

THE ROBESONIAN

ESTABLISHED 1876. SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

COUNTRY, GOD AND TRUTH

\$1.50 A YEAR. DUE IN ADVANCE

VOL XLV.

LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1915.

NUMBER 98

SUPERIOR COURT

Trial of Negroes Charged With Murder of Mr. Pat McEachern Begins This Afternoon—Much Interest in Case—Other Cases.

Superior Court for the trial of criminal cases has been grinding away since Monday, Judge O. H. Allen presiding and Solicitor S. B. McLean of Maxton representing the State. This is Solicitor McLean's first court in Robeson since he assumed the duties of office the first of the year.

The trial of Arch Handy and Thos. Smith, negroes charged with the murder of Mr. P. A. McEachern near Wakkula Christmas Eve, was set for this morning, but the morning session was taken up with selecting the jury, a special venire of 100 having been summoned. The trial will begin at 2:30 this afternoon.

The law firms of McLean, Varsar & McLean and McIntyre, Lawrence & Proctor of Lumberton and Mr. G. B. Patterson of Maxton will assist Solicitor S. B. McLean, and the firm of Britt & Britt and H. E. Stacy of Lumberton will appear for the defendants.

A large number of people are in town either having been summoned or coming for the purpose of hearing the trial.

Lattie Floyd and Bennie Wall, burglary; Wall 5 years on public roads; Floyd 2 years. These were the negroes who pleaded guilty of breaking into two stores and the express office at Marietta some two weeks ago, mention of which was made in The Robesonian at the time.

F. J. Jones, carrying concealed weapon, five months in jail, to be assigned to public roads.

Mayo Granger, larceny; judgment continued on payment of cost.

C. E. Hardin, retailing; six months in jail, to be assigned to public roads.

Pearl Suggs, perjury; four months on roads.

Frank Barrack, murder, submitted to murder in second degree; seven years in State prison at hard labor. Barrack is the 16-year-old negro that shot Minister McNeill, also colored, at Parkton Friday of last week, mention of which was made in Monday's Robesonian.

MEETING MONDAY NIGHT

Ma's Meeting of Citizens Will be Held at Court House Monday Evening of Next Week at 7:30 to Consider High School Bill.

A mass meeting of the citizens of Lumberton and Lumberton township will be held at the court house at 7:30 o'clock Monday evening of next week, February 1st, to consider a bill that has been drawn to provide for a high school for Lumberton.

This is a most important meeting that every citizen of the town and township should make it a point to attend. Just what the bill as drawn provides has not been learned, but it is understood that the proposition is to make of Lumberton township a high school district and to issue bonds in the sum of \$15,000 to provide a building. The meeting is called by President Russell, of the Chamber of Commerce of Lumberton, but it is open to all and every citizen of the township is concerned.

Notices of New Advertisements.

Get first choice of handsome woollens for tailored-to-order spring suits today—Jno. T. Biggs Co.

Another word as to R. D. Caldwell & Son's remnant sale.

Garage—repairing—T. A. Ramsaur.

The King Grocery Co. has moved to the corner of Elm and Third and is better prepared than ever to serve its customers.

The National Bank of Lumberton is going to mail out bulletins treating each month of money-making plans for the farmer.

Brick for sale—Stephens & Barnes.

Hair switches and transformations made from combings—Mrs. Palmer, Rowland.

Marabout necpiece lost.

Pocket-book lost.

8-Cent Cotton.

Good cotton will bring 8 cents per pound on the local market today. This is the first time The Robesonian has had the pleasure of printing the price of cotton in several months.

No more skating on the side walks. It must be cut out. That is the ordinance that comes from the authorities. Chief of Police Redfern asks The Robesonian to say that an ordinance was passed some time ago against this practice and that the town fathers have served notice on him that it must be enforced. He says he hates to do it, but the law is the law and he must see that it is enforced. So it must be stopped. After this fair warning in The Robesonian the chief says he is going to enforce the ordinance strictly.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Woman Suffrage Will be Considered February 2—Women May Serve as Notaries Public—Legalized Primary Bill—Moore After Some of Hoke's Territory—House Votes to Repeal Long and Short Haul Clause.

The Page bill for repeal of the long and short haul clause of the Justice intra-State freight rate act passed the House yesterday by a vote of 107 to 2. There was no discussion, the only statement made being one by Mr. Page to the effect that he had petitions signed by 15,000 citizens of the State insisting that the clause be repealed.

The House received with favorable report a resolution by Mason of Northampton recommending that cotton growers materially curtail their cotton crop for the coming season.

A resolution was adopted yesterday providing for a joint committee to receive Secretary Bryan and arrange for him to speak in the hall of the House of Representatives at noon Saturday of this week before a joint session of the Assembly.

A bill passed by the Senate Monday requires that before being licensed as optometrists persons must have a high-school education and two years in a college of optometry or under an accredited practitioner as preliminary training.

A bill introduced by Senator Muse would require the State Treasurer to credit the State's prison with only the actual cost of maintenance and guarding of the convicts worked on railroads in exchange for stock instead of credit for full par value of stock as now provided.

The House has voted to allow the use of the Representatives' Hall February 2 for the ceremonies of the North Carolina Bar Association for the unveiling of the statue of Chief Justice Ruffin, which has recently been set up in the new Administration building.

A bill has been introduced to abolish the office of county treasurer of Columbus county.

The Senate committee on constitutional amendments and the Senate committee on elections will meet jointly February 2 to devote the afternoon to advocates of woman suffrage. Numbers of the most prominent suffragists in the country are to be in Raleigh to plead the cause of the Carolina suffragists.

The Legislature will give to the women of the State the right to serve as notaries public, provided the State Supreme Court will rule that such an act is constitutional, an agreement in connection with the passage of the bill being that Governor Craig will name only one woman as a notary until a test case can be made up from her first official act carried to the Supreme Court for ruling. The House passed the Senate bill for women notaries Tuesday, the vote being 56 to 48.

A joint bill in the Senate Tuesday by Weaver of Buncombe and Hobbard of Guilford would prescribe a legalized primary for the State to include all parties and all offices from President down to and including county officers. It is a document of some 20-odd pages and 500 copies are ordered printed. The introducers of the bill admit that they are expecting amendments to except county officers in part, if not all the counties; and they will not venture an expression as to the likelihood of an effort to have the bill passed with a referendum, with people to ratify it before it is effective.

A bill introduced in the House by Page would change the boundary lines between Moore and Hoke counties, talking about 4,000 acres of land from Hoke and adding it to Moore county.

Bills have passed third reading in the House to abolish the county treasurer's office in Johnston, Anson, Warren, Perquimans, Wilson, Sampson, Lee and Brunswick. Solvent banks in the counties are to act as treasurers and are to receive no compensation for their services.

DRAINAGE DISTRICT MEETING

Landowners of Drainage District Will Meet in Lumberton Monday—Committee Will Recommend Selling Bonds for One Year.

As was stated some time ago in connection with a former meeting, the landowners of the Back Swamp and Jacob Swamp Drainage District will meet in Lumberton Monday, February 1st, at the court house at 11 a. m., to consider the matter of selling bonds to help the property owners over the present financial stringency. The committee appointed at a former meeting will recommend that bonds in the sum of \$15,000 be sold to run only one year, to meet payment on bonds due next August. It is expected that that action will meet with the approval of the landowner, of the district.

PARKTON PARAGRAPHS

Two Fires Do Much Damaged Colored Church and School Building Burned—Sorry Negro Boy Shoots and Fatally Wounds Useful Negro—Death of Mr. Coleman Phillips—Other Items.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Parkton, Jan. 25.—Our town has been visited by two fires since our last letter. On Friday a week ago Mr. J. C. Culbreth's barn was burned about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and adjoining residences, Mr. T. W. Thompson's, occupied by Mrs. Chapel, and Mr. Culbreth's occupied by Mr. G. W. Bullard, came near burning, but as the wind was calm the large force of hands with buckets and water, saved the buildings. The fire was supposed to have been originated by a small boy with matches.

Last Thursday afternoon at 1 o'clock the colored graded school was discovered on fire by teachers and the alarm was given and help was soon on the scene, but the wind was high and the fire made rapid headway and it was soon found impossible to save the building and the colored Baptist church, which was located near the school, soon caught and was consumed also, with but little saved, and the insurance on the church building lapsed the first of the year, hence the church building was a complete loss. We are not prepared to say whether there was any insurance on the school building or not. The buildings were both valuable and the loss has left the colored people in a serious condition. Of course there will be some place provided for the school, but the Baptist congregation is left in a bad shape, as they had just completed their church and it was the largest church in town and they deserve much credit for their faithful services and sacrifices in building such a nice church. The whole town is in deep sympathy with the colored people in their loss.

But the fire is not the only trouble the colored people are having up our way. Friday evening about 2 o'clock a young boy about 18 or 20 years old, by the name of Frank Deberry, shot Minister McNeill, about 22 or 23 years old. The load took effect the leg, which was almost shot off—No. 2 shot and close range. The wounded man was brought to Parkton for treatment, but as Dr. Currie was in Fayetteville at that time Dr. Poole of St. Pauls was phoned and in a short while arrived and dressed the wound, but advised the patient sent to the hospital in Fayetteville, and he was placed in an automobile and hurried to Fayetteville, but died at 10 o'clock Friday night. The shooting occurred on the farm of Mr. C. S. McArthur, two miles north of town, where they were engaged at that time cutting wood. It is said that the two parties had quarreled the morning and at noon the boy that did the shooting secured a breech loading shotgun and carried it with him where they were at work, and the quarrel was renewed, and the shooting took place. The man that was killed was a smart, honorable and highly respected young man, and was only married Sunday evening. The boy that did the shooting was a nephew of the deceased and a sorry, worthless negro, who was carried to Lumberton Friday night by Chief of Police Huggins and lodged in jail.

Mr. Coleman Phillips, one of Parkton esteemed veterans died at his home here on last Tuesday night at 7 o'clock in his 79th year. Mr. Phillips had been in lingering health for a year or two but kept up most of the time and was only confined to his bed a day or so. The funeral services were conducted from the residence on Thursday morning at ten o'clock by Rev. J. E. Berryhill, pastor of the Presbyterian church and interment was from the Parkton cemetery. Our sympathy go to the bereaved family.

Rev. H. B. Porter will preach at the M. E. Church at Parkton next Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. The public is cordially invited.

Mr. M. F. Underwood of Quitman, Ga., arrived Sunday to visit relatives and friends for a few days. Mr. Underwood was summoned by wire message Thursday night advising him of the death of his sister, Mrs. Alex Thagard of Pembroke. Mrs. Thagard died Thursday night rather suddenly and was buried at Philadelphia Saturday p. m.

Prof. R. F. Whitlock and sister of Arabia spent Friday night in town and visited friends in Fayetteville Saturday and Sunday and returned to Arabia Sunday night.—Mr. C. L. Johnson, builder and contractor, spent last week at John's station, returning home Saturday night.

Contractor A. M. Blount has started the repairs on the Brown building and will put the building in

RED SPRINGS NEWS LETTER

In Social Circles—Movements of the People.

Correspondence of The Robesonian, Red Springs, Jan. 26.—Miss Lucy De Vane left Saturday for McDonalds where she will teach school.

Mr. B. F. McNeill, Jr., will leave Saturday for Raleigh, where he will take a course in pharmacy.

Miss Polly Brown, who is teaching near Rowland, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John G. Brown.

Mrs. Longfellow of Greensboro arrived Monday and will spend some time at Hotel Red Springs.

Messrs. Lucius McRae, Hiram Grantham, and J. W. Hodgkin, and Drs. J. J. Hill and C. G. Vardell attended the Elder's and Deacons' Institute which was held at Fayetteville last week.

Mrs. J. T. Bostick and daughter, Miss Gertrude, have returned home after a pleasant visit to relatives at McColl, S. C.

Mrs. William Horne of Fayetteville, is spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Callahan.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Lucien MacLeod and little daughter, Margaret Forester, have returned to their home in Charlotte, after spending several weeks at the home of Mr. MacLeod's father, Mr. W. J. MacLeod.

The freshman class of S. P. C. was delightfully entertained last Saturday afternoon at a dinner by their class at Bason.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Callahan were married in Wilson last week and have returned from their bridal trip, and are now at Hotel Sed Springs.

Mrs. Throwing was formerly Miss Marie Barden of this place, but has been making her home with her aunt in Wilson for the past few months.

Miss Ethel Johnson was hostess to the Priscilla Club Tuesday afternoon.

Miss Katie Buie has returned home after a pleasant visit to friends at Davidson.

Mr. H. S. Toon and daughter, Miss Marian, spent a few days in Raleigh last week.

Mr. Edwin Callahan of Greensboro is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Callahan.

Tar Heel Topics—Movements of the People.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. Tar Heel, Jan. 26.—Messrs. E. D. Melvin and E. J. Monroe spent one day last week at Dublin.

Miss Leslie Martin of Tolarville visited her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Brack Martin, recently.

Mr. Dock Campbell spent one day last week at Elizabethtown on business.

Mr. J. D. Wilson was a business caller in Fayetteville one day last week.

Mr. B. Thymes and family of Shaw's Mill have moved here.

Misses Lottie and Lillie Kinlaw of Lumberton visited relatives here recently.

Mr. Durant Melvin was in Lumberton one day last week on business.

Miss Jennie Monroe returned home last Friday afternoon after spending two weeks with relatives and friends near Elase.

Mr. Donnie Munn was in Wilmington on business recently.

Mr. Angus Kinlaw visited his daughter here last week.

Mr. C. Monroe and family have moved from near Elase here. We welcome them in our midst.

The Baptist Sunday school here is progressing nicely.

Miss Mary Bedsole and brother, Mr. Shelton, of White Oak, R. F. D. 1, visited their uncle, Mr. A. Bedsole last Saturday and Sunday.

License has been issued for the marriage of J. W. Thompkins and Margaret Edens, both of Red Springs; W. L. Barren and Irene McQueen.

first class condition.

Mr. L. E. Hughes has installed new lights in his large store which is a beauty. Likewise has the M. E. church.

Mr. Ernest Bruce of Fayetteville was a caller in town Sunday evening. A fine fox chase Thursday night of only an hour. Caught a fine fox, and an all night race Friday night.

Mr. H. C. Adcox came to town Sunday morning with the head of a dog supposed to be that of a mad dog which was shipped to Raleigh for examination. The dog bit a child of Mr. Adcox Sunday morning.

Miss Ethel Cashwell was a Fayetteville shopper Saturday.

Much cotton changed hands last week in our town. Messrs. Fisher & Thompson, cotton buyers, were busy all the week in and out of town, wish to be left severely alone here.

To Prevent Blood Poisoning apply at once the wonderful old reliable DR. PETER'S ANTISEPTIC HEALING OIL, a sure cure dressing that relieves pain and heals a sore same time. Not a stimulant. 25c. 50c. 1.00

A PUBLIC LIBRARY

For Lumberton—Why Not?—Old Baptist Church Building the Very Place—Location Ideal and Little Expense Would be Necessary to Make Building Suitable—Public Library Grasp the Opportunity?

To the Editor of The Robesonian: At the public school building, books, books, books, a thousand of them, stuffed in cases, lying on tables, on the floor, in order and in disorder, in the way, uncataloged, unclassified, good books, bad books, worthless books. The nucleus of a fine library going to waste; a bother and exasperation to the teachers, unavailable to the pupils. Why? For want of a place to keep them. The school authorities are not to blame; they love books, they respect books, but they have to kick them around.

Two blocks away on a prominent corner, a block from the business portion of the town, stands a spacious building, with waterproof roof, strong walls, a large hall with vestibule, and six abutting rooms, three doors opening on prominent streets, already wired for electric lights, stoves in place. But this building is becoming a nuisance and an eyesore, its windows a target for the bad boy's devil-sling, full of cobwebs and dirt, a mausoleum for dead cats. A building once hallowed by worship, still holy in the estimation of hundreds of good people, an old church, but now of no use on earth, Pa.

Let us consider what could be done with the building. The main auditorium with gallery would make an ideal place for public meetings and entertainments of a worthy character. There is a good platform with rooms adjoining. While this room ought not to be used for professional theatricals, it would be splendid for lyceums and chataquas, for community betterment meetings, for the right sort of moving pictures now and then, when worthy films are to be had, such as Quo Vadi, and The Last Days of Pompei. Then there are small rooms which could be made into book alcoves and hold all we would be able to get for years. The large room to the west furnished with leading papers and magazines would make an ideal reading room and meeting place for clubs and circles of a literary character.

How can it be done? Easily. The first thing would be to organize a Library Association with dues, say five dollars per member each year, these to elect directors, to manage the library. One hundred members of this association ought to be secured, which would mean five hundred dollars to start with; a person might be allowed a vote for each five dollar, put in, say up to twenty-five dollars. Then arrangements would have to be made with the school authorities to secure the books in their possession and to care for the equity of the public school in administering the library. In fact, it would not be a bad plan to put the management of the library largely into the hands of the school.

Of course a bargain would have to be made with the Baptist congregation. Perhaps the building might be secured for a year or two rent free, or for just enough rent to keep up the insurance. In lieu of the first year's rent, the Library Association would have to fix up the building, making any necessary repairs. Window lights, soap and water, racks and seats would be the main items, with a bit of calcamine thrown in to make the walls cheerful and clean. Of course there would have to be a lease or terms of purchase understood from the beginning. It could probably be rented for a very moderate rental or purchased for a very reasonable price. But renting would be advisable at first, until we find how the community will rally to such an institution.

The entire outfit could probably be purchased for less than the ground would cost on Elm street. There is probably not a better site for a library in the city, and not as good a site available for anything like the same for which this could be secured.

The expense of furnishing and operating the library, securing new

we do not know what we shall do together afford a happy suggestion.

The writer has never consulted his congregation, the owners of the old church, about its use or disposal. This article is intended as much as a suggestion to them as to anyone else. He is not speaking for them, he does not know for certain what they would say if a proposition were made to them to turn the old church into a library. But he believes many of them would welcome the opportunity to restore honor and dignity to the old building again.

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BRIEF ITEMS OF LOCAL NEWS

"Business is picking up some" was the remark of a lumber man who was in town yesterday.

—Mr. J. D. Proctor spent Tuesday in Raleigh. He attended a meeting of the board of trustees of the State University, of which he is a member.

—Immediately after the morning service Sunday at the Presbyterian church a congregational meeting, at which the deacons will make their annual report, will be held.

—Mr. A. J. Williams of route 3 from Maxton is in town today. Mr. Williams got on the "God blessed" list by paying his subscription a little more than a year in advance.

—Mr. H. L. Broadwell and son, Mr. F. K., of route 1 from St. Pauls were among the visitors, in town yesterday. Mr. Broadwell got on the "God blessed" list by paying for The Robesonian a year in advance.

—Mr. I. H. Warwick, a leading merchant of Orum, was among the visitors in town this morning. Mr. Warwick left his order with The Robesonian's job department for a supply of letter heads and envelopes.

—Mr. L. H. Caldwell launched a big "stock reduction" sale this morning at 9 o'clock. This is Mr. Caldwell's first special sale, and hundreds of people are thronging his store. Watch his large ads in The Robesonian.

—Mr. A. P. Floyd of route 3 from Fairmont was in town yesterday. Mr. Floyd says the rainy weather is delaying the planting and sowing of the corn crop.

—There was a meeting of the Methodist church at 11 o'clock Sunday morning at the pastor's at 3:30 Sunday afternoon by the pastor, Rev. A. J. Proctor. Both these charges are on the St. Pauls circuit.

—Messrs. L. E. Smith and J. H. Finch got wet a whole lot last week when a row boat on the river capsized, turning them out where the water was about waist deep. Cold day, too.

—Mr. J. E. Broom of route 7 from Lumberton was in town yesterday. Mr. Broom recently moved to Robeson from Union county and did the right thing—subscribed for his county paper, The Robesonian. He says he likes Robeson fine so far.

—Mr. Rowland Stephens of route 1 from Orum was a Lumberton visitor yesterday. Mr. Stephens is anxious for a fish law to be passed by the present Legislature, but thinks the best law would be to prohibit a man from selling a fish of any kind for love or money.

—Mr. J. C. Graham of route 2 from Maxton is among the visitors in town today. Mr. Graham says he has been a Robesonian subscriber for 30 years and he still likes it. This was his first trip to Lumberton in three years, and he notes many changes and improvements.

—Messrs. George and Frank Ramsaur, with their families, have moved from Lincolnton to the new place north of Lumberton. They will farm the place, and are said to be experienced farmers and hard workers, the kind needed to help build up any section of country.

—The King Grocery Co. has moved into the Gough building on the northeast corner of Elm and Third streets, formerly occupied by Mr. W. J. Prevatt. Mr. C. G. Bogan will conduct a market in the rear of this building. It is not definitely known yet who will occupy the building formerly occupied by the King Grocery Co., on Elm street between Second and Third.

Among the Sick.

Mrs. Sallie Nance, who lives in East Lumberton, is very sick.

At Thompson hospital: Mrs. E. W. Kinlaw, who underwent an operation last Sunday, is getting along nicely.

Mrs. C. O. Rhodes, who had been a patient at the hospital for some time, was able to return to her home at Fayetteville Saturday. Miss Florine Rogers, who recently underwent an operation for appendicitis, expects to return to her home at Marietta Saturday. Mrs. Frank Townsend of Ten Mile underwent an operation at the hospital this morning and is getting along nicely. Mrs. Jesse Wishart was taken to the hospital this morning suffering with appendicitis.

Washington dispatch, Jan. 25: The constitutional right of employers to have employees renounce their union affiliation as a condition of employment was sustained today by the Supreme Court in a decision far-reaching to organized labor, in which the Kansas so-called coercion statute was declared unconstitutional.