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BIG THINGS A'DOING IN CHATHAM COUNTY

Plants Costing Millions Completed and Under Construction —A Village Rises in a Month at Tile Plant.

Big things are afoot in good old Chatham. The great power plant near Moncure is complete with the outlay of millions, and the work of beautifying the grounds is in progress.

Over near the Deep river, a mile or so below Gulf, the great brick and tile plant is being built with remarkable rapidity. It has been only a few weeks since the announcement of the organization of the company, which proposes to establish a plant costing hundreds of thousands, and ultimately millions, probably, was announced. Yet at this time the residence section is dotted with a score of cottages and great headway has been made in the building of the kilns.

There are two rows of bricklined cylindrical kilns for the brick with an excavation between the rows for a gas pipe to supply gas for burning the brick. While a few yards to the east is a great quadrilateral kiln for tiling. The kilns are all below the surface, and have required the removal of vast quantities of earth. A visit to the plant last Friday revealed a busy scene. One hundred and seventy-one hands have been employed in the development. The superintendent of construction is a hustler from the middle west. The writer couldn't tarry for the interview he was promised after the hustle of work hours should be over, but his eyes alone sufficed to convince him that there is to be no delay in completing the plant and that the extraordinary good weather of the past month has been a boon to the workers.

And looking out The Record's own office door, one may see the practically completed walls of the Pittsboro silk mill, a work, too, that has been greatly forwarded by the fine weather conditions. This is the first unit of a plant which within a few years will probably assume large proportions, and the forerunner, it is hoped, of other enterprises to be established at the old county seat town.

But Siler City, with its already considerable industrial start, with its cotton mill and furniture factories, is to have another plant in the near future, as well as a modern laundry.

And down the Sanford road a few miles a young mountain of crushed stone is rising to furnish the material for paving the stretch of highway through Pittsboro to the Lee county line, while the great white bridge across Deep river is already complete and work is about to begin on another cement bridge a bit above Cumbecks as a crossing for highway No. 60.

Altogether there are to be busy scenes in the old county, and main street in Pittsboro will not fail to be in the picture of activity, as Monday morning, saw work begin on the three brick buildings to occupy the burned corner site, and the foundation work on Dr. Farrell's building is under way.

MANY NEW BUILDINGS.

On a trip over the Jenks road from Pittsboro to Apex a few days ago, was seen many new dwelling houses the farmers are building, some of them being nice, substantial six and seven room houses. Much new land is being cleared up and getting ready for planting time. Over in that part of Wake, which joins Chatham, is a veritable tobacco country, many tobacco plant beds are to be seen along the roadside. From the Chatham line to Apex the country is thickly settled with prosperous farmers and tenants and from appearances a bumper tobacco crop will be raised in that section this year.

TEACHERS MEET.

The county teachers were in session Saturday. Dr. E. W. Knight, of the University, was present. Supt. Thompson spoke of the laws affecting the schools passed at the late session of the legislature. Principal Hasketh of Siler City is president of the county association.

PAY A VISIT TO PITTSBORO

Teachers Attend Parent-Teachers Meet—Moncure Local News of Interest.

Moncure, March 16.—The flu is still spreading in and around Moncure.

Mr. J. K. Barnes, cashier of the bank, has been sick several days with the flu, but is better today. We hope he will soon be out again.

Mr. Edwin Cathell, who had a position with Wade & Co. at Pineview, had the misfortune of dislocating his shoulder again. His uncle, Dr. Sowers, of Jonesboro, put his shoulder in place, and Edwin is getting on nicely.

Brick work for the new drug store is nearing completion.

Miss Grace Lindley, of Bynum, spent last week end with her sister, Mrs. H. G. Self.

All members of the Moncure school faculty attended the Teachers meeting at Pittsboro Saturday.

Miss Kathlyn Marley, teacher of music, entertained her pupils at a weenie roast Saturday evening, beginning at 6 o'clock. Each pupil invited one friend. The jolly crowd gathered at the school building and as it was a windy evening, they did not go very far, but stopped in a meadow beside a branch of water near the highway and built a bonfire. By the light of this fire they enjoyed the roast and also music given by Miss Hilda Wilkie on the guitar. When time came to disperse and go home, all thanked Miss Marley for the good time that they had.

Miss Kathlyn Marley, music teacher, and her class will give a musical comedy, "Footlight Revue," Saturday evening, March 21, at the school auditorium. Everybody cordially invited to come.

Miss Esther Womble, who has been sick with a cold, is able to be up, we are glad to state.

Mrs. E. E. Utley who has been at a hospital in Raleigh for two weeks, after an operation for appendicitis, will be able to come home Tuesday, we are glad to hear.

Mrs. R. H. Walls, who has been sick for several weeks, has resigned as teacher of the third and fourth grades at Moncure high school. Mrs. W. T. Utley has been secured to fill the vacancy. We are glad to state that Mrs. Walls is some better.

Miss Maggie Marks, who has been nursing many flu patients in Moncure, has returned to her home on route one. Miss Marks is a successful and efficient nurse.

Mrs. J. R. Dodson, who is boarding with Mrs. J. L. Womble, has secured a position as stenographer at the bank.

Mr. J. F. Morrison is spending this week at Norlina on business.

CO-OPS PAID IN THREE STATES.

Sum of \$1,890,000 Distributed in Settlement of Two Crops to Organized Growers.

Tobacco farmers in three states shared in the payments of \$1,890,000 made from the warehouses of the Tobacco Growers Co-Operative Association Monday of this week.

The Tobacco Association has now paid for the last pound of bright tobacco delivered by its members in 1922. It has completed final settlement with all of its members in South Carolina and Eastern North Carolina for their deliveries in the 1923 crop and has paid the Virginia and North Carolina members of the old bright tobacco belt in full for 35 grades of the 1923 crop, before all of its warehouses have closed the receiving tobacco of the crop of 1924.

IN MEMORIAM.

In loving memory of my dear brother, Woodson Lea Powell, who departed this life March 20, 1924: One long year has passed and gone, A voice we loved is still, A place is vacant in his home Which never can be filled. In the grave yard, softly sleeping, Where the flowers gently wave, Lies a beautiful character In a cold and silent grave.

Lone is the home and long the hours Since your sweet smiles have gone, But, Oh, a brighter home than ours, For Heaven is now thy own.

Good bye, dear brother, but not forever, For we will meet again, ere long, Where there will be no parting On the resurrection morn.

—His devoted brother, R. J. Powell, Roanoke, Va.

A BOOST FOR THE RECORD

Local and Personal News at Brickhaven—A Comment on Cotton and Prices.

Brickhaven, March 16.—Mrs. O. C. Kennedy is spending this week in Ahoskie with her sister, Mrs. W. L. Curtis.

Mrs. N. T. Overby and little Jewel Lane Overby, left Sunday for a week's stay with relatives at McCullers.

Mrs. Nannie Long is staying a while with relatives in Bonsal.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Harrington and children were week-end guests of relatives at New Hill.

The community was shocked and saddened when it was learned that Mr. W. J. Hannon had received a message stating that his sister had died, after a very brief illness of pneumonia. Mr. Hannon left immediately for his home near Carthage. Other members of the family are also ill. Sincerest sympathy is felt for the grief-stricken family.

Mr. C. S. Harrington, who has been confined to his bed for several weeks, is getting on very nicely indeed, and hopes to be able to be out again soon. Mr. Harrington holds a responsible position with the Cherokee Brick Co. and has many friends and relatives who will be eager to see him well and back again at his post.

King cotton is still at low ebb, so to speak, and the market still uncertain. We do not understand why the price of this commodity, which is most assuredly a necessity rather than a luxury, is so unsatisfactory and so uncertain. Something is wrong somewhere, for the work and expense taken to produce cotton is too great for the staple to bring such a low price. Can it be that dealing in "futures" and speculations is one of the causes? It is time, something is being done for the cotton growers of the country. It is neither fair nor just that conditions can be such that one who knows nothing of the needs of the average cotton farmer may within a few short hours, clear thousands of dollars by gambling in cotton "futures," and the producer barely receives a living price for his labor.

Of course the farmers themselves are partly to blame because of lack of cooperation, but still, something should be done to relieve the situation.

How about your County paper, folks? If you think there is a slump and you are thinking seriously of not renewing your subscription, remember both the editor and the contributors will appreciate your help in making this paper a representative county paper of the highest type. How about it?

Cooperation is the basis of success in every undertaking.

J. M. GARNER PASSES.

Mr. James M. Garner, one of Chatham's oldest citizens, died at the home of his son-in-law, Mr. James J. Hackney, Monday night, aged 73 years.

The deceased leaves a widow, Mrs. Mary Garner, two daughters, Mrs. J. J. Hackney and Mrs. Clarence Hackney, and five grand children to mourn his demise.

Mr. Garner had been in ill health for the past four years. He was a faithful member of the Rock Spring Baptist church and has been a Sunday school teacher for the past eight years, up to last summer when one of his eyes were put out accidentally. A good man has gone and he will be missed by those who have known him for many years.

Mr. Garner was indeed a conscientious christian and he prayed without ceasing, not only for himself but for his fellowman. His neighbors give him profound praise for his fidelity to his church, his home and his community. Truly, a good man has departed into his reward.

Funeral services were held at Mt. Pleasant Baptist church Wednesday afternoon, Rev. R. E. Gordon conducting the services. A large concourse of sorrowing relatives and friends attended.

Moonsine beer is killing cattle near Williamston.

Five applications have been received by Warden Busbee as executioner at the State penitentiary.

MRS. I. H. HEARNE IS INJURED

Chief Justice Hoke Resigns—Justice Stacy Appointed Successor—L. R. Varser Elevated to Supreme Court Bench.

New Hill, Rt. 2, March 16.—Mr. D. A. Jones has purchased a new Ford touring car.

Mr. and Mrs. Claud Bland and little daughter, Virginia, of Morrisville, were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Bland.

Quite a number of friends gave Mrs. Ernie Durham a surprise party Saturday night at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Bland. All who attended had a delightful time.

Mrs. J. R. Matthews and Miss Ethel Johnson spent Saturday in Pittsboro, Mrs. Matthews attending the teachers meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Beckwith, Myrtle and Robert Beckwith, Dwight, Alice and Rennie Webster spent Tuesday in Clayton with Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Webster. They were accompanied home by Mrs. Webster and little daughter, Evelyn.

Her many friends will learn with deep regret that Mrs. I. H. Hearne had the misfortune to fall from a wagon, breaking the small bone in her leg and lacerating one side of her face. Dr. Chapin attended and dressed the wounds. While the fall was not serious, the wounds are very painful. Mrs. Hearne is getting along nicely and her many friends hope she will soon be out again.

Mrs. R. L. Trotter is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Drake.

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Holt, Mr. and Mrs. Lacy Wilson were living in the same house (known as the Joe Boling place) at Bonsal. Early Monday night while both families were in New Hill the house was destroyed by fire, and all of their household property destroyed. This was a nice home and it is not known how the fire originated. Mrs. Wilson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Holt.

Mr. William Farrar has returned to his home after spending several weeks in Atlanta, Ga., where he attended a barber college.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Beckwith and Claud, Jr., of Morrisville route one, spent the latter part of last week with relatives on this route.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Lasater and children, of Durham were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Lasater.

We are sorry to know that Mr. W. M. Goodwin is ill. He was unable to attend church services Sunday. He is the teacher of the Bible class.

Miss Elizabeth Riddle was the week end guest of Misses Blanche and Ruth Holt.

F. M. Mann, of Raleigh, spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Mann.

Rev. J. F. Johnson filled his regular monthly appointment at New Elam Christian church Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. Mr. Johnson is an excellent minister and the large congregation enjoyed the fine sermon he delivered.

J. C. Thomas, of Durham, visited his mother, Mrs. Bettie Thomas, during the week-end.

W. L. Beckwith, of Rt. 4, Apex, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Beckwith.

A SURPRISE BIRTHDAY.

The brothers, sisters and children of Mrs. T. B. Burke surprised her by going to her home Sunday morning with well-filled baskets, where they gave her a bountiful birthday dinner with good things to eat, too tedious to mention. She also received several nice and useful presents.

The birthday cake was made by her daughter, Mrs. C. R. Gilmore, and contained 41 candles.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Goldston, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Gilmore and son, of Siler City; Benj. E. Burke, Goldston; Mr. and Mrs. Cleve Johnson and four daughters, Rt. 4, Sanford; Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Burke and family, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Golston and two children, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Goldston, Margaret, Herbert and Walter Goldston, all of Goldston; Mrs. J. R. Bright, Rt. 4, Sanford; Mrs. A. H. Jones and son, Siler City; Mr. Frank and Minter Johnson, Sanford.

All went away having spent a most pleasant day and wishing her many more happy birthdays.

ONE PRESENT.

CHIEF JUSTICE W. P. STACY

Chief Justice Hoke Resigns—Justice Stacy Appointed Successor—L. R. Varser Elevated to Supreme Court Bench.

Like a flash came the news Monday that Chief Justice Hoke had resigned and that Governor McLean had immediately promoted Justice W. P. Stacy to be chief justice, and appointed L. R. Varser, of Lumberton, a law partner of the governor, as successor to Justice Stacy.

Judge Hoke resigned because of the burden of the position upon one of his age, 74. He has served many years as superior court judge and justice of the supreme court. His health has been poor for several weeks but his resignation came without warning to the public. Judge Hoke has long been considered an exceptionally able jurist and a most lovable gentleman.

Chief Justice Stacy's rise has been phenomenal. It was less than 20 years ago that Judge Stacy was a country school teacher at Ingold, Sampson county. Fifteen years ago he began the practice of law at Wilmington. Six or eight years ago he was elected judge from the sixth district, but resigned to serve as attorney for the Flagler-Kenan estate. A vacancy occurring on the supreme bench, however, he, in all his youthfulness made the race for it and won. He has won plaudits as a supreme court justice and now has become the youngest chief justice in the United States. He is a most genial and likable gentleman, utterly unspoiled by his high honors.

Justice Varser has never served as judge of any court. However, he ranks unusually high as a lawyer and has won distinction as a state senator. He was a member of Governor McLean's own law firm and the Governor has appointed to this high position a man whom he thoroughly knows.

The installation or inaugural ceremony occurred Tuesday morning at the assembling of the court. Chief Justice Stacy's oath was administered by Justice Adams and that of Justice Varser by the new chief justice. Judge Stacy's career was reviewed in an address by Hon. John D. Bellamy of Wilmington, while Hon. S. McIntyre of Lumberton spoke words of commendation of Justice Varser. Chief Justice Stacy himself paid tribute to the retired Chief Justice Hoke.



REV. B. TOWNSEND.

Evangelist of the Baptist State Mission Board who will conduct a protracted meeting at the Pittsboro Baptist church, beginning the first Sunday in April.

SHOT AT OFFICERS.

Deputies Robert Campbell and Floyd Quackenbush were ordered off the place by Cleveland Self when he met the officers on the farm which he rents of Mr. Dewey Dorsett. Self had a rifle and a bucket at the time and it is thought to have been on his way to the still which the officers were looking. On leaving the farm they passed Self's house and were fired upon by Self and his son, we are informed, the son having used a shot gun. No serious hit occurred, though, we are told that a shot or two perhaps hit the officers. They heard the bullets whistle. However, The officers renewed the search Sunday and found the distillery. Self was bound over to court by Squire Blair Tuesday.

GEORGE ROSS POU

UNDER STEADY FIRE Superintendent of Penitentiary Pays For Goods For Family With State Funds.

POU APPROVED BY BOARD.

George Ross Pou, superintendent of the penitentiary during the Morrison administration, has been under fire for some weeks. First, it developed that the penitentiary had fallen nearly half-million dollars behind during the last four years, while the institution under former managements had been self-sustaining. Pou explained this deficit by showing that a large percentage of the prisoners are dead heads, utterly unable to do manual labor, by bad crop years on the state farm, and by the fact that improvements ordered had cost more than the estimated cost in the appropriation bills authorizing the improvements.

Defenders of Pou's management have stated that the penitentiary can never again be self-sustaining since the prison reforms demanded by the moral sentiment of the State. On the other hand, Capt. J. J. Laughinghouse, a former superintendent and others say the penitentiary can be and should be self-sustaining.

This large deficit served to turn the attention of people to the character of the management of the penitentiary. It developed that, not only under Pou, but under former superintendents, convicts have been employed as house servants, that the compensation of the superintendent and other officials include their homes and food, and that such officials have not been over modest in their charges upon the state.

Certain store bills came to light in which numerous items that could have been purchased only for the private use of members of the official family were paid for with state funds. The daily papers held off publication till the Elizabeth City Independent published an article which was copied by the News and Observer. Later that paper dug up a drug store account upon which such items as rouge, gold fish food, and many others of the same character had been paid for with state funds.

These matters developed immediately before the final meeting of the old board Monday and the organization of the new board, when the election of a superintendent for the next four years was scheduled to take place.

Pou Edorsed by Old Board.

The new board postponed the election of a superintendent until April 7, six days after Pou's term expires. The old board took cognizance of the charges and in a long resolution reviewed the charges, explained them, showed that the items in question had been discovered and that Pou had reimbursed the state for the goods accidentally charged to the state's account, and unqualifiedly endorsed Mr. Pou and his administration of the state prison. All bills, at the suggestion of Governor McLean, had been gathered together and scanned, and the sum total of charges for personal items had amounted to only \$219.62 for the four years and this sum had been paid back by Superintendent Pou on March 3. Further all bills have been tendered the men in charge of the several departments of the prison for approval, and the bills in question had been approved by Warden S. J. Busbee and not by Supt. Pou, and further, that they had not been paid till approved by the president of the board, thus indicating that the non-detection of the charges for personal items was due to those officials and not to Supt. Pou, who, presumably, would not be aware that the items had been charged to the state and not to his personal account.

Employed Relatives.

Another criticism leveled against Supt. Pou in Tuesday's News and Observer is that he employed relatives to do certain remunerative work for the prisoners. The instance of the employment of his uncle, Dr. J. H. Irie, of Wendell, to do the dental work for the prisoners is cited and the statement made that Dr. Irie received for this work for the six months beginning with June 1,

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