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WM. H. STEWART, EDITOR

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SOME INTERESTING STATEMENTS

A Platform Adopted by the Workingmen's Club of Charlotte. Salisbury has some Similar Afflictions.

At a meeting of the Workingmen's Club, of Charlotte, held last week, for the purpose of considering the advisability of putting a municipal ticket in the field, the following platform was adopted:

"We, the members and representatives of the Workingmen's Club, in order to secure more unity of action among the working classes of the city of Charlotte and in order to protect the public welfare of all the citizens thereof, do ordain and publish this platform:

"(1.) We call attention to the enormous debt of the city, with its consequent burden of taxation. It ought to be clear to any reasonable man that when taxation on values equals the interest on money, the result is confiscation by the State or municipality. Further, it ought to be clear to intelligent men that when taxes are outrageously high, as they are at present in this city, laboring people cannot hope to own their own homes. And we declare it to be our belief that when men lose their ambition to own in their own right a permanent habitation for themselves and family or find that through circumstances which are the creation of law this ambition is impossible of realization, they resort to a large degree to interest in civilization and in their country. Therefore, we demand that expenditures shall be decreased until such a time as the city's debt shall be reduced to a reasonable sum and the tax demands shall cease to be a burden to the people.

"(2.) We call attention to the fact that while the city of Charlotte has been plunged headlong into debt, it yet has very little in the way of permanent and beneficial improvements to show for such expenditures. Therefore, we demand that in the future wiser economy shall prevail in spending the people's money.

"(3.) We call attention to the fact that at present city officials frequently fill orders for material to be used by the city charging the city such prices as they choose, without letting such contracts to the lowest bidder after due advertisement. And we declare to be our belief that if this practice is not of itself evidence of corruption, it is nevertheless a system that will sooner or later work injury to the city and lead officials into ways of graft. Therefore, we demand that all the material furnished the city shall be furnished on contract and let to the lowest responsible bidder.

"(4.) We demand that subsequent appointments on the police, fire and health commission, created by recent enactment by the General Assembly, shall be made non-partisan not only in name but in fact.

"(5.) We demand that the members of the police and fire departments shall abstain from interference in elections in the city; whether such elections be held for the city, county, or State.

"(6.) We are unqualifiedly in favor of abolishing the office of recorder of the city of Charlotte.

"(7.) We invite all citizens of the city of Charlotte to co-operate with us in selecting candidates and helping to elect the same."

So many of the above citations are common Salisbury it makes interesting reading. We would sympathize with Charlotte, but our lot is so much worse that we have no sympathy to spare.

TWO DAYS SESSION.

County Commissioners Receive Reports and Pass on Important Items.

The county commissioner met in regular session Monday, March 6 and adjourned Tuesday, March 7, holding a two days' session.

Following is a synopsis of the matters that came before and were acted upon by them:

Rev. V. Y. Booser appeared in behalf of the people of Franklin township and asked that the New Mocksville road be macadamized at an early date. The people of that section agree to furnish the rock beyond Grant's creek for that purpose. The commissioners ordered the chain gang sent to this road as soon as the work planned on Long street has been completed.

The county attorney was instructed to appeal to the governor for a pardon for Anderson Allison, a convict on the county road, whose family is destitute and will have to be cared for by the county unless he is released.

S. J. Holder, superintendent of the chain gang, reports that very little work was done on the month of February on account of the bad weather.

T. D. Brown, superintendent of the county home, reports 16 white and five colored inmates, all of whom are in good health.

D. R. Julian, sheriff, reports general taxes collected \$24,382.05 and special taxes \$8,921.12. Total \$33,303.17, and exhibited statements as to disbursements.

The finance committee exhibits a report showing the amount in the treasurers hands as follows:

Cash on hand for school fund, March 8, 1905, \$6,180.25.

Overdraft on county funds \$1,608.55.

Cash on hand road fund \$5,540.15.

Cash on hand railroad fund, Salisbury township, \$3,071.08.

Cash on hand railroad fund, Gold Hill township \$215.93.

Cash on hand railroad fund, Morgan township \$188.11.

Cash on hand Rowan county bond fund \$110.07.

Total cash on hand \$13,656.04.

Chairman T. C. Bernhardt stated that he had made an agreement subject to the approval of the board, whereby Messrs. Henderson, Heilig and Linn should retain the offices now occupied by them, at the rental of \$10 per month by each of them, rental payable monthly, said contract to begin on April 1st, 1905, and ending on Dec. 1st, 1906. The contract was approved by the board.

A petition was read asking that the old Lexington road be closed and discontinued upon receipt of \$500 from the Southern Railway Company, said \$500 to be expended in repairing Long street as per former agreement, provided that a crossing be maintained at what is now known as the Trexler crossing and the North end connected with 15th or 16 street, Spencer.

The contract to furnish feed to the chain gang for the ensuing month was awarded to Max Moses and the supplies to Klutz & Randleman.

Amounts ranging from \$3.00 to \$6.00 were allowed to a number of out of door poor.

A number of claims were presented, audited and ordered paid out of the general county fund, the public wood fund and funds for the poor.

At the second day's meeting at the call of the chairman several townships were represented by supervisors of roads and enterprised ideas as to the best means of improving the roads of the county. It was agreed by all that

MRS. KEPLEY'S DWELLING BURNED.

The Entire Building and Contents, Including \$230 in Cash, Destroyed.

The farmers have been busy plowing around here during the past week.

The school at Gheen's school house, taught by Miss Alma Powlas, will close next Friday.

Mrs. Mary Owens was visiting in our community last week.

G. H. Jacobs, of Coolemeec, was down here last week.

S. Y. Goodman, one of enterprising farmers, has bought a new pea huller [that will hull from 10 to 15 bushels of peas per hour.

The Kincaid Bras', String Band is getting in good shape now. The boys contemplate getting a new bass fiddle.

Reter A. Ritchie has been quite sick with a gripe for some time.

The house of Mrs. Lurritter Kepley, situated about 8 miles from Salisbury, was burned down last Thursday morning about 1 o'clock. The family was using the dining room for sleeping apartments when the fire occurred. They were awakened by the dog barking and gaining to the door, burst it open, when the flames were seen coming down the stairs. Soon the entire building was in flames. Mrs. Kepley's son and family was living with the time. Everything belonging to both families was burned, including about \$250 in cash. They managed to save a couple of sacks of flour, and a little of their meat. All the wearing apparel was burned. The fire started on the second floor of the house. How it started is a mystery that will probably never be solved. The unfortunate family has the sympathy of the entire community.

SATURN.

Carnegie Gives \$12,000 to Livingstone College.

New York, March 18.—Booker T. Washington called upon Andrew Carnegie today in company with Bishop Clinton, one of the trustees, and Dr. W. H. Goler, the president, of Livingstone College, for colored people, at Salisbury, N. C., under the auspices of the African M. E. Zion Church. They suggested to Mr. Carnegie that he present the college with a library building. This Carnegie consented to do. The amount of the gift was not made public.

Feet Crushed and Amputated.

Joe White, a young white man from Kansas City, Mo., while attempting to board a train at the depot here Friday, made a misstep which caused him to fall and get his feet under the train wheels mashing them so badly that it was necessary to amputate them.

the overseers of all sections should be instructed to work all hands four full days as required by law.

It was ordered that the sheriff be instructed to collect double taxes from merchants who had failed to report their gross sales as required by law, prior to the April meeting.

Rowan's County Board of Education, consisting of the following gentlemen: Rev. C. B. Miller, of China Grove, Hon. John S. Henderson, of Salisbury, and Esq. P. A. Sloop, of Yost, was re-appointed by the last legislature. Rowan has splendid board, one that has accomplished much good for the schools throughout the county and a change of it's personnel could hardly have improved it.

NEGRO KILLED AT SPENCER.

Run Over by Shifting Engine Early Saturday Morning.

Fred Edwards, a steady industrious negro, an employee of the Southern at Spencer, was found dead on the tracks near the coal chute Saturday morning. There are several stories as to how the accident occurred, but no one seems to have seen the affair and just how it happened may never be known. The most probable story indicates that Edwards was going to his work on the chute and was struck and run over by a shifting engine, some say No. 1626. The body was badly mangled, almost cut in two about the waist, and his legs were badly lacerated. It was quite foggy and dark which probably was sufficient to prevent his being seen. He was married and twenty-odd years of age. His remains were brought to Salisbury and prepared for burial by Undertaker Wright.

A Negro Burglar Shot.

Early Sunday morning a burglar in making efforts to enter the residence of S. R. Richards, in this city, awoke Clint Green, a roomer at Mr. Richards, who fired at the would be intruder and filled his face with shot. The fellow made his escape and going to Dr. Rumples, in search of a physician, he was captured by the police, who were called by Dr. Rumples.

A. B. Ice and J. S. Stout, of Clarksburg, W. Va., were in the city Saturday. They spent much of their time looking about for a suitable site on which to erect a handsome hotel.

SPENCER AND YADKIN RIPPLES.

Dr. Young's Residence Completed. The Season's First Snake. Eggs Plentiful.

Dr. J. W. Young, who is Spencer's pioneer physician, has completed and moved into his handsome residence on Newton Heights near corporate limits. The mansion is one of the handsomest in this section, being equipped with modern convenience. Workmen have just completed fitting up a wind-mill for him that pumps water from his well into a tank as high as the top of the house. It is of much convenience for watering the garden and lawn, also in case of fire.

The first black snake of this season was killed by W. B. Yarbrough. It measured four feet in length. It was killed on March 10, which is rather soon for them to crawl.

Farmers are busy ploughing for their crops. Wheat is beginning to grow for the last two weeks.

Our neighbors are getting plenty of eggs now, but James Lomax is the champion chicken raiser. He says they get from 20 to 26 eggs per day, pretty good for one family.

John Beck, who has been confined to his bed for several days with pneumonia, is improving we are glad note.

I will close with best wishes to the WATCHMAN and its readers.

Y.

The people of Albemarle have complained of the poor condition of the road-bed of the Yadkin railway, want it repaired and ask that another train be added to those now in service.

TRADING FORD NOTES.

Bill Snipes Says the Folks Down His Way Take the Watchman.

Trading Ford, March 11.—Fine weather now for farming, and the farmers are taking advantage of it.

A good crop of spring oats are being sowed.

We hear some speaking of cutting their cotton crop off half. That's right boys, work less and get more money is the latest policy.

The school at this place will close next week. There will be no exhibition as was thought some time ago. We commend Mrs. Sherrill for her art and training in the school. She has been a successful teacher.

Oh Bill, said my friend the other day, do you know what THE WATCHMAN will cost to subscribe for a whole year? Why, certainly, said I. It will cost you 50 cents if you subscribe now. For a whole year, said he? Why that beats all. I never heard of a paper like that is for 50 cents a year? Bill, by gosh, I don't believe it. How in the thunder can a man live and run a paper at them rates. Why it takes 50 cents worth of meat to do me a week. Yes, says I, but may be the Editor don't eat as much meat as you do. Don't know what he does and don't care. I am going to subscribe at once said he. That's right, said I, push 'em along. BILL SNIPES.

Thomas Jefferson, son of the famous tragedian Joseph Jefferson, played "Rip Van Winkle" in the opera house here Monday night.