

Important Meeting Will Be Held In Lumberton January 12

DR. E. C. BROOKS WILL SPEAK ON FARM PROBLEMS

Farmers, Time Merchants, Bankers and Other Business Men Urged to Attend.

TO LAUNCH PROGRAM OF BETTER FARMING

Dr. E. C. Brooks, president of North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Engineering, will deliver the principal address at the mass meeting of citizens of Robeson county at the court house in Lumberton Wednesday of this week, January 12, at 2 p. m.

It is hoped and expected that a large gathering of people from all sections of Robeson, particularly farmers, time merchants, bankers and other business men, will attend this meeting, at which it is the purpose to launch a program which will bring about better farming and business conditions in Robeson.

As stated in last Thursday's issue of The Robesonian, this meeting has been called to enlist the co-operation of all interests in Robeson in a program looking to the production of more food and feed crops and thus paving the way for economic independence and greater prosperity.

There is no better qualified man in North Carolina than Dr. Brooks to bring a helpful message to the people of Robeson at this time than Dr. Brooks, and it is hoped that there will be a great outpouring of the people of the county at the meeting Wednesday.

BOOKS OF ROBESON TO BE AUDITED

County Commissioners This Morning Employed Firm of Ernst & Ernst to Make General Audit of All Books of County for Purpose of Putting Affairs of County on Better Business Basis.

The county commissioners meeting in special session this morning employed the firm of Ernst & Ernst of Winston-Salem to make a general audit of all the books of the county for the purpose of putting the affairs of the county on a better business basis.

While the audit will be handled by the Winston-Salem branch of the firm of certified public accountants, representatives from other branches will assist. It will be under the supervision of Mr. T. D. Meriwether, manager of the Richmond office, and Mr. J. D. Mavor, manager of the Winston-Salem office. Work was started this morning on the books of the road board.

The audit is not made because it is anticipated that there is anything wrong with the affairs of the county but it is done in accordance with the ideas of Governor A. W. McLean and Dr. E. C. Brooks, who advocate better systems. A similar audit has just been completed in Forsyth county.

CHILD DIES IN HOSPITAL FOLLOWING BURNS

Daughter of Mr. T. J. West of Howellsville Dies from Burns Received When Clothing Set on Fire.

Elizabeth, 6-year-old daughter of Mr. T. J. West of Howellsville township, died in the Thompson Memorial hospital yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock from burns she received when her clothing was set on fire by another child Saturday.

The child was playing with other children in front of the fire, and one of them struck a match which ignited her clothing, fatally burning her. She was brought to the hospital here but never rallied.

Gertrude Perry West Celebration Postponed

The celebration that was announced to be held at Rosindale, Balden county, on January 18 in honor of Gertrude Perry West, has been postponed, the date to be announced later.

Mr. A. C. Davis of route 5 from Lumberton was a visitor in town today.

GASOLINE 25c
Fuller's Service Station
Lumberton, N. C.

Senator McLeod's Automobile Is Burned

Ran Into Ditch Near Union Chapel and Caught on Fire—Senator McLeod Escaped Without Injuries.

The Chevrolet coupe of Senator G. B. McLeod of Lumberton was burned near Union chapel, in the Bule section, as he was returning from Raleigh Friday afternoon.

Senator McLeod was rounding a sharp curve about 2:30 Friday afternoon when his car left the road and plunged into a ditch, standing almost straight up on the radiator. Senator McLeod had some difficulty in getting out, having to brace himself and kick open a door, but, strange to say, he was none the worse physically for his experience.

Assistance soon gathered and when arrangements had been made to pull the car out backwards a man got in the car to start the motor and help in backing out, but as soon as he touched the starter there was an explosion that blew the top off and the man in the car got out unhurt. Fortunately he escaped unhurt. The bunch of men about the car scattered as if by magic when the explosion occurred, some of them exhibiting remarkable speed. There was nothing to do except let the flames do their work. The car was fully insured.

3 IN JAIL FOR DISTURBANCE AT PEMBROKE YESTERDAY

Julian Pope Oxendine, Alabama Lowrey and Alexander Warrick of Pembroke were arrested by county officers yesterday afternoon for raising a disturbance at Pembroke.

Olgie Oxendine claims that the three of them were drinking and that they ran her away from home with a gun. She had powder burns on her face.

They will be tried before Recorder P. S. Kornegay Wednesday—Lowrey for carrying a concealed weapon and being drunk, Warrick for being drunk and raising a disturbance, and Oxendine for being drunk.

Oxendine is also indicted on another warrant charging him with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill upon Charlie Lowrey.

75 PEOPLE, MOST OF THEM CHILDREN, KILLED IN THEATRE STAMPEDE SUNDAY

Montreal, Jan. 9.—(AP)—More than 75 lives was the toll exacted today by a fire panic in the Laurier Palace movie theatre in the East End. Most of the victims were children who had made up the bulk of the Sunday matinee audience. Few were injured by the comparatively trivial fire, but caught in fear-stricken jams about the exits, many were suffocated. So tightly wedged were the bodies that rescuing squads of firemen were unable to gain entrance.

Postmastership Not Yet Settled

The question of who will be the next postmaster at Lumberton has not yet been settled, and it will not likely be known who that person will be until Congress makes a thorough investigation of the charges against Mr. W. H. Kinlaw, present acting postmaster, who was recommended by the Republican State chairman for the Lumberton position.

Mr. T. L. Johnson this morning asked The Robesonian to state that he had taken no part in the controversy between the aspirants for the office but that some time ago he certified to the postoffice department to the high character of Mr. Kinlaw. Mr. Johnson stated that he had no reason to change his attitude toward Mr. Kinlaw.

COMMUNITY GATHERING AT McDONALD TUESDAY

A community gathering will be at the McDonald school house Tuesday night at 7:30. A program consisting of music, games, spelling bee and other forms of amusement will be given. Admission will be 10 cents.

Kiwanis Guest Night Thursday Night

Thursday evening of this week at 7:15, at the Lorraine hotel, will be guest night of the Lumberton Kiwanis club, this taking the place of the regular weekly meeting Tuesday evening. Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Willson and their guests, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. M. Bowie of Washington, D. C., Mrs. Willson's mother, Mrs. J. H. Borland, and wives of the Kiwanians are expected to attend, and there will be a special program of music by Mr. and Mrs. Bowie and local musicians.

Kiwanis ladies' night, when District Lieutenant Governor F. H. Jeter of Raleigh will be present, will be held Friday night of next week, January 21st, this taking the place of the regular meeting next week.

New Cardinal Fan



St. Louis has some staunch baseball fans—but none that will root with the vim of Miss Arline Edwards of Chicago during the 1927 season. Her engagement to Bob O'Farrell, new Cardinal manager, as has just been announced.

Lumberton's New Fire Truck Is Here

American LaFrance Truck With Pump, Chemicals, Ladders and Other Equipment Unloaded This Morning and Is Ready for Use.

BEST FIRE-FIGHTING EQUIPMENT TOWN EVER HAD

The American LaFrance, type 75, fire truck purchased by the town of Lumberton just before Thanksgiving at a cost of \$12,500 arrived in Lumberton Saturday over the V. & C. S. railway, two days before it was expected here, was unloaded this morning and is now ready for use.

The truck with its equipment will give Lumberton the best fire-fighting equipment in its history. The truck is of triple combination and is called a pumper, chemical and hose motor car. The pump will carry a minimum of 750 gallons of water per minute. The truck is equipped with one 40-gallon and two 3-gallon chemical tanks, 24 feet of extension ladder, 12 feet of roof ladder, nozzles, axes, pipe poles, lanterns, 12 coats and a crow bar. The body of the truck has a capacity of 1200 feet of hose.

The small Buick truck owned by the town of Lumberton will be sold as soon as a purchaser is found.

Bank of Rowland Pays Dividend. Correspondence of The Robesonian. Rowland, Jan. 10.—The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Bank of Rowland was held Tuesday of last week, considering the agricultural conditions, the results from the operation of this bank have been very gratifying. A six per cent dividend was paid.

Many Expressions About Legislation At County-Wide Mass Meeting Here

Motions Passed That Gasoline Tax Be Increased 1 Cent Per Gallon for Maintenance of County Roads and That Road System Be Handled As County Unit, Also That Representatives Support Bill Requiring Lights For Vehicles.

TAXES AND MANY OTHER THINGS COME IN FOR SHARE IN DISCUSSION

People from practically every section of Robeson county gathered here in the court house Saturday morning to discuss with the senator and representatives for the present session of the State legislature. While the meeting got off to a slow start, it soon warmed up, the crowd increased, and it became a real mass meeting of the voters of Robeson county who are interested in legislation for their county.

Taxes came in for the biggest share of discussion, but the eight-month school term, bond issues, and county roads proved to be of vital interest to the audience, and the men there talked about them freely. The biggest piece of work done, however, was the passage of two resolutions affecting State legislation. One was to urge the introduction of a bill in the legislature asking that 1 cent per gallon be added to the State gasoline tax for the purpose of maintaining county roads and that the road system in the county be handled as a county unit, and the other was to urge the Robeson senator and representatives to support a law requiring motor vehicles to carry lights at night.

When the meeting was called to order, Mr. K. M. Barnes was made chairman and a representative of The Robesonian, secretary. Senator Leod explained the purpose of the meeting, and Mr. Barnes called upon the audience for expressions of their feelings about legislation. Mr. D. R. Shain of Lumberton spoke briefly against the policy of allowing counties, cities and towns to issue bonds without a vote of the people. Mr. L. T. Townsend opposed the 8-month school term and urged that part of the State tax for gasoline be diverted to the county for the upkeep of the county's roads. Mr. W. P. Barker advocated more business and less politics, less taxes, a better road system for the rural sections and getting away from the credit business.

Government by the People

Dr. Thos. F. Costner of Lumberton made one of the rousing speeches of the meeting. He stated the meeting, which had not grown much by that time, was representative of the interest the people of the county took in matters of public interest. He asserted that he was born and reared a Democrat and that he believed in meant-government by the people. Unfortunately, the physician declared, laws have been passed taking the power out of the hands of the people and putting it in the hands of a few. Too often, he said, the men in power lose sight of the small man and the part he plays in government. The State has gone forward but at the expense of the small man. The big men have prospered wonderfully. He thought the 6-month school term

Fire At McDonald Does Big Damage

Barn, Cotton, Farming Implements and Automobile Belonging to Mr. W. S. Alexander Destroyed by Fire of Unknown Origin.

Fire of unknown origin destroyed a barn on the estate of the late Rev. Wesley Thompson at McDonald and 30 bales of cotton, several farming implements and an automobile Friday afternoon. The cotton was the property of Mr. W. S. Alexander of McDonald.

enough, if the time were properly utilized, and he opposed the idea of abandoning country schools and bringing the children to town. He was in favor of taking the power out of the hands of the State superintendent of public instruction and putting it in the hands of the people, letting them say where their children should go to school. The small man is the one who makes the country, he declared, and he is the one who ought to be thought of in making the laws.

County Road System

Mr. K. M. Barnes stated that in order to be prosperous, we must have land and our resources, and he thought it wise to divert a small part of the State gasoline tax for the upkeep of the county highways. He was the first to advance the idea that the county road system should be taken over and handled as a unit. Something must be done to make rural life more attractive, Mr. Barnes showed, and nothing could be done that would do it better than to give an outlet to the people of the rural communities. Mr. A. R. Bullock of Fairmont, Mr. L. T. Townsend of Lumberton and others endorsed the county road system. Former Senator T. L. Johnson did not wait the State system of taxation interfered with and explained that diverting 1 cent of the present tax on gasoline would cause a general mix-up in the State taxation system. He wanted the county commissioners given the power to spend the money where it was needed. The discussion led to the passage of a motion to have 1 cent added to the tax on gasoline, to be used for the county highway.

Sales Tax Advocated

Mr. L. T. Townsend advocated a sales tax on all luxuries, and Senator McLeod told him that it was his intention to introduce such a bill with the purpose of reducing taxes on land.

The motion to require vehicles to carry lights at night was made by Mr. T. L. Johnson, who fought for such a measure at the last session of the legislature. It came as a result of an inquiry by Senator McLeod, who wished to know the wishes of the people about the matter.

The matter of gasoline filling stations remaining open on Sunday was brought up, and Solicitor T. A. McNeill informed the audience that the present law in the State imposed a fine of \$1 for each offense of such nature. It was the consensus that a law should be enacted with more teeth.

Some Recommendations

A letter was read from Rev. J. M. Fleming of Lumberton urging the members of the legislature not to increase taxes and not to pass the law requiring an eight-month school term. Another letter was read from Mr. V. D. Baker of Lumberton asking

Case Instituted To Re-Possess Land On Which County Home Is Situated

Meaning—Presidency



Said Gov. Al Smith of New York at his fourth inauguration last week—"Now I have no idea what the future has in store for me. . . . No man would stand before this intelligent gathering and say that he was not receptive to the greatest position the world has to offer to any one. . . ."

Carl and Rowland Gregory and Mary Gregory Armstrong Sue County Commissioners and Mrs. Mollie Norment for Partition of Land Originally Belonging to Their Grandmother—Claim Land Sold by Their Grandfather After His Marriage to Another Woman.

ITEMS OF LOCAL NEWS

—Mr. W. B. Bracey of Rowland has been commissioned a notary public by Governor McLean.

—Mr. J. B. Powell and family have moved from Lumberton R. 6 to R. 3 from Maxton. Mr. Powell was a Lumberton visitor Friday.

—Rev. A. P. Stephens, pastor of the Baptist church at Red Springs and several other churches in the county, is getting along nicely after an operation for appendicitis at the Baker sanatorium.

—The American Legion auxiliary will meet Tuesday afternoon at 3:30 at the home of Mrs. H. M. Baker, with group No. 3 as hostess. All members and those eligible for membership are urged to attend.

—Mr. W. T. Phifer of Clarkton, who suffered a stroke of paralysis at Alenton on December 30 and drove his car to Lumberton, was able to return to his home from the Baker sanatorium Saturday.

—An athletic association was organized in the Lumberton high school Friday with Jennings Groome president and Miss Kathleen Durham secretary and treasurer.

—Reported for The Robesonian: Mr. Emory Prevatt has rented his farm in Moore county to Mr. W. F. Phillips, one of Surry county's tobacco farmers. Mr. Prevatt will be at his home on Pine street, Lumberton, after the fifteenth of February.

—A special convocation of Royal Arch Masons, chapter 77, will meet in the Masonic hall in Lumberton Tuesday evening at 7:30. State Grand Secretary J. B. Griggs of Elizabeth City will be present, and a large attendance is desired.

—The store at the filling station near the old county home belonging to Mr. Oliver F. Nance was entered Thursday night by unknown parties and goods were stolen to the amount of between \$10 and \$15, consisting mostly of cigars, cigarettes and candy.

—Master Clark King, son of Dr. and Mrs. D. D. King, who underwent an operation for tonsils at Thompson Memorial hospital last week and who has been confined to his bed for three months with inflammatory rheumatism, is getting along nicely. It was erroneously stated in Thursday's Robesonian that Master Clark had been confined with infantile paralysis.

—Messrs. Henry Allen, L. R. Hedgepeth and Vernon Townsend of Lumberton were among the freshmen who were pledged to the Phi Kappa Beta social fraternity at Wake Forest college, according to an announcement just made by the Wake Forest news.

—60,000 stamps were sold by the Lumberton post office during the month of December. More than half this number were sold for postcards. Total receipts at the postoffice for the quarter ending December 31 this year were \$7,424.48, as compared with \$7,230.09 last year.

—Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Sharpe returned Friday evening from Chapel Hill, where they attended a 3-days' newspaper institute under the auspices of the North Carolina Press association, Southern Newspaper Publishers association and the University of North Carolina.

—Rev. T. McM. Grant, pastor of Chestnut Street Methodist church, Mrs. Grant and their daughter, little Miss Ruby, returned Thursday from a ten-days' visit among relatives. Mrs. Grant and Miss Ruby spent most of the time at the home of the former's parents at Kinston, and Mr. Grant visited his twin daughters by a former marriage at the home of their grandparents at Sunbury. The young ladies both have had measles but have recovered nicely.

Cotton Market

Middling cotton is selling on the local market today at 11 3/4 cents the pound.

GOOD WORKMANSHIP DEMANDS GOOD TOOLS

Garments sent to us are really given four cleanings because our modern Glover equipment continually changes the naptha 8 times an hour. Clothes are removed from a body of solvent just as sparkling in its purity as that into which they were placed. You would not entrust a \$50 bill to any but the safest bank. Give your suit or dress the same protection and entrust it to us. LUMBERTON DRY CLEANING CO. Eddie L. McNeill, Manager. 4th Street Phone 94

COUNTY ATTORNEY WILL FILE ANSWER TOMORROW

An action to re-possess the land on which the new county home is situated and also to get possession of lands now the property of Mrs. Mollie Norment of Lumberton has been commenced in Robeson Superior court by Carl and Rowland Gregory and Mary Gregory Armstrong upon the contention that these lands formerly belonged to their grandmother, Rose McNeill Gregory, wife of R. B. Gregory, and that it was sold by their grandfather after his wife's death and his marriage to Susan F. Kelly.

The suit is for the partition of a 600-acre tract of land belonging to the grandmother of the plaintiffs, and they are suing for one fourth interest. The plaintiffs are the children of Matthew Gregory, who was one of the five children of Rose McNeill Gregory. One of the children of Rose McNeill Gregory died without issue, and so Matthew Gregory was entitled to one-fourth interest in the estate, the claim. Matthew Gregory enlisted in the Civil war and suffered a skull wound, requiring him to wear a silver plate in his head the remainder of his life. They allege that his mind was affected by the wound and that he was not capable of transacting business and thus they cannot be barred by statutory limitations. Matthew Gregory died in 1920.

The land in question was deeded by R. B. Gregory and wife, Susan Kelly Gregory, to Dr. S. E. Rozier of St. Pauls. Mrs. Mollie Norment and Miss Dora Rozier acquired it under the will of Dr. Rozier. In 1920 Robeson county bought 144 acres of the property from Miss Dora Rozier for \$24,000, and it is this land on which the present county home is situated. Mrs. Norment still holds that part of the 600-acre tract which was willed to her. All the property is said to be worth from \$150 to \$200 per acre under present conditions.

County Attorney David H. Fuller stated this morning that he was preparing an answer to the complaint filed by the plaintiffs and that he would file it tomorrow. He is under the impression that the case can be barred under the statutory limitations. Johnson & Johnson have been retained by Mrs. Norment, and they said this morning that they had not yet investigated the case enough to make a statement.

The plaintiffs are represented by Mr. F. D. Hackett and the firm of Britt and Britt.

MR. HECTOR McRAE PASSES AFTER EXTENDED ILLNESS

End Came at Thompson Memorial Hospital, Where He Had Been Patient for Several Weeks, Following Stroke of Paralysis—Funeral and Interment at Carolina Church Today.

Mr. Hector McRae, aged 71, passed away at the Thompson Memorial hospital yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock after an illness extending over several weeks.

Mr. McRae, who was unmarried, lived on his farm out from Maxton until he suffered a stroke of paralysis several weeks ago. He was brought here to the hospital and remained in declining health until his death. He was a staunch Presbyterian and was well known in the upper part of the county.

The body was taken today to Carolina church, near Cho, S. C., where funeral and interment were held at 12 o'clock, Mr. A. K. Morrison and several people from Dillon, S. C., accompanying the body to its last resting place. No immediate relatives survive.

STORE ROBBED AT McDONALD

A general mercantile store belonging to Mr. Furman Price of McDonald was entered Thursday night and approximately \$75 or a \$100 worth of shirts, handkerchiefs, socks, shoes and cigarettes taken. Sheriff McMillan and his deputies were called to McDonald Friday afternoon and searched the house of one colored man but found no clues.

BE GOOD TO YOURSELF AND YOUR BUSINESS DURING 1927

BY ADVERTISING IN EVERY ISSUE OF THE ROBESONIAN. 1927 will be a GOOD YEAR FOR BUSINESS TO EVERY MERCHANT WHO BEGINS ADVERTISING WITH THE FIRST ISSUE IN JANUARY AND KEEPS IT UP THROUGH THE YEAR.

See us for gifts of all kinds "Always something new." MOORE'S GIFT SHOP. Phone 454 Chestnut St. In front of Lorraine Hotel.