

THE ROBESONIAN

ESTABLISHED 1870. SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

COUNTRY, GOD AND TRUTH.

\$2.00 A YEAR. DUE IN ADVANCE

VOLUME LII

LUMBERTON, N. C., MONDAY JANUARY 30, 1923.

NUMBER 100

Young Jew Beaten By Masked Men

Mitchell Epstein of St. Pauls Taken Out of Town Saturday Night and Whipped by Four Masked Men—Threatened With Death if He Did Not Cease Attention to Certain Young Lady and Leave Town in Week.

By Phone to The Robesonian.

St. Pauls, Jan. 30.—Mitchell Epstein a young Jew 17 or 18 years old, received rough treatment at the hands of four masked men here Saturday night between 8 and 9 o'clock. Young Epstein was lured from the store of his father, Mr. Sam Epstein by a man who told him that a lady in a car on the street wished to speak to him. When he reached the car a rope was thrown about his neck and he was dragged into the car and carried out of town. Threats to hang him were made and he was given a good whipping, it is said. He was later released and advised that if he did not leave St. Pauls in a week he would be killed. Epstein was also advised by the men not to pay any further attention to a certain young lady, it is said, threats being made that if he did he would be killed.

When Epstein was being carried away he made an outcry and those who would have gone to his rescue were held at bay by a masked man who flashed a pistol. The young Jew was warned not to tell, upon pain of death. No arrests have been made in connection with the affair.

There are those who think the men who pulled this unusual "stunt" were members of the Ku Klux Klan, but this has not been ascertained.

Superior Court.

Judge Geo. W. Connor is Presiding at Term of Court Which Began This Morning—Mr. J. H. Turner of Red Springs is Foreman of Grand Jury—Civil Court Will Follow Criminal Term.

Superior court for the trial of criminal cases convened this morning at 10 o'clock with Judge Geo. W. Connor of Wilson presiding. Mr. J. H. Turner of Red Springs is foreman of the grand jury and Mr. H. A. McWhite of R. 1, Lumberton, court officer. Solicitor S. B. McLean of Mecklenburg county is here to represent the State. The week's term of criminal court will be followed by a week's term of civil.

Worst Storm In 23 Years

Middle Atlantic Section in Grip of One of Most Severe Storms in Several Decades—Buried Under Blanket of Snow.

Washington, Jan. 29.—Buried under from one to more than two feet of snow by one of the most severe storms in several decades, the middle Atlantic section of the country spent Sunday in valiant but mostly vain efforts to resume the activities suspended Friday night when the storm swept up from the south.

The storm, described by the weather bureau as the worst in 23 years, tonight had passed out to sea and its center was said by the weather bureau to be some distance north-northeast of Bermuda, but in its wake from North Carolina to southern New England, and from the coast to the Allegheny mountains, all was buried under a snow blanket.

Washington, as the center of the storm area and the center of the storm's strength, suffered the most severely—a toll of nearly a hundred lives having been taken, and more than a hundred injured, some of whom may be added later to the list of dead. The loss of life in the capital, with one or two exceptions, was due to the collapse of the roof of a motion picture theater under the weight of 26 inches of snow, and this catastrophe also accounted for most of the injuries.

Sentence Changed to \$50 Fine.

Recorder David H. Fuller Friday changed the sentence of Dewey Ellis, convicted of selling Jamaica ginger, 93 per cent. alcohol, from 30 days on the roads to \$50 fine. The sentence was changed because of the fact that a physician signed a certificate saying that Ellis was not physically able to do hard labor.

Mrs. A. Weinstein returned today from Chicago, Ill., where she spent a month visiting at the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Cohen.

Mrs. H. Weinstein and two children of Fairmont spent the week-end here visiting relatives.

107 Killed In Theatre Disaster

Roof of Knickerbocker Theatre in Washington Crushed in Saturday Night by Weight of Snow—134 Persons Injured, 14 of Them Seriously.

Washington, Jan. 30.—(By Associated Press.)—Official police records early today placed the known dead in the Knickerbocker theatre disaster at 107. Elimination of duplicated names brought the final total down from the unofficial peak of 112 at which the toll of the catastrophe was placed late last night.

The list of injured stood at 134 with 14 listed as seriously injured. The official list, according to the authorities, contained the names of all those whose bodies had been recovered up to midnight from the ruins. The volunteer workers, including police, firemen, marines and cavalry from Fort Myer, had practically concluded their search of the wreckage at midnight. The only portion of what had been the orchestra remaining to be searched being a far corner.

The exact number in the theater when the steel and concrete span of the roof buckled and fell under its three-foot load of snow probably will never be known. The stories of perhaps a hundred who got out unharmed have been reported. These accounts for a few more than 300 in the audience that was roaring in laughter at a film comedy when the roof fell on them like a blanket, carrying down the front of the wide balcony in its crash.

Normally, the theater has had every seat filled at that hour and nearly 2,000 persons was its capacity. The same unprecedented snow fall which brought death to the venturesome few, kept the many at home. Street car traffic had been abandoned and streets and sidewalks were all but impassable with drifts.

There has been no time as yet for official inquiry as to the cause of the disaster. The ruins themselves disclose, however, that the entire mass of steel-held concrete that formed the roof had come down. The crash swept the supports out from under the balcony, apparently, and this hinged down at an angle of 45 degrees adding to the tangled mass of wreckage on the floor below.

The building stands in an acute angled corner at 18th street and Columbia road, Northwest, the heart of the most favored residence section of the city. The narrow niche of the stage on which the screen was hung was backed into the corner angle while to the left from the stage, the line of the auditorium wall runs in a straight line for some 200 feet down 18th street. To the right the wall follows the slow curve of Columbia road for about the same distance and at the far end, paralleling the stage front, the back wall completes the auditorium proper, also about 200 feet in length.

This whole space stood roofless to the sky a moment after the first hissing sound of the breaking roof gave warning above the music of the orchestra. There is only one survivor thus far who has told of having heard that warning and seen the first powdery handful of snow sift down over the head of the orchestra leader in time to make his escape. From his seat well forward on the main floor, he raced for the door at the back. A great blast of air expelled as the roof came down hurled him out through the doorway to safety.

Most of the bodies were recovered from the floor of the pit beneath the wreckage of the balcony or from the front of the balcony itself. Following the rule of motion picture audiences and with an almost empty house to pick from those on the main floor had grouped themselves in the rows of seats just below the front of the balcony. They were back far enough to see well and the front and back rows were almost empty.

At the point they had chosen, the danger proved to be just double. Few of those seated there could have escaped. Even if the falling concrete slabs and steel work of the roof missed them, the solid mass of the balcony front came down on the first wreckage with crushing weight. The gleaming brass rail that adorned the balcony front lay spread over the wreckage of the roof fifteen feet below when rescuers reached the scene. Those farther back of the main floor probably all escaped. The beams that supported the back end of the balcony did not let go their clutch on the wall. The wide sweep of seat they supported tilted down until the wreckage below took the weight of the front end and then stood covering the back rows of the main floor like a tent.

The front rows of the balcony were ground to a twisted mass of ruin in the fall. There was no wood in the structure. It was all steel and concrete, but the enormous weight of the balcony was itself sufficient to wind the tortured beams into fantastic shapes.

Mr. J. A. Brown of R. 2, Red Springs, is a Lumberton visitor today.

Better Building Will Replace Old

Philadelphus Spirit is to Replace Burned School Building With New—Some Equipment Was Saved—No Interruption in School Work.

By J. L. Memory, Jr.

Philadelphia, Jan. 27.—On Wednesday, January 25, the Philadelphia school building was completely destroyed by fire. The conflagration was first discovered about three o'clock above the ceiling in the farm-life department on the second floor. When the tin roof was ripped open in an effort to get to the flame, a tremendous outburst of black smoke immediately enveloped the entire building, leading one to believe that the fire had been in progress for some time, concealed between the ceiling and the roof. The smoke made the work of rescuing equipment on the second floor impossible as well as dangerous, for the flames were hidden in the black cloud. The school is to be congratulated, however, that no one was even scorched and that a good percent of the chapel seats, all library books, the entire primary equipment, and individual record system were saved, because within thirty minutes after the fire was discovered all roofs had fallen in.

The cause of the fire is generally conceded to be a defective flue. The total loss is roughly estimated at \$25,000, partially covered by \$13,000 insurance. Public sentiment is heartily in favor of beginning work at once on a much better building which, it is hoped, will be ready for use at the opening of the fall session. The Philadelphus spirit is seen in the words of one big-hearted patron who remarked during the fire, "I, for one, am willing to give a check for \$500.00 tomorrow to begin work on a better building." A few such donations, together with the insurance, will make the work of reconstruction simple.

Temporary arrangements have been made for continuing the school work. The boys' dormitory, a twelve-room building, is being used for classes, the boys having found shelter in a neighboring building. Due to good management, with the wholesome cooperation of the entire community, school work was continued the next morning without the loss of an hour's time.

Most Severe Weather In Four Years.

Not Since Winter of 1917-18 Has This Section Experienced Such Cold Weather as Last Week Brought.

Last week brought the most severe weather this section has experienced since the winter of 1917-18. Cold weather was accompanied by rain, sleet and snow. While much of the snow melted as it fell, enough fell during the week to have covered the ground several inches had it "stuck." The snow was general throughout the South Atlantic States, reaching a depth of from 6 to 30 inches in many sections. Traffic was greatly handicapped in many places, trains being tied up for several hours as a result of the heavy snowfall.

DuBois Bakery Will Be Enlarged.

Incorporated With Authorized Capital of \$25,000—New Equipment Will Be Installed.

The DuBois bakery was last week incorporated with an authorized capital of \$25,000, with \$5,000 subscribed by Messrs. W. J. DuBois, K. M. Barnes, W. O. Thompson, D. D. French, V. D. Baker and Geo. L. Thompson. Mr. W. J. DuBois retains half interest in the bakery and will continue in charge. It is the purpose of the new organization to enlarge the bakery, install new equipment and operate a bakery second to none in this part of the State.

THOMAS SENTENCED TO 18 YEARS IN STATE PRISON

Found Guilty of Murder in Second Degree—Released Under \$20,000 Bond Pending Result of Appeal to Supreme Court.

"Guilty of murder in the second degree" was the verdict rendered in Cabarrus Superior court at Concord Friday night by the jury which for 11 days had been trying O. G. (Red) Thomas, Charlotte auto salesman, for the killing of Arthur J. Allen, master plumber of Concord, in Kannapolis on the night of October 25, 1921. Saturday Judge J. Bis Ray sentenced Thomas to 18 years in the State prison and he was released under \$20,000 bond pending the outcome of appeal before the Supreme court. Judge Ray said he at first intended to give Thomas the limit of thlaw but was influenced by sympathy for the wife and mother of the defendant.

Mr. I. M. Thompson of Fairmont is a Lumberton visitor today.

Mr. W. D. Kinlaw of Howellsville township was a Lumberton visitor this morning.

Mr. McIntyre Talks About Banking

Talk at School Opening Friday Was About Banking Business—Every Girl and Boy Should Have a Savings Account in Some Bank, Speaker Declared, as He Stressed Importance of Saving.

"Every boy and girl in Lumberton should have a savings account in some bank," declared Mr. Stephen McIntyre, vice-president of the National Bank of Lumberton, in an address at the chapel exercises at the high school auditorium Friday morning. Mr. McIntyre began his interesting and instructive talk by asking, "What is a bank?" He then answered his own question. The word bank came from the word bench, he said. In the long ago before banks were known the money changers used benches for counting their money. The word bankrupt came from the word "benchbroke."

The speaker defined the difference between a State and a National bank. A State bank is authorized by State government, while a National bank is authorized by the Comptroller of the Currency. The State bank gets its charter from the Corporation Commission, while the National bank gets its permission to do business from the Comptroller of the Currency. The State bank must account to the State and the National bank to the Federal government. Before either is allowed to accept deposits, a certain amount of capital stock must be paid in. The State banks are examined by State bank examiners and National banks are examined by men sent out by the Comptroller of the Currency. Reports from State banks are made to the Corporation Commission, while National banks make their reports to the Comptroller of the Currency.

A bank is a place for idle money, the speaker continued. A place where money is brought together. The speaker said that when he came to Robeson county 26 years ago there was not a bank in Robeson, Bladen or Columbus county. Now there are more than a dozen banks in Robeson county. Banks are necessary to the development of any community. Money should be placed in the banks for the development of a community.

The importance of saving was stressed by the speaker. Every boy and girl should save and have a savings account in some bank, he said. Mr. McIntyre warned against drawing checks upon a bank when one had no account in such bank. That is drawing bogus checks.

Banks must be managed by capable and honest persons. The banking business is one of the cleanest, nicest businesses on can engage in. The banks offer good positions to both boys and girls, but one must be well prepared to enter upon these duties.

Mr. M. F. Cobb, cashier of the National Bank of Lumberton, was present.

Prof. J. W. R. Norton, principal of the Lumberton high school, also made some remarks relative to banks and what they are for. Mr. Robert Weinstein had charge of the exercises. Devotional exercises were conducted by Prof. Norton, while several appropriate songs were sung by the pupils of the school.

Mr. H. B. Jennings, local cotton mill man, will talk on cotton mills at the chapel exercises next Friday morning and Mr. S. F. Caldwell has been asked to represent the merchants of the town the following Friday.

Another Conference to Rewrite Laws For Submarines.

Washington, Jan. 27.—(By the Associated Press.)—The ground work for another international conference, to rewrite the laws of war for the submarine and other new agencies of attack on land and sea, was completed today by the armament delegates. Under a resolution adopted by the armament committee, preparations for the new conference will begin immediately upon conclusion of the Washington negotiations. The United States, Great Britain, Japan, France and Italy will be represented and the American government will select the exact time and place of meeting.

Ben Alford, Negro, Wanted by Officers, Killed by Train.

Negro, identified as Ben Alford, was killed last night by an A. C. L. train, near Pembroke, according to news reaching Lumberton. Alford had been evading the officers of Robeson for several months, being charged with robbing freight cars and also with being implicated in the shooting of Mr. Lacy Prevatt at Buie several months ago. His body was badly mangled, it is said. No inquest has been held over the remains.

Miss G. McMillan of Red Springs on U. N. C. Honor Roll.

The name of Miss G. McMillan of Red Springs, Robeson county, appears upon the honor roll announced by the registrar of the university of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Thursday. A total of 130 names was included on the list of students averaging the grade of 90 or more for the fall term.

St. Pauls News Letter

Miss Ethel Harris Becomes Wife of Mr. Edwin L. McDonald—Some Business Changes—Junior C. E. Society Organized—Waterworks Being Put In—Rumor of New Drug Store—Personal and Other Items.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

St. Pauls, Jan. 27.—"On Tuesday morn to us were sent little snow flakes that came and went. Sleet peppered down for quite a while, but soon retreated behind a smile. The cunning old snow, crept back Thursday night and now the ground is an awful sight."

The home of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Harris was the scene of a pretty but very impressive marriage when on last Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock their attractive young daughter, Miss Ethel, was joined in matrimony to Mr. Edwin L. McDonald. Mr. McDonald is a son of Mr. and Mrs. A. I. McDonald of our town. Quite a number of friends and relatives of the contracting parties gathered at the home to witness the marriage. Rev. J. M. Page was the officiating clergyman who spoke the words that made "two young hearts beat as one."

After the ceremony the happy couple left for Charlotte and other points of interest. Their numerous friends wish for them a life of prosperity and happiness. Their home will be St. Pauls.

Rev. McLean McGeachy and family arrived last Saturday night. Their second little son, Henry Newton arrived since their last visit here. He is a fine little chap of some 2 or 3 months. Mr. McGeachy's work at Whiteville does not begin until about the 1st of February. He has been asked to fill the pulpit for Dr. Murry here on next Sunday a. m. the 29th. They will possibly be here until some time next week.

Messrs. W. A. McCormac and Nance have opened up a new grocery business in a partition of the St. Paul Supply Co. store. Mr. Lee Terry recently bought out Mr. Ratley's stock of goods.

Sunday, the 29th being the 5th Sunday, union services will be held in the Presbyterian church, Rev. J. M. Page, Baptist minister, to preach.

Elizabeth, a beautiful and attractive little girl of about 5 years old, has been in the home of Mrs. L. Shaw for 2 months. By her happy, cheerful disposition she has earned the nick-name of "Sunshine," which well suits her, for she is really a bit of sunshine in the home and to every one with whom she comes in contact. We hope she is with us permanently.

About \$45.00 was realized at the oyster supper here on last Friday evening, the 20th, proceeds to supportment deficiency in paying members of the Lyceum course.

Mr. J. Worth Williamson is with the Grantham Drug Co., again. Mr. Joe Sugar recently bought out Mr. Gordon's stock of goods. Mr. Stanley Harris who has been with Mr. Sugar for some years now, has charge of this business for Mr. Sugar. Mr. Gordon is leaving town this week.

Miss Mary L. Johnson, who was home on a 2 week's vacation, returned to the Baker sanatorium last Sunday night. A Mrs. Williams who spent the afternoon in the Johnson home here, also returned to Lumberton as Miss Johnson did.

A Junior Christian Endeavor society was organized last Sunday eve. Quite a number were enrolled. This will include a bunch of the smaller boys and girls of the town.

Miss Kate McFayden of near Raeford, came over to our little town Saturday eve to be present at the Harris-McDonald marriage the following afternoon.

Quite a number from here attended the funeral and burial of Mr. Gilbert B. Patterson on last Sunday afternoon. Mr. Patterson was widely known all over the county and will be sadly missed. He was a schoolmate of one of our townsmen, Mr. A. R. McEachern, in their boyhood days, and their friendship ties were never severed thro' life. Among those from here who attended the funeral were Messrs. McEachern, Jas. A. and W. D. Johnson, L. A. McGeachy, Sam Davis, Dr. J. F. Nash, Jim Butler, Hamp Tyson, Dolf Howard, Duncan McEachern, and possibly others.

Mr. T. K. Cobb whom we spoke of last week as being in a hospital in Fayetteville, was able to return home Wednesday p. m. Seems to be getting on nicely. His many friends are very glad indeed to have him home again, after an absence of some few weeks.

A Mr. Blue and daughter, Miss Ada, of Hoke county, have recently moved into town.

Mr. W. M. Lindsay, chief of police, has decided to remain with us another year. He and family, who have been residing on Armfield street, are planning to move into a dwelling on Main street next to Mr. W. D. Johnson's residence.

Mrs. J. M. Butler returned home a couple of weeks ago, from Highsmith hospital, Fayetteville, where she underwent an operation sometime ago. Her many friends are glad to have her with them again.

Notwithstanding the financial depression, we are glad St. Pauls is able to put in waterworks, which is

COTTON MARKET

Middling cotton is quoted on the local market today at 14 3-4 cents the pound.

BRIEF ITEMS AND LOCAL NEWS

—Born, Saturday, to Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Paris, a 9-pound daughter.

—Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Gooden and their four children moved recently to the Jennings cotton mill village from Chadboron.

—Robeson chapter, U. D. C., will meet with Mrs. Stephen McIntyre Thursday afternoon of this week at 8:30 o'clock.

—The Woman's Missionary society of Chestnut Street Methodist church will meet at the church Wednesday at 8:30 p. m.

—Watch your label. All subscriptions are stopped when they expire. Send in your renewal in time to avoid missing a copy.

—The condition of Mr. A. Weinstein, who has been confined to his room a week, is reported as very much improved today.

—Mr. O. O. Dukes, county farm demonstrator, returned yesterday from Raleigh, where last week he attended a conference of farm demonstration agents.

—The condition of Miss Neva Gaddy of R. 1, Fairmont, who Friday underwent an operation at the Thompson hospital for appendicitis, is reported as very favorable.

—Maxton Scottish Chief: Mr. A. J. McKinnon returned from Spartanburg, S. C., Wednesday night, very much improved, and the chances are he will completely recover from his recent serious illness.

—A new metal filing system has been installed in the office of Register of Deeds M. W. Floyd. The new system was made necessary by the increased number of record books to be filed in that office.

—A Dodge touring car driven by Mr. Andrew Shepherd and an Overland driven by Frank Roberts, colored, collided at the intersection of Fourth and Elm streets late Saturday afternoon. Very little damage resulted.

Record of Deaths

Mrs. Pink Smith of Howellsville Died Suddenly Saturday Night.

Mrs. Frances Elizabeth Smith, wife of Mr. Pink Smith, died Saturday night at her home in Howellsville township. Deceased was 41 years old and was only sick a few minutes. Her husband and 5 children survive. The funeral was conducted yesterday at 4 p. m. by Rev. W. J. Dubois of Lumberton and interment made in the family cemetery.

Mrs. Smith was apparently well when she put the children to bed. A little later she became suddenly sick and died in about 10 minutes.

Mr. John Q. Flowers Died Suddenly Thursday About Twenty Minutes After Reaching State Hospital in Raleigh—Remains Taken to Home in Howellsville Township Saturday.

The remains of Mr. John Q. Flowers, who died suddenly at the State hospital, Raleigh, Thursday afternoon, arrived here Saturday and were taken to the home in Howellsville township. Deceased had been in ill health for several months and his mind was unbalanced. He was carried to the State hospital Thursday and died in about 20 minutes after reaching the hospital, according to information reaching Lumberton. He was taken to Raleigh by Mr. Ed. McLean of Lumberton, making a cross-country trip. Deceased was about 62 years old and is survived by his widow.

Miss Elizabeth Belch of Allenton.

Miss Elizabeth Belch, aged 85 years, died Friday morning at her home at Allenton, death resulting from the infirmities of old age. Deceased was never married. The funeral was conducted Saturday at 11 a. m. from Antioch Baptist church, of which deceased was a member. Rev. A. E. Paul, pastor of the deceased, conducted the funeral. Interment was made in the Belch cemetery.

Columbus Durham Todd, Infant.

Columbus Durham, 3-weeks-old son of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Todd of the Bellamy section, died Saturday night of colitis.

Misses Nellie Hamilton of Marietta and Mildred Griffin of Cerro Gordo returned last evening to Carolina college, Maxton, where they are students after spending the week-end with home folks.

Mrs. Tom Walters and Steb McLellan of the Barnesville section are among the visitors in town today.

now being attached to the homes.

To the Acme Manufacturing Co., Wilmington, we are indebted for a pretty 1922 calendar—"The Silvery path of dreams."

"Madam" Rumor says we are to have another drug-store ere long. We shall tell you more about it when we hear more definitely.