York and other Northern cities, where they went to purchase goods. Mr. Caldwell says he has never seen New York so overrun with eager buyers.

—Ticket numbered 2528 entitles the holder to the beautiful doll at the fountain at McMillan's Drug store. The contest closed Saturday night but no one has claimed the doll yet. "Oh you beautiful doll! If you have the right number it is yours."

—Mr. G. F. Humphrey of route 1 from St. Pauls was among the visitors in town Tuesday. Mr. Humphrey brought more of his fine melons along and didn't forget to leave a nice one for each member of The Robesonian's staff. Mr. Humphrey raises melons that look good and taste much better.

—The auction sale which Mr. H. C. Boylin has been conducting at his store on Elm street each evening this week, beginning at 8:30, at which china-ware, cut glass and silver novelties are being sold, is proving a success and will continue each evening till the stock is all sold. Some of the goods are going very cheap for the grade of goods.

—Mr. P. M. Britt lost his little finger and all other fingers on his left hand were badly cut yesterday afternoon at Mr. Homer Stephens saw and shingle mill, about three miles from town on the Creek road, by a trim saw. Mr. Britt sat down near the saw and accidentally placed his hand against the saw. Dr. T. C. Johnson dressed the wound.

—Rev. I. P. Hedgpeth returned Tuesday from Northfield, Mass., where he had been a student at the Moody Bible Institute for two weeks. Mr. Hedgpeth was highly pleased with the work at Northfield. He says he was more than ever convinced that this is one of the greatest Bible conferences in the world and that a visit there is well worth all its costs. He also visited New York, Washington and Niagara Falls.

—Invitations have been issued reading as follows:

Mr. and Mrs. Locke Shaw request the honor of your presence at the marriage of their daughter Eoline Peterson

to Robert Harry Spiro M. D. on Wednesday evening, the second of September.

at half after seven o'clock Presbyterian church Saint Pauls, North Carolina.

At Home after September 8th Hamilton, New York.

Ball Games Postponed. The ball games which were to have been played between the Orrum and Lumberton teams on the local diamond today and tomorrow have been postponed till a later date, probably next week.