

SIX HUNDRED LOOM WEAVE MILL TO BE ADDED TO LUMBERTON'S MILLS

Mansfield Mills Company, New Million Dollar Corporation, Will Absorb Lumberton and Dresden Cotton Mills Companies.

NEW MILL WILL BE ERECTED BETWEEN LUMBERTON AND DRESDEN YARN MILLS.

Plans Will Be Drawn in Near Future—Lumberton Already Has Four Large Yarn Mills—Directors and Officers of Lumberton, Dresden and Jennings Mills Re-elected.

Work will be begun within the next sixty days upon a 600-loom weave mill in East Lumberton. This new mill will be erected by the Mansfield Mills company of Lumberton, which was recently organized with an authorized capital of \$1,000,000. The stockholders of the Lumberton and Dresden Cotton Mill companies at their annual meeting yesterday voted to merge the two corporations and the old mills will be taken over by the Mansfield Mills Co.

The new mill will be erected on a vacant lot between the Lumberton and Dresden mills in East Lumberton and will cost approximately \$450,000. Plans for the new mill will be drawn up at an early date. Lumberton already has four large yarn mills—Lumberton, Dresden, Jennings and National—and the new mill will bring the total number of cotton manufacturing plants to five.

Directors Re-elected.

All the old directors of the Lumberton, Dresden and Jennings mills were re-elected by the stockholders at their annual meeting held here yesterday. Mr. Jas. D. Proctor was added to the board of directors of the Jennings mill. At a meeting of the directors of the three mills, following the meeting of the stockholders, all the old officers were re-elected. These officers are: H. B. Jennings, president, treasurer and general manager; F. P. Gray, secretary and assistant treasurer; A. M. Hartley, cashier; A. W. McLean, vice-president of the Lumberton and Dresden mills; A. E. White, vice-president of the Jennings mill. The usual quarterly dividend was declared by the directors of the three mills.

Ninety per cent. of the stockholders of the Lumberton and Dresden mills were present at the meeting yesterday and these voted unanimously in favor of the merger of the two mills and the erection of the new weave mill.

The erection of the new mill will add much to the business life of Lumberton.

FEBRUARY SUPERIOR COURT TO BE CRIMINAL TERM

An act has been passed by the Legislature changing the term of Robeson Superior court for the trial of civil cases set for the week beginning Monday, February 5, to a criminal term. A week's term of criminal court will convene on Monday, January 29, and this change provides for a two weeks' term of criminal court. This change was made in order that the docket might be cleared during the term. Judge W. A. Devin of Oxford will preside.

Postoffice Back in Former Quarters.

The Lumberton postoffice was moved yesterday from the third floor of the cotton mill office building back to the old quarters in the McLean building, South Elm street. The postoffice was moved to the temporary quarters on December 21, last, as a result of damage to the McLean building by fire and water early on the morning of December 21. While the moving of the fixtures interfered somewhat with the service at the office yesterday, the boxes and other fixtures have now been arranged and the usual service may be expected in the future.

Collector for Tobacco Co-ops Will be at Fairmont January 20.

The collector for the Co-operative Tobacco Growers association will be at the Co-operative warehouse in Fairmont Saturday of this week at 10 a. m. for the purpose of collecting or adjusting liquidating damages due from contract-breakers. Those who were notified from the Richmond office to meet the adjuster in Lumberton on January 11 and failed to do so should see him at Fairmont Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Osar M. Israel returned Monday night from Birmingham, Ala., where they spent two weeks visiting relatives.

4 Indians Held for Killing Indian

Fatal Shooting of Robt. Wilkins Christmas Night is Laid at Door of Four Men Who Will Answer to Superior Court—Lucky Defendant Found Guilty on 5 Counts but Escapes With a Hope-So.

Walter and Clarence Oxendine, Dock Wilkins and Proctor Locklear, all Indians, were bound over to Superior court Monday by Recorder W. B. Ivey on the charge of shooting and killing and aiding and abetting in the killing of Robert Wilkins, another Indian, on Christmas night. Proctor Locklear and Walter Oxendine were placed under a \$500 bond each, while the other two defendants were placed under a \$200 bond each. All the defendants made bond.

According to the evidence, Robert Wilkins was shot at the home of Donnie Locklear. Proctor Locklear admits firing the shot that resulted in the death of Wilkins, after he had been dragged from the home of Donnie Locklear by the three other defendants, who were accompanied by the deceased. He claims self-defense.

Proctor Locklear was found guilty of carrying a concealed weapon and was sentenced to 12 months on the roads. He gave notice of appeal and made bond.

Dock Wilkins, Clarence and Walter Oxendine were found not guilty of the charge of conspiring to assault Proctor Locklear.

Walter Oxendine was charged with pointing a pistol. Recorder Ivey rendered a special verdict of not guilty and the solicitor appealed from the verdict. Oxendine was found guilty of carrying a concealed weapon and was sentenced to 12 months on the roads. He gave notice of appeal and made bond in the sum of \$500.

Jesse Sellers was found guilty of five charges—assault with a pistol upon Jap Bass, trespass, firing pistol at Jap Bass, assault upon Stephen Bass and appearing upon the public highway in a drunken condition. Prayer for judgment was continued for two years upon condition that the defendant pay Jap Bass \$25, the cost in each case, and make bond in the sum of \$500 to show good behavior and not to violate any of the prohibition laws.

Pete Humphrey, colored, was found guilty of allowing his hogs to run at large, judgment being suspended upon payment of cost.

Chas. Morris, colored, assault upon Elizabeth McPhatter; judgment suspended upon payment of cost.

Bob Williams, drunk; judgment suspended upon payment of cost.

J. B. Johnson, violating cattle quarantine law; not guilty.

Bob and Frank Brown, assault upon Mrs. John Burney; judgment suspended upon payment of cost.

Prince Currie and Enoch, Rozier, both colored, disposing of mortgaged property, conspiracy to defraud and defrauding; not guilty.

Public Library to Be Memorial to World War Dead

Legion Committee Will Co-operate With Public Library Committee.

A committee recently appointed by the Lumberton post of the American Legion to look into the matter of erecting a suitable memorial in honor of the Robeson soldiers who lost their lives in the World War met last evening and decided to co-operate with the public library committee. The plan is to erect the memorial in connection with a public library building, which it is planned to erect here at an early date. The Legion committee, which is composed of J. Dickson McLean, chairman, W. B. Ivey, David H. Fuller and Dr. R. S. Beam, will meet with the committee in charge of the plans for the erection of the public library building when such a meeting can be arranged.

MCLEAN'S LAND BANK HAS LOANED MILLIONS TO FARMERS

Mr. A. W. McLean returned Tuesday night from Raleigh, where Monday he attended the annual meeting of the Atlantic Stock Land Bank, of which he is president. This bank was organized last July and began making loans four months ago. It has already made loans to farmers totaling \$2,000,000 and now has pending loans totaling \$8,000,000. The bank has made loans averaging \$500,000 each month since it began loaning money upon farm lands. Mr. McLean is well pleased with the workings of the new banking institution, which he heads.

Move to Elect Robeson Schools Supt.

Committee Approves McKinnon-Cobb Bill to Elect Board of Education and Superintendent of Schools—Qualified Verdicts Also Approved.

Representatives McKinnon and Cobb of Robeson offered in the House of the General Assembly yesterday the following bills:

To provide for election of county superintendent of schools in Robeson and to fix fees of sheriff of Robeson for serving civil processes.

Today's News and Observer gives the following:

"House Judiciary and Education committees turned their backs upon precedent and established order yesterday afternoon when the former gave favorable report to the Gaston-Erwin bill giving juries authority to return qualified verdicts in capital cases and the latter broke down the customs of twenty years and reported favorably the McKinnon bill providing for the popular election of the Robeson county board of education and the county superintendent of education."

"Concurrence by the House and Senate in the Gaston-Erwin measure will mean that hereafter juries considering capital cases may, in their judgment, return a verdict recommending mercy, and may suggest to the judge the penalty that in their judgment would suffice to punish the offense charged. The measure has been accepted by Representative Owens as a compromise on his bill to abolish capital punishment."

"Unless somebody pokes his finger into the break in the dyke made by the committee on education, seasoned legislators believe that before the season is over in March the entire State may come within the provisions of the law for electing school boards and superintendents by a direct vote instead of by legislative appointment, as had been the procedure for the past 22 years. Eight similar measures are now pending before the House, and more are promised."

COTTON GINNED IN ROBESON

44,966 Bales Ginned to January 1st Which is 17,224 Fewer Bales Than Were Ginned to Same Date Last Year.

There were 44,966 bales of cotton, counting round as half bales, ginned in Robeson county prior to January 1, 1923, as compared with 62,190 bales ginned prior to January 1, 1922, according to report to Mr. Junius J. Shaw of Lumber Bridge, special agent of the Bureau of the Census.

HEARING ON ANTI-MASKING BILL NEXT TUESDAY

Public committee hearing on the anti-masking bill, offered in the House by Baggett of Harnett, aimed at the Ku Klux Klan, will be held in Raleigh next Tuesday, having been postponed from Thursday of this week.

CAMP POPE WILL MEET AT COURT HOUSE TOMORROW

Dinner Will be Served Veterans by Daughters.

Camp Willis H. Pope, United Confederate Veterans, will meet in the court house tomorrow (Friday) at 10:30 a. m. All members are urged to attend the meeting. Robeson chapter U. D. C. will serve dinner for veterans and their wives after the meeting.

Effort to Organize County Against Loss by Forest Fires.

Mr. T. B. Merrill, district forest warden in charge of 35 counties in eastern North Carolina, employed by the State Geological Survey, spent a few days in Robeson the first of this week to interest the county commissioners in the matter of co-operating with the State survey in reducing the loss from forest fires. The plan is to organize the county with county township and deputy wardens and fire-fighters, so that forest fires, which do an immense amount of damage annually, may be prevented and controlled. The county and State department would bear the expense jointly, each paying half, the estimated cost to the county not being over \$1,500. Mr. Merrill says that in counties in which this work has been put on it has saved thousands of dollars and that the raising of trees has been proven to be as profitable as the raising of cotton.

—Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Felts, Jr. left last evening for Charlotte in response to a wire message advising them of the serious illness of Mr. Felts' mother, Mrs. J. H. Felts, Sr.

Parkton Letter

Death and Funeral of Little Juanita Fisher—Much Illness from Influenza but Few Deaths and Epidemic is Subsiding—Tenants Are Leaving and Not So Much Cotton Will be Planted—Exodus of Negroes from South Carolina.

By C. D. Williamson

Parkton, Jan. 16.—Saturday night our town was greatly shocked and grieved when the death of the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Fisher was announced. Juanita had been very ill with pneumonia for several days. She was 5 years old and the only daughter, an older sister having died of burns a few years ago. Surviving are her parents and two brothers, W. T. and Herbert. She was an attractive and bright little girl, especially fond of nature, showing much delight in flowers. She was always present in her Sunday school class, where she will be much missed.

Funeral services were held from the Baptist church Monday at 11 a. m. by the pastor, Rev. C. R. Sorrell, assisted by Rev. R. F. Munns, pastor of the Methodist church, and Rev. R. J. Taylor, pastor of the Stedman Methodist church. Music was rendered by a select choir consisting of Mesdames R. E. Hutson, J. F. Blue, D. S. Currie and C. W. Martin. The flowers, which were many and beautiful, were carried by little friends and playmates dressed in white and having the appearance of guardian angels accompanying the little white casket. Interment was made in the Parkton cemetery in the presence of many sympathetic friends. Among those from out of town for the funeral were Rev. and Mrs. R. F. Taylor of Stedman, Mr. Keith and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Thompson of Fayetteville.

Among the sick in our town are Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Peacock and children, and little Robt., son of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Hughes, who has pneumonia. Since the return visitation of influenza to our community, we have much severe illness, though we are thankful it is subsiding and so far very few deaths. The condition of Mr. W. S. Bramble of the King Hiram section is improving.

Capt. W. R. Johnson of Florence, S. C., visited home folks Sunday.

Representative Collier Cobb visited home folks from Friday night till this morning, when he returned to Raleigh.

Miss Richardson of Galatia, who had been on an extended visit to her aunt Mrs. J. D. Gillis, returned home Sunday.

Mr. J. P. Watts and family moved yesterday to Durham. We shall greatly miss this family. Mr. Watts formerly was manager of the Parkton mattress factory.

We observe much guano being unloaded and some of the farmers are storing it up for spring use; but as we see it at present, not so much cotton will be planted, for the majority of the tenants are leaving, many of them having gone North.

Capt. J. D. Cobb advised the writer that he made a trip down in the Dillon, S. C., section last week and he said most of the colored folks had left South Carolina and that large farms down there would lie out or be sowed down in peas.

Company L is having regular drill tonight. The regular inspection of Co. L, 120th Inf., will be held February 13 by a regular army officer.

The Fayetteville girls' basketball team came down this afternoon and played the senior girls of our town and school. The game was quite interesting from start to finish. The locals girls were defeated, the score being 21 to 18. Fayetteville was well represented here, a dozen or more large cars and a number of Fords being loaded down with rooters for their team. Fayetteville's line-up was as follows: Allie Powell, Stanley Strickling, Glennie Bennett, Ruby McEll-han, Christian Hutoff; Parkton's: Mary Brown, Lois Council, Pearl Beard, Blanch McCaskill, Emma Cashwell.

Contract Let for New High School Building at St. Paul.

Contract was let recently for the erection of a \$30,000 high school building at St. Paul. The new building will be modern in every respect.

Mr. T. W. Maxwell of Tolarsville was a Lumberton visitor Tuesday.

One per cent. will be added to all unpaid 1922 State and county taxes on February 1. After that date the tax books will be turned over to collectors in the various townships.

R. E. LEWIS, Sheriff.

Cotton Market

Reported by J. H. Barrington

Middling cotton is quoted on the local market today at 27 1-2 cents the pound.

Items of Local News

—The three banks here will be closed Friday—Robt. E. Lee's birthday.

—Mr. J. H. Ratley, local wholesale fruit dealer, yesterday presented the local editor of The Robesonian with a supply of fine Florida oranges.

—Mr. Jno. B. Meares is erecting a 6-room bungalow, Fifteenth street and Carthage road. Mr. Meares and family will move into the house when completed.

—Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Best left Tuesday morning for High Point to attend the furniture show. Mr. Best will purchase stock for the furniture store while in High Point.

—Messrs. B. F. McMillan, Jr., Ben G. Floyd, T. W. Bullock and F. K. Biggs went yesterday to Raleigh to attend a meeting of the Grand Lodge Masons of North Carolina.

—Mr. B. B. Currie of Shannon was among the farmers who attended the co-operative marketing meeting here Tuesday. Mr. Currie has a 10-acre peach orchard which he says is coming along fine. He expects to gather a crop from this orchard this year.

—Two freight cars were derailed on the main line of the Seaboard, a short distance east of the freight depot here, about 10 o'clock last night. The cars were badly wrecked. Passenger trains have been detouring by way of a side-track without much delay.

—Mrs. E. L. Norton and small daughter, Elizabeth Gray Norton, left today for Baltimore, Md., to join Mr. Norton, who recently moved from Charlotte to Baltimore. Mrs. Norton and her little daughter spent two weeks here visiting at the home of her mother, Mrs. Lizzie G. Proctor, West Sixth street.

—Mr. I. J. Flowers has purchased from Mr. J. B. Meares the house and lot on East Third street where Mr. Meares and family live, and he and his family will move to town from their home near the "High Hills", two and a half miles from Lumberton, as soon as Mr. Meares completes and moves into a residence he is assembling material to build on the Carthage road. Mr. Flowers sold his farm of 29 1-2 acres to County Auditor A. V. G. Wishart for \$2,800 and paid Mr. Meares for his Third Street property \$2,000.

—The Troubadour male quartet, considered the best number of the Redpath Lyceum course under the auspices of the Lumberton Woman's club, will give a concert at the school auditorium this evening at 8 o'clock. Single admissions are 50 and 75 cents. It is hoped that a large crowd will greet this attraction, both because it will be a rare treat and because the ladies need all the help they can get to meet expenses incurred in giving the town worth-while attractions at moderate cost. Many Lumberton people often spend five times as much in one night going to Fayetteville to see attractions that are not so good as any one of the numbers of the Lyceum course.

STATE HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT TO SPEAK IN LUMBERTON

Mrs. Jane S. McKimmon Will Speak to the Women of Robeson on Thursday, 25th, at 2:30 p. m.

By Martha Flax Andrews, Home Dem. Agent.

Mrs. Jane S. McKimmon, State home demonstration agent, will address the women of Robeson county on Thursday afternoon, January 25th, 2:30 o'clock.

Mrs. McKimmon has a wonderful message and I want to urge every woman in town and country to be sure to hear her. This is the first time in 5 years that Mrs. McKimmon has been here and we have been anxiously awaiting her visit. So please both club women and others hear Mrs. McKimmon, we want to give her a large attendance and we know we will have one of the finest meetings ever held in Lumberton. The meeting will be held at the town hall.

Duesseldorf, Jan. 16. (Associated Press.)—The plan of military operations for the occupation of the Ruhr valley, as prepared by Marshal Foch and executed by General Degoutte, has been completely carried out, it was officially announced at the French headquarters here today.

The French troops in the Ruhr, now number nearly 100,000 and the military authorities are prepared to take charge of every mine pit head in the valley tomorrow as a protection for the French economic mission, which has undertaken to operate the mines with German labor.