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THE ROBESONIAN

ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DISCONTINUED WHEN THEY EXPIRE WATCH YOUR LABEL.

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LUMBERTON, N. C., MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1922.

COUNTRY, GOD AND TRUTH.

ESTABLISHED 1876. PRICE FIVE CENTS. \$3.00 A YEAR, DUE IN ADVANCE.

Liberal Contributions For Orphans

Collections at First Baptist, Chestnut Street Methodist and Trinity Episcopal amounted to \$1,249.72—Presbyterian Collection Will be Reported Later—Gospel Tabernacle Collection for Missionary.

Liberal Thanksgiving contributions were made to the various denominational orphanages by the churches and Sunday schools of Lumberton. Services were held in all the churches Thursday, when collections were taken, and some of the Sunday schools took additional collections yesterday.

Orphanage contributions Thursday and yesterday at the First Baptist, Chestnut Street Methodist and Trinity Episcopal amounted to \$1,249.72, as follows:

First Baptist for Thomasville orphanage: Thursday, \$620, Sunday school yesterday, \$333.32, total \$953.32; Chestnut Street Methodist, orphanage at Raleigh: Thursday, \$94.71, Sunday school, \$166.37, total \$261.08, all included as Sunday school contribution; Trinity Episcopal, Thompson orphanage at Charlotte, Thursday, \$35.32 (the local church of this denomination has only 12 members).

The collection Thursday at the Gospel Tabernacle, amounting to \$118, goes to Rev. W. H. Oldfield, whom this church supports as a missionary in China.

Collection was taken at the Presbyterian church for the Barium Springs orphanage but it has not been completed and will be reported later.

NEAR-SERIOUS AUTO ACCIDENT

Dr. E. C. Hodgkin's Auto Sideswiped by Ford Which Was Bound to Get Ahead, Spite'n.

Left fenders and running board on the Studebaker car of Dr. E. C. Hodgkin of Lumberton were bent and damaged yesterday afternoon when the car was sideswiped by a Ford car driven by Walter Locklear, who lives near Antioch, Hoke county. The accident took place on the Red Springs road between Barker's cut and Raft Swamp church, about 5 miles from Lumberton, when Locklear forced his car ahead of a car driven by Mr. J. W. Long, superintendent of the National cotton mills, who was trying to get by Dr. Hodgkin's car before letting the other car ahead. Dr. Hodgkin saw what the driver in front of him was trying to do and stopped his car dead still as far on the right side of the road as it could go, this no doubt saving his car from greater injury. In the car with Dr. Hodgkin were Mrs. Hodgkin and their child, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank McMillan of Lumberton.

Locklear promised to come to Lumberton this morning by 10 o'clock to adjust the matter, but he failed to keep the engagement.

Mr. Walker Hodge's Left Leg Broken in Two Places in Runaway

Mr. Walker Hodge of the Bloomingdale section had his left leg broken in two places, one below and one above the knee, Friday afternoon when a team of mules ran away with him. Mr. Hodge was brought to the Baker sanatorium soon after he was hurt and his condition is reported as favorable today. He was hauling corn from the field to the barn when the mules ran, throwing him from the front of the wagon.

Two Negroes Escape from Chain Gang

Sidney Shaw and George Davis, negroes, escaped from the county chain gang, now working near Proctorville, late Friday afternoon. The negroes jumped off a truck while being taken from their work to the camp and escaped into the woods. Bloodhounds were placed on their trail Saturday, but they have not been captured. One of the negroes was serving a 7-year and the other a 5-year term.

More Tobacco, Less Cotton

Judging from general talk among the farmers the 1923 tobacco acreage in Robeson county will be larger than that of 1922, while the cotton acreage will be reduced. The fact that boll weevils have not learned to chew tobacco is the reason given for the change.

Fayetteville, Dec. 1.—Edmund Middleton Rhett, local cotton buyer and member of a well known Charleston, S. C., family, died in a hospital here at 4:30 o'clock this morning from injuries sustained four hours earlier when an automobile belonging to Alexander Newton, of this city, struck a sandpile in the Raleigh-Fayetteville highway, three miles north of this place, and skidded into a telegraph pole. Rhett was thrown clear of the car and suffered internal injuries.

Worst Fire in History of New Bern

500 Residences and Business Houses Destroyed and 1,800 Persons Rendered Homeless—Loss Over Two Million Dollars—Fire Swept 8 Blocks from One to Five Blocks Wide.

As Associated Press dispatch gives the following:

New Bern, Dec. 1.—An army of grimy chimneys, standing as grim sentinels amidst an area of smoldering ruins which extends for half a mile from the western boundary of the city to Neuse river, tonight, marked the course of New Bern's two million dollar fire, the worst in the city's history.

When interviewed at 10:30 o'clock tonight Mayor Clark stated that so far as he could judge, five hundred residences and business houses had been totally destroyed, approximately 1,800 persons were homeless and the total fire loss for the day, including Roper Lumber Company's mills, was in excess of \$2,000,000.

The fire was completely under control at midnight tonight.

The war devastated towns of Belgium and France hardly presented a more pitiable spectacle of complete destruction than that section of New Bern tonight which was swept by fire throughout the entire day.

Over an area of a mile or more in length and from two to five blocks in width nothing remains but row after row of ghostly chimneys, standing as vigils in the midst of charred timbers, which almost completely cover the ground.

Not a single piece of framework remains in an upright position. Everything in the path of the terrific fire was swept before it. It is a grim and pathetic spectacle.

Scores of families late tonight were wandering among the ruins looking for the site of their former homes, trying to see whether the fire god had overlooked anything.

Women and children were crying and men gazed at the ruins with hopeless and sullen expressions upon their faces. In several places the charred timbers still burned and the homeless people gathered about these seeking warmth from the cold which was beginning to make itself felt. In spite of the fact that both whites and blacks had been informed that sleeping quarters would be provided for them, many apparently paid no heed; they seemed too stunned to think of anything but their homes and household goods which had been taken away from them by the roaring, crackling fire which spread terror throughout the city for more than nine hours today.

In one of the empty fertilizer warehouses are huddled from two to three hundred negro men, women and children. Several of the women sit with infants hugged tightly to their breasts. Here and there a child sleeps, but for the most part every one is wide awake and talking in low tones of the great toll exacted by the conflagration. Many of them have nothing left except a few articles they managed to save before the fire was upon them.

Other fire victims are being housed tonight in some of the churches, and halls of the community. The white, for the most part, have been taken into the homes of their more fortunate neighbors and friends.

With the coming of dawn tomorrow, New Bern will begin to take stock of the damage done. Estimates of the total loss vary but in the opinion of some city officials it will be in excess of \$2,000,000.

New Bern was thunder-struck this morning at 8:30 o'clock when the hoarse notes of the city's fire whistle told the residents of the burning of the Roper Lumber company's mill. This concern, leased by the Rowland Lumber company, suffered a quarter of a million dollar fire and threw more than 300 local men out of work. While the flames were still raging at the mill an alarm was turned in from the western sections of the city, where the fire had started in the negro district, and which soon caused everyone to forget the conflagration at the Rowland mill. While their services were required at the lumber yards firemen were unable to respond to the new alarm, and it was not until half an hour later that they rushed to the spot.

By that time five houses were in ruins. The roaring flames, sped on their way by high winds of almost gale force, crashed through house after house, gaining impetus in their advance, which sent them leaping through the roofs of dozens of structures simultaneously. Frantic negroes assisted by hundreds of volunteers hastily removed their household furniture to places of safety.

As the fire gained headway, how-

(Continued on page four.)

FOUND STOLEN CAR IN SWAMP

Mr. Steadman McCormick Found a New Ford Near St. Pauls While 'Possum Hunting Friday Night and Got \$25 Reward from B. C. McIntyre of Laurinburg—Casper Seasons Charged With Theft.

By 'Phone to The Robesonian.

St. Pauls, Dec. 4.—While 'possum hunting Friday night Mr. Steadman McCormick of St. Pauls found a new Ford touring car in a swamp near this place. It proved to be a profitable 'possum hunt, for it developed that the car belongs to Mr. B. C. McIntyre, an R. F. D. carrier of Laurinburg, who paid a reward of \$25 to Mr. McCormick.

Casper Seasons of St. Pauls was arrested on the charge of stealing the car and placed in the town lock-up. He will be tried today.

LUMBERTON HIGHS WIN IN FIRST FOOTBALL VENTURE

Defeated Raeford Highs 12 to 7 in Hard-Fought Game on Local Grounds Friday—Plenty of Good Material.

Reported for The Robesonian.

The Lumberton high school football team won a hard-fought game by a score of 12 to 7 when they defeated Raeford high on the local athletic field last Friday afternoon. The game was clean throughout, with a few exceptions, and these exceptions were due rather to a lack of knowledge of the game than any intention on the part of the participants. From the very start the Lumberton high realized that they were up against a superior team, but due to hard fighting and a winning spirit they managed to leave the field as victors. The stars of the conflict were Prevatt and Floyd of the locals, who made victory possible by their line plunges and end runs.

This is the first game ever played by the Lumberton high school team, and considering the amount of coaching they have received they played remarkably well. There is plenty of good material for a team next year and the prospects are that Lumberton high will enter the State contests.

GROUP FORMED TO PROMOTE PROGRESSIVE LEGISLATION

Progressives, Republicans and Democrats Form Another Unofficial "Bloc" in Congress.

Washington, Dec. 1.—Another unofficial "bloc" in Congress was born today when progressives, Republicans and Democrats, called into session by Senator La Follette, Republican, Wisconsin, and Representative Hudleston, Democrat, Alabama, formed a progressive group for promotion of progressive legislation during the present and the next Congress.

About 40 senators, representatives and members-elect, meeting behind closed doors in the senate agriculture committee room, adopted resolutions, unanimously declaring their purpose "to drive special privilege out of control of government" and outlining a general program of liberal legislation.

Politics was declared to be banned and it was announced officially that no third party movement was contemplated. Republicans, Democrats, and farmer-laborite joined in the conference, which was declared to be bi-partisan and legislative, but not political.

Superior Court Convened This Morning

Superior court for the trial of civil cases convened today at noon with Judge W. M. Bond of Edenton presiding. This is a two-weeks' term.

NEW PAVING IS DAMAGED BY USING TOO SOON

To Citizens of the Town of Lumberton:

I regret very much that it is necessary to call attention to the apparent wilful manner in which some people of the town continue to walk and drive over the new paving which is being laid before it is opened to traffic by the engineer. The town as a whole pays for a part of this paving and the property owners pay the remainder, and everyone should be considerate enough not to walk or drive over this new work until it is opened to the public. Much damage is done that may not be detected for quite a while. I hope that the citizens of the town will assist the officials in preventing this unnecessary damage.

E. M. JOHNSON, Mayor.

St. Pauls News

Thanksgiving Observed—Two Marriages, Miss Jennie Inman and Mr. Henry Crenshaw, Miss Addie Brock and Mr. Lary Brock—Christian Endeavor Socials—Personal Mention.

By Bea G. Johnson

St. Pauls, Dec. 1.—Thanksgiving passed off very nicely, seemed almost like Sunday except now and then for the sound of a gun. Ideal weather for hunters. Several of the sportsmen enjoyed good hunts. Whether successful or not, guess they enjoyed the little outing, if nothing else.

A good many of the young folks came home to enjoy the holidays of Thanksgiving with the "old folks" at their different homes, which of course made the day seem all the more pleasant. Among these we note Mr. Dawson Northrop, Davidson college, who is spending the week-end with his mother, Mrs. T. L. Northrop; Mr. Paul Caudell, Wake Forest, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Caudell; Miss Clara McDonald, who is teaching at Sunny Side, near Fayetteville, who came home for the few days holidays to the delight of her friends as well as parents. Misses Sallie King and Elva Harrington are also in town.

Miss King is a member of the faculty in a school at Greensboro, while Miss Harrington is teaching at Gibson. Misses Margaret and Catherine Ayres, boarding students of the local high school, are spending the holidays with their people, who reside near Nichols, S. C. Those young ladies board in the home of Mrs. Joseph Evans, Fayetteville street, and are related in some way to the late Mr. Oliver's people.

The local schools were all suspended on Wednesday until Monday. Services were held in the different churches, and practically all the stores were closed yesterday in observance of the day.

Two marriages were "pulled off," one just before the season got here, while the other took place on Thanksgiving afternoon. On Tuesday, 28th, Mr. Henry Crenshaw and Miss Jennie L. Inman motored over to Fayetteville and were joined in happy wedlock.

Mr. Crenshaw is a son of Mr. J. S. Crenshaw, who resides near town. The bride also resided near by. The little romance began some months ago. Both have the best felicitations from their many friends, for a life of much sunshine and bliss.

On the eve of the 30th, ere the happy season left us, a little surprise marriage took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Brock when their oldest daughter, Miss Addie, was united in marriage to Mr. Lary Brock of Goldsboro. The marriage, which was a very quiet one, was witnessed by the immediate family at 4 o'clock. The bride's pastor, Dr. E. C. Murray, spoke the words which pronounced them husband and wife. Mr. Frank Brock and family came over for the marriage, Mr. Frank being a brother of the bride. They have the best wishes of their friends for a happy married life.

Since we began this we recall 3 others who are home for the Thanksgiving holidays, viz., Messrs. Charlie and Alton Bowen, students at Chapel Hill, and Mr. Robt. McDonald.

Last week-end Miss Louise Steele, Murphy Hall and Maisie Guiton were home. Miss Guiton is in training at Pittman hospital, Fayetteville. Miss Steele teaching in the Massey Hill school at Fayetteville and taking violin lessons at the conservatory, where she hopes to graduate within the next few months, while Miss Murphy Hall is pursuing her studies at F. M. C.

Dr. and Mrs. R. G. Rozier were away part of last week. Mrs. Rozier visited her people at Lillington, while Dr. Rozier went over to Wake Forest, to a meeting of some kind. Mrs. Rozier and little daughter went over to Charlotte on Wednesday, the 29th.

Mrs. J. C. Lindsay and 3 children, Mary, Gene and Calvin, Jr., spent Thanksgiving among the Lindsay relatives at Rockfish, returning in the afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Newton also spent the day with his people, who reside near the city of Fayetteville.

Mrs. Baggett, who was reported so ill in our last letter, was seemingly better yesterday, we were glad to note. Mrs. L. L. McGoogan, who was recently operated on at a hospital in Charlotte was reported as getting on fine, her many friends are delighted to know. The McGoogan children are over in our neighbor town, Lumberton, for a few days, guests in the home of their aunt Mrs. E. Lewis. Will possibly return Sunday.

Mrs. E. C. Murray will entertain the members of the Senior Christian Endeavor at a social which will be given tonight at the Presbyterian manse, where she resides. Quite a nice time is anticipated.

There is talk of the Juniors being (Continued on Page 5)

Mr. J. A. Small's Unlucky Few Days

Burning of His Residence and Its Contents Followed Hard Upon an Auto Accident—Young Negro Charged With Breaking Into Store—Residence Destroyed by Fire—Other Items.

By H. V. Brown

Fairmont, Dec. 4.—The past few days have been more or less unfortunate for one J. Albert Small, who lives on route No. 1 from Fairmont. Several days ago Mr. Small was one of the victims of a serious auto accident in the town of Lumberton, account of which was made in last Thursday's Robesonian. Mr. Small will be tried in Lumberton Saturday, December 9th, on charges of reckless driving. Last Friday morning misfortune again fell upon Mr. Small. He arose rather early, made fires in the bedroom and kitchen of his home and went to the lot to feed and milk.

After a short time he looked back toward the house to find the top of it practically enveloped in flames. The fire had gained such headway that very little was saved from the burning building. It as been learned that Mr. Small had a small amount of insurance on the building and contents.

The second of a series of Lyceum attractions was given in the Jones Hall last Friday night and witnessed by a good house which has left the conviction that the show was good and thoroughly enjoyed. The first attraction held here some few weeks ago was exceptionally good and the others to follow are reported as being of high class entertainment.

An oyster supper was held in the E. G. Floyd & Co. building last Saturday night. The proceeds from the supper were used for the benefit of the newly-organized parent-teacher's association. A rather neat sum was realized.

Charged With Store Breaking

A case of store breaking was tried before Recorder Floyd Friday night, the first of its kind in Fairmont for a long time. The defendant was one Charlie Jones, a young man of color. Evidence showed that the defendant was caught red-handed coming out of the store of G. W. Turner & Son and running at a very rapid gait when discovered. He was traced to a house occupied by negroes in town, and found without shoes and cap, which he left at the store from which he departed so hastily. He had not had time to steal anything of importance but Recorder Floyd bound him over to next term of criminal court under a bond which he was unable to give, consequently he went to jail in Lumberton to await the next term of Superior court.

Among those from Fairmont attending the N. C. State-Maryland football game in Raleigh Thanksgiving were Messrs. W. R. Taylor, H. H. Benson and R. L. Thompson.

Two Fires

Saturday night, November 25th, at 11:25 the siren fire whistle again disturbed the people of the town. A small blaze had been discovered on the side of the new bungalow of Mr. C. S. Bounds; on North Main street. The cause of the fire was attributed to defective chimney, which was enclosed. Buckets and garden hose soon extinguished the blaze with practically no damage to the building.

Last Tuesday afternoon the residence belonging to Mr. J. G. Regan was totally destroyed by fire, which started from a defective flue. The location of the residence, which was the extreme southern part of town, was such that the town's water could not be used. Practically all the furniture and household goods were saved from the burning building. The loss was partially covered by insurance.

A nice trip to Rev. W. F. Trawick's home was made one night last week by members of the Methodist church, or at least perhaps he thinks so, as a large pounding was held for his benefit.

Mr. J. Paul Lewis, local checker champion, returned last Saturday night from Charlotte, where he attended the State championship tournament, which was held there Thanksgiving. The tournament was not completed. Mr. Lewis and Mr. Howard McNair, who also attended the tournament, made splendid showings on the score board. The definite decision of the champion will be made July 4th next.

Miss Lillian Cook of Winston-Salem spent the week-end here visiting at the home of Prof. and Mrs. W. B. Crumpton, East Seventh street.

Mr. E. V. Freeman of Richardson was a Lumberton visitor Saturday.

Cotton Market

Reported by J. H. Barrington

Middling cotton is quoted on the local market today at 24 1-2 cents the pound; strict middling 25 cents.

Items of Local News

—Regular communication St. Albans lodge No. 114, A. F. and A. M., Tuesday evening at 7:30. Work in first degree.

—Mr. J. T. McIntyre, who lives on East Eighth street, had a "mess" of second-crop home-grown squash on November 16.

—Miss Essie Smith and Mr. Jack Allen were married in the court house late Saturday afternoon. Justice S. S. Small officiated.

—County and township officers elected at the November election were sworn in by Mr. C. R. Skipper, clerk of the Superior court, this morning.

—Mr. G. Badger McLeod, who underwent a minor operation at the Baker sanatorium 3 weeks ago, was able to resume his duties at Grantham Brothers drug store Friday.

—License has been issued for the marriage of Miss Addie Brock and Larry Brock; Miss Mary J. Patterson and Elliott D. Smith; Maude Singletary and David Ray Hall.

—Mr. J. P. Russell conducted a laymen's service at the Rowland Presbyterian church yesterday at 11 a. m. The pastor was away and asked Mr. Russell to conduct the service.

—Farmers generally are disking and breaking their lands, preparatory for another crop. Early harvesting of the cotton crop made this preparation during the fall months possible.

—A red, white and black snake is the latest addition to the Lumberton zoo. The snake was "arrested" in the Simmons bay, in Brunswick county, Friday by Mr. E. L. Whaley. The snake is around two feet in length, and is said to be non-poisonous.

—Miss Emma Patterson of Fayetteville went yesterday to Charlotte, where she entered the Charlotte sanatorium for treatment. She was accompanied to Charlotte by her sister, Miss Theresa Patterson of Lumberton, who returned home last evening.

—Mr. C. H. Taylor of Danville, Va., spent Friday in Lumberton. Mr. Taylor is a member of the firm which operated the Star tobacco sales warehouse here last season. The same warehouse has been leased by Mr. Taylor and his associates for the 1923 season.

—Miss Ruth McEwen, teacher of English in the Lumberton high school, who has been undergoing treatment in Richmond, Va., for the last 4 weeks, is expected to return to her duties here Monday of next week. Miss Hazel Carlyle is teaching Miss McEwen's class.

—Miss Eva Oglesby, seventh-grade teacher in the Lumberton schools, was taken ill while attending the Teachers' assembly in Raleigh and went to her home at Harrisburg, Mecklenburg county. Miss Evelina Beckwith is supplying for Miss Oglesby while she is away.

—A near-serious auto accident occurred four miles from town on the Pembroke road about 7 o'clock Thursday evening when two Ford cars collided. The cars were driven by Mr. Charlie Smith and a Mr. Pridgen. Miss Ruby Phillips and Mr. Neill Farrior, both occupants of the car driven by Mr. Smith, received minor bruises. Miss Phillips was taken to the Baker sanatorium, where she remained until Friday night. Both cars were damaged considerably.

In the state-wide spelling contest held under the auspices of the North Carolina Teachers' assembly at Raleigh last Wednesday, Elizabeth Wishart of Lumberton is mentioned in the Raleigh News and Observer as among the six who registered 99 per cent. with the first list of 100 words and stayed for the second round. "Architecture" was the only word of the first hundred she missed. Miss Marie Wishart of Lumberton was the other representative from Robeson county. The names of the successful contestants are given elsewhere in this paper.

Maccabees Elect Officers

The following officers were elected by Lumbee tent No. 18, Maccabees, at the regular review Friday evening: J. T. Penny, past-commander; F. Grover Britt, commander; Hayes Pittman, lieutenant commander; L. M. McKenzie, record-keeper; Rossie B. Britt, sergeant; J. O. Horn, first master guard; F. P. Bodenheimer, second master guard; Dr. J. A. Martin, physician; Jno. W. Long, chaplain; Alex Sessoms, master at arms; J. F. Alexander, sentinel; R. L. Spivey, picket.

The first, second and third degrees were conferred upon three new members Friday evening and several others have recently applied for membership in the local tent.