

WATCH YOUR LABEL
AND SEND IN RE-
NEWAL BEFORE
YOUR SUBSCRIPTION
EXPIRES.

THE ROBESONIAN

WATCH YOUR LABEL
ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS
ARE DISCONTINUED
WHEN THEY
EXPIRE

VOL. LIV.—NO. 50.

LUMBERTON, N. C., MONDAY, JULY 23, 1923.

COUNTRY, GOD AND TRUTH.

ESTABLISHED 1876. PRICE FIVE CENTS
\$2.50 A YEAR, DUE IN ADVANCE

Car Load of Hogs Will be Loaded at Buie Tuesday P. M.

Third Car-Load Shipment This Year
—These Owned by Mr. H. B. Ashley—
Farmers Invited to See How
Hogs Are Shipped.

A solid carload of hogs raised in Robeson county will be loaded at Buie tomorrow afternoon, and will be shipped from there to Richmond, Va., where they will be sold by their owner, Mr. H. B. Ashley Jr., who lives near Buie.

This is the third solid car to be shipped from Robeson county, two others having been shipped in the early spring. Mr. Ashley owned several hogs in the first shipment and was very well pleased with the price received. Mr. O. O. Dukes, county farm demonstrator, will have charge of the loading and all farmers interested in the raising of hogs are invited to be present and see just what steps are necessary for proper shipment.

LUMBERTON NEGROES VICTIMS OF GAS PIPE EXPLOSION.

Left Lumberton A Few Weeks Ago
To Work in Pennsylvania Steel
Mill—Higher Wages And Better
Living Conditions Induced Them
To Leave The South And Go North
—Several Killed In Explosion.

The remains of two colored men, Dan Singletary and Mack Bullock, who left Lumberton about 4 weeks ago, and who were instantly killed by the explosion of a gas pipe in a steel mill at Woodlawn, Pa., on the 17th, arrived here Friday and interment was made during the afternoon in the Sandy Grove cemetery.

The colored men were young, being 25 and 26 years respectively, and had been recently employed on one of the farms of Mr. A. W. McLean, leaving a few weeks ago for northern points where they were induced to go on account of higher wages and better living conditions that have been so brilliantly described to the negroes of the south recently.

A detailed account of their death cannot be found in any of the northern papers coming to Lumberton and it is impossible to give the direct cause of their death except that they were asphyxiated or burned to death when the gas pipe exploded in one of the big steel mills of Pennsylvania. According to meagre reports several other southern negroes lost their lives in the accident.

TOBACCO BROUGHT TO CO-OP WAREHOUSE THIS MORNING.

Mr. W. L. Lovett Brings in First
Load of Primings and Gets \$6 the
Hundred—Schedule of Advances.

Mr. W. L. Lovett of Lumberton R. 4 brought the first load of tobacco to the local Tobacco Growers' Co-operative warehouse this morning. The load weighed about 150 pounds, consisted entirely of primings, and advances were made to this member at approximately \$6 per hundred.

The schedule of advances publicly posted in the receiving warehouse is as follows: wrappers, \$25 to \$32.50; leaf, \$2 to \$21.50; cutters, \$11 to \$22.50; lugs, \$2 to \$9; primings, \$1 to \$3. All the above prices are based on the hundred pounds. There is a lower scale to the above prices for some grades of damaged tobacco.

Fine Crops—Not Much Sign of Weevil.

Mr. R. G. McCormick of Fairmont R. 3 was among the visitors in town Friday. Mr. McCormick says he has the best prospect for a cotton crop he has had in 4 years. His tobacco and other crops also are fine. He has just finished curing his third barn of tobacco. Corn, potatoes and all other crops are fine in his section. Mr. McCormick says. There has not been much sign of damage by the boll weevil and Mr. McCormick does not think there will be in the favorable seasons held. He says he is going to plow his cotton, which he has been cultivating frequently, up until August 15.

Large Cotton Factors Unable to Meet Obligations.

Augusta, Ga. July 20 (Associated Press).—Barrett and Company, reputed to be "the world's largest cotton factors," with headquarters here, announced tonight that they were unable to meet their obligations amounting to approximately \$1,000,000. A committee composed of New York, New Orleans and North and South Carolina bankers, representing part of the creditors, was in conference tonight with a view of working out some plan of liquidation for the preservation of the company's assets and the best protection of its creditors.

The condition of Billie Hodges, small son of Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Hodges, who has been critically ill at the Thompson hospital since last Wednesday with tetanus, is more favorable today.

Mr. Clayton Hall of Boardman spent Saturday night and Sunday in Lumberton.

Mr. W. C. Barnes of R. 3, Lumberton, was among the visitors in town Saturday.

Boll Weevil Meet- ing at Maxton July 25

Experts Will Discuss Improved Methods
of Fighting the Weevil—A
Meeting That Promises to be One
of the Best of Its Kind Ever Held

As stated in Thursday's Robesonian an important meeting for discussion by experts of improved methods of fighting the boll weevil will be held in Maxton Wednesday of this week. The importance of this meeting is well presented in the following letter to The Robesonian from Mr. J. G. McCormick of Wilmington:

"After considerable effort, we have finally succeeded in enlisting the soil improvement committee of the Southern Fertilizer association in work in North and South Carolina against the boll weevil. The first meeting in North Carolina will be held on the morning of Wednesday, July 25th, at Maxton. Dr. J. N. Harper is director in charge. He is a man of sound learning and wide experience, and was, for a number of years, director of the South Carolina experiment station at Clemson college. His staff is also composed of men well qualified for the work committed to them. Their sole purpose is to render service of cost to the farmer in connection with the problems which he has to solve.

"Representatives of the State and also of the Atlantic Coast Line and Seaboard Air Line engaged in similar work will also be present and lend their assistance. Upon the whole, the meeting promises to be the best of its kind ever held anywhere, provided it has the support and co-operation of those who, for their own good, should be most vitally interested in its success. A large attendance is one of the most important factors. We believe you will find it worthwhile to attend, and we trust that you will not only do so, but will induce your neighbors and friends to do likewise, and that you will also give as much publicity as possible to the meeting. Personally, we are interested because we believe that the proposition is a vital one to all of us, and we know of no better means of solving it than that which it is now sought to employ. If we show the proper interest, this work will be enlarged and improved in the two Carolinas and it is 'up to us,' so to speak, to do our part to get the benefit of it. So, be sure to remember the time and place, to-wit, Maxton, N. C., July 25th, 1923, ten o'clock in the forenoon. Be on hand at that time and have as many others as you can there with you. Go out into the highways and dedges and compel them to come."

Typhoid Clinics

Free typhoid fever and diphtheria clinics will be held at the following places and dates named below:

Tuesday, July 24th—Fairmont (Dr. Ricks' office) 10 to 12 a. m.; Rowland Drug Co., 2 to 4 p. m.

Wednesday, July 25th—Broad Ridge school 11 to 12:30 a. m.; Orum 1 to 2:30 p. m.; Barnesville 3 to 5 p. m.

Thursday, July 26th—St. Paul 9:30 to 11 a. m.; Parkton 11:30 to 2.

Friday, July 27th—Saddle Tree 1:30 to 3 p. m.; Back Swamp 5 to 7 p. m.

ORRUM OCCURRENCES.

By Rosada Israel.
Orum, July 14 (Dated wrong, held several days after mailing or delayed in transmission, as it was not received until July 21)—People in this section are busy burning tobacco.

The 4 junior classes in S. S. will give an entertainment at the church here next Thursday afternoon from 4 to 6 o'clock. Cakes and ice cream will be served.

The writer especially enjoyed the East Lumberton news letter published in the last Robesonian. Hope they will write often, the letters are very interesting.

Mr. Eugene Williams of the Parkton section was a visitor here Sunday. Miss Dorothy Bullard of Bolton is visiting friends and relatives here. Mr. Sam Carter spent Friday night here visiting friends.

Sorry to report little Forest Branch ill with whooping cough.

All the farmers around here have fine tobacco crops, and the majority belong to the Co-ops.

Glad to report Mrs. Jasper Walters much improved since our last writing. Mr. Roscoe Kinlaw and sister, Miss Alice, of Lumberton R. 2, spent Sunday visiting at the home of their uncle Mr. J. P. Prevatt.

Mr. A. L. Lamm of R. 4, Lumberton, spent last Sunday in this section. Best wishes to The Robesonian.

Former Famous Mexican Bandit Chief Shot from Ambush.

Chihuahua City, Mexico, July 20. (Associated Press).—One hundred troops under command of General Eugenio Martinez arrived at Parral tonight to hunt for assassins who killed Francisco Villa, his secretary, Miguel Trillo, and three men who were with them near Parral this morning.

Mr. G. W. Williamson of R. 4, Lumberton, was among the visitors in town Saturday.

Drunken Indian Carves Up His Wife.

Lattie Brewington, on a Big Drunk
Up Rennett Way, Resented Efforts
of Friend Wife to Quiet Him—He
is Sobering Up in Jail and Says He
Does Not Remember a Thing
About It.

Lattie Brewington, Indian, cut his wife in several places and otherwise beat her up in general last night while he was staging a big drunk on the public road near his home near Rennett. He is in jail here partly sober, and his wife is suffering greatly from serious wounds.

According to Sheriff R. E. Lewis, who was called to the scene, Brewington was staging a big drunk with some other men about 8 o'clock and using the public road near his home for their congregating and loud cursing. His wife went out to them and tried to get her husband to come to the house and go to bed, the mention of which made him exceedingly angry. He proceeded to assault her with his fists and finally stabbed her seriously in several places. Neighbors hearing the screams of the woman ran to her assistance and carried her to a nearby house, where she was treated by Dr. Claude Poole of St. Pauls.

Rural Policeman Lacy McNair was called and rushed to the scene, where he found Brewington and placed him under arrest. He had in the meantime phoned Sheriff Lewis, who, with Deputies A. R. Pittman and A. H. Prevatt, went to the scene. When arrested Brewington was still very drunk and still in the road. He was brought to Lumberton and placed in jail and states today that he does not remember a thing about the affair.

The other men who took part in the drunken brawl have not yet been apprehended.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS \$86,000 DEFICIT; AUDITORS FIND \$796,000.

Difference Due to Note of \$710,000
for 1921 School Deficit—State Has
Run Behind 3319,000 Since First of
Year.

News and Observer, 20th.
Counting taxes levied but not collected as assets, the State had a deficit of \$477,194.75 on December 31, 1922, which had been increased to \$796,468.13 by June 30, 1923, according to the revised balance sheet of the audit of the State's finances which was made public yesterday by the investigating committee of the 1923 General Assembly. The committee, disagreeing with its auditors on an item of \$710,000, found for its own figures a surplus of \$232,805.22 at the end of the last calendar year and a deficit of \$86,468.13 at the end of the past fiscal year. The report notes that Treasurer Lacy's books balance exactly.

The report after six months of investigation by a staff of auditors numbering eighteen at one time was presented to a vocally happy Governor and a silently smiling Council. State yesterday afternoon at 2:30. Only the report of the committee goes to the public at this time. The lengthy report of the auditors goes back to New York in order that the revisions made since the report was brought here in completed form Tuesday of last week may be written into it.

The report will be available to the press sometime next week and at the request of the committee, Secretary of State W. N. Everett will have 1,500 copies printed and distributed to members of the last General Assembly and everyone else that wants them.

In the meantime all that is known about the recommendations is that they have been adopted unanimously by the Council of State and the State Treasury B. R. Lacy and State Auditor Baxter Durham, whose departments will be directly affected by the changed system of bookkeeping, will immediately install the new systems. The committee has recommended the firm of Price Waterhouse and Co., which made the audit, be employed to supervise the new system and keep it going. It is stated that under it, the deficit or surplus as the case may be will be available at all times.

—Mr. W. E. Bell, The Robesonian's chief linotype operator, left yesterday for the home of his parents at Apex on a week's vacation.

—Misses Ida Fenegan and Evelyn Stafford of Latta, S. C., are guests of Miss Lillie Epps at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Epps, Cedar street. Miss Epps and her guests, with a party of friends, spent Friday afternoon at White Lake, returning that night.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. McGill and daughter and son, Miss Eulalia and Mr. Leon McGill, returned last night from Wrightsville Beach, where they spent the week-end. They made the trip in Mr. Leon McGill's car.

We want you for a customer.
Open at 6 a. m. Close 10 p. m.
PROMPT SERVICE
FULLER'S SERVICE STATION
Corner 2nd and Chestnut Sts.

Judge Sinclair Ac- cepts Challenge of Ku Klux Klan

Fight Against Lawless Organization
Claiming to be Above Courts Will
Continue Until Supremacy of
Courts is Completely Vindicated—
Taliaferro Defense in Contempt
Charges Collapsed When Letters
Written by Detectives Were Pro-
duced.

ONE OF MOST INTERESTING CASES IN WEEK OF SENSATIONS

After Judge N. A. Sinclair in Superior court here Saturday afternoon had found H. L. Taliaferro, confessed Ku Klux detective, guilty of intimidating certain witnesses for the State in the famous flogging case which had just come to a close, and had imposed upon him the maximum fine allowed by the statute, \$250 fine and 30 days in prison for each of the three counts, and after counsel for the detective had given notice of appeal to the Supreme court, Mr. T. L. Johnson asked the judge to reduce the bond from \$5,000 to \$2,500. In denying the motion, Judge Sinclair said that a deplorable condition exists in Robeson county and in certain other sections, that a secret organization has arisen which holds itself to be above the courts and its members beyond the reach of the law. He declared that so far as the court was concerned he accepted the challenge thrown down by this lawless organization and that the fight would continue until the supremacy of the law was completely vindicated. No matter what other men might do, he said, he had taken a solemn oath to administer the law and this he proposed to do not matter what organization or individual was involved. His honor therefore denied the motion.

This case was taken up immediately after the jury in the Lawson-Hedg-peth-Brogden case had retired and was interrupted for the "not guilty" verdict of the jury. Immediately after the verdict was rendered many of the large crowd in the court room left and so missed one of the most interesting and important developments of the week of sensations.

The case was conducted for the State by Mr. R. C. Lawrence, Mr. E. M. Britt reading the answers to the questions. It was charged by the State that Taliaferro had approached Mrs. Purvis and Mrs. Mary Watson, known witnesses in the flogging of the former at Rock Mount and later at Laurinburg and later at Fayetteville, under the name of Meyer and Logan, representing himself as a detective employed by the Department of Justice at Raleigh to assist in getting up evidence. He was charged with having made veiled threats, stating that he was afraid of the Ku Klux Klan, and did not want to die, and to have intimidated Mr. and Mrs. Purvis might get their home place, which had been sold under mortgage, if this were dropped.

Several allegations were denied the answer by Mr. E. M. Britt. He was claimed in the answer that Taliaferro was employed by the imperial of the Ku Klux Klan at Atlanta to ferret out the perpetrators of crime, who were said to have been clothed in helmets and robes and to find out who entered the klavern of the Klan at Fairmont and stole therefrom 18 robes and helmets. This zeal on the part of the Klan was said to be in line with suggestions made in The Robesonian other papers that if the Ku Klux Klan was not responsible for the crime it should help to run down the criminals.

Affidavits were submitted from the Mayor and the chief of police of Laurinburg to the effect that Taliaferro had visited Mrs. Watson at her place as a detective of the Klan. He was set forth in the answer that Taliaferro had been cordially received by Mr. and Mrs. Purvis and that he had assumed names in order that the detective he might work under cover. It was further stated that he was 35 years old and had had some experience as a detective, having worked for other organizations and being employed by the Ku Klux Klan.

During the recital of these answers Taliaferro sat in confident composure, apparently well satisfied with himself and the way things were going. But his composure left him a few minutes later when he was placed on the witness stand. When Lawrence calmly walked over to him and asked him if he recognized any of the letters written on the stationery of the Lorraine hotel of Lumberton, he was knocked all in a heap. He nor his attorneys knew that was on the cards at all. It was evident at once that the case had collapsed.

Taliaferro was obliged to admit that the letters were written by him, and there was nothing left but for the State to pass the sentence.

The first of the letters was written at Lumberton on June 8 and was as follows:

Offered Job to Judge Grady.

Dear friend: Well one more and all will be over. I hope to have the advantage and you will be in the chair. I arrived here last night and been in the country all day and not a cold trail and leave for

Five Men Taken To State Prison Today

Luke Britt and Four Others Go in
Custody of Officers to Raleigh to
Begin Sentences of Varying
Lengths.

Luke Britt, who last week submitted to a charge of second degree murder in Superior court here for the slaying of E. R. Shepherd and who was sentenced to ten years in the State prison by Judge N. A. Sinclair, left this morning in custody of Deputy Sheriffs A. H. Prevatt and J. H. Carper for Raleigh to begin serving his sentence.

Four other prisoners sentenced by Judge Sinclair were taken by the officers this morning, these being Jesse Sellers, white, who pleaded guilty to an assault with deadly weapon and trespass, and who received an indeterminate sentence of not more than six years and not less than four years; Jesse Oxendine, Indian, who was found guilty of murder in the second degree for killing Vick Bullock, and who received an indeterminate sentence of from 10 to 15 years; Braxton Purdie, negro, who was found guilty of murder in the second degree for the killing of Metco Horn, white, and who was sentenced to thirty years; and Charlie Pugh, white, who submitted to a charge of larceny of an automobile, and who was sentenced to two years.

Fayetteville tonight where I am in hopes of flushing my victim and get a confession out of her as to who it was that framed her to accuse the men she did.

"No Will, I won't be there over three or four days anyhow, just long enough to hear from you and I will close this case up and return at once. I did not have time to write you or in fact you would not get it in time. But I learned here that Evans was willing for a receiver (proviso) the same staff was kept to work from Savage down. Also Judge Grady had been offered the job by Dr. Evans. But the judge refused. Now had I gotten this dope in time possibly it would have helped you a little. Anyhow, you will not need it.

"Now, I will be at Fayetteville, N. C., care LaFayette Hotel. So let me know how everything is and how soon for me to go there to assist in your great work of cleaning out the crooks. Answer at once, with best, I remain your, Itsub, (Tally)."

The last word of the letter "Itsub" is made up of the initials of the ritualistic words used in Klan correspondence, these words being "In the Sacred unfailing bond," I. T. S. U. B.

Tells of His Arrest.

The second letter was dated in Lumberton on the day after the arrest of Taliaferro on a bench warrant, and is as follows:

"My Dear Friend Will: Undoubtedly you have read in the papers that they have landed me in jail here on a bench warrant Well, of all the damnable frame-ups and lies I never heard before as they have got me charged with. I was getting too close behind this Solicitor and his deeds and that is the reason they framed me. I phoned Savage as soon as they arrested me that my bond was \$5,000 and also phoned E. F. Randolph, the acting Grand Dragon and he in turn got in touch with Atlanta and \$5,000 was sent post-haste by wire.

"My lawyers say they cannot do anything with me as it is only a misdemeanor, not to exceed \$200 fine and two years on the road if guilty. I think that is a whole lot for two old prostitutes to swear away a man's life. My case is set for 12 noon, Monday, the first case on the docket, I understand. Now, they did not run me out of town. But I am here to help the Klan break that damn gang up that broke in the Klavern and stole the robes and whipped these two old bats. This is the worst frame-up I ever saw. Of course, similar to your own, only mine was from the outside and yours on the inside of the organization. I do not know how long I will remain after my case is settled. So let me hear from you, Captain, by return mail, how everything is. I will try and fix the letter you want today but I am too damn nervous to write now. So let me hear how everything is. Yours, Itsub Tally."

How the letters came into the possession of Solicitor McNeill remains a mystery. That is something that kluxers in Robeson, if there are any, would no doubt like to know. It was not possible to find a kluxer with a fine-tooth comb during the famous trial last week. Some 100 men swore on the stand that they are not members and had never been, and maybe there "ain't no such animal." But anyway the public would like to know.

It is hardly probable, however, that the secret will ever come to light. Solicitor McNeill knows how they came into his safe some two weeks ago, but he isn't telling.

But since it was possible to spirit from Klan headquarters in Atlanta letters written to Klan officials, who knows but that it also has been possible to secure other papers setting forth the activities of the Klan in this county and giving the names of members, if any? That is a matter for speculation. Just how much do the authorities know? Maybe the

Cotton Market

Reported by J. H. Barrington

Middling cotton is quoted on the local market today at 23 cents the pound.

Items of Local News

—Born, to Mr. and Mrs. R. I. Walters of Boardman, at the Baker sanatorium Thursday, a daughter.

—Regular communication St. Alban's lodge No. 114, A. F. & A. M., Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock. Work in the third degree.

—The condition of Mr. G. E. Rancke, Sr., who has been ill at his home on Seventh street for several days, is much improved today.

—Licenses has been issued for the marriage of Miss Janie Dalton and Mr. Rosier Riggan; Miss Elizabeth Mortimer Croom and Mr. John Lee Tatum.

—A building permit has been issued to Mr. S. F. Caldwell for the erection of a 5-room bungalow on North Cedar street to cost approximately \$3,500.

—Charity Barnes, colored, Back Swamp township, R. 3 from Lumberton, has some cotton that is acting in a way that puzzles her. It is cracking open and showing dried-up insides.

—The ladies' Wesley class of Chestnut Street Methodist church will hold a picnic at the Goat club Thursday afternoon at 5 o'clock. All members of the class are requested to meet at the church at 4:45 before leaving for the club.

—Leander Locklear, Indian, pleaded guilty to carrying concealed weapons and a nuisance charge in Superior court here Saturday and was fined \$50 and costs in the first case and prayer for judgment was continued in the second case upon payment of costs.

—Messrs. J. Dickson McLean, E. A. Thompson and F. Ertel Carlyle and Dr. S. L. Whitehead spent yesterday at Wrightsville Beach, making the trip in Mr. McLean's car in two hours and thirty minutes from Lumberton to the ferry this side of Wilmington.

—Mr. and Mrs. A. E. White and Mr. and Mrs. Ira B. Townsend expect to leave tomorrow in their autos for the mountains of the western part of the State. They will visit Mr. John French, who has been spending some months at Black Mountain for his health, and also will visit various other places in the mountains.

—It was stated in Thursday's Robesonian that Mr. and Mrs. K. M. Barnes and children left that morning in their auto for Waynesville, where they would spend two weeks. A card dated at Waynesville the 21st and received here this morning from Mr. Barnes, states: "Arrived here yesterday. Had fine trip. The weather and temperature here fine. We are nicely located."

—The gasoline tank on one of the pressing machines in the establishment conducted by Jack Edmond on Fourth street overflowed Thursday afternoon, the gasoline igniting. Several gallons of gas were burned but with the use of chemicals from the fire department the flames were quickly subdued. Very little damage was done other than the partial destruction of two coats which were hanging near by.

—Miss Sarah Carlyle, who left Lumberton about a month ago to join a party of classmates and teachers for a trip to Porto Rico, writes relatives here that they are having a wonderful time. They are taking a course in Spanish at the university of Porto Rico at Rio Piedras and are also making sight-seeing trips out from there, making the university their headquarters. All the native people are very nice and hospitable, according to Miss Carlyle, and they are having a very pleasant trip. They have also met a number of Americans since being there. They expect to be away another month.

members of the invisible empire are pretty well known and are not so invisible as they imagine themselves to be.

And since letters written to Klan headquarters find their way into the safe of the solicitor, it may prove a comparatively easy matter to find out who wrote the threatening letters, purporting to come from the Ku Klux, to Judge Sinclair and Mr. S. McIntyre, the latter also being intended for Solicitor McNeill, which were mailed in Lumberton last Friday and were published in The Robesonian Saturday.

Taliaferro was arrested at the Lorraine hotel here on July 3rd on a bench warrant issued by Judge Sinclair, charging intimidation of State's witnesses. He spent part of the night in jail and was released about noon the next day on \$5,000 bond furnished by Atlanta headquarters of the Ku Klux Klan, E. F. Randolph of Warsaw, alleged grand klalf of the realm of North Carolina, delivering the bond to the sheriff in the form of a cashier's check on the First National Bank of Warsaw.

Taliaferro has been languishing in jail here since Saturday afternoon, as the former bond would not hold after his trial and the appeal bond had not been forthcoming up to noon today.