

# THE CHATHAM RECORD

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## MOVIE SHOW GOES UP IN ROARING FLAMES

Films Catch Fire Tuesday Night—Crowd Tumble Out Without Casualty—Terrific Flames Ruin C. H. Trees.—Big loss of Caskets.

The severest public loss due to the blaze which destroyed the old Lanus store house occupied by the Casco theatre, Tuesday night, was the damage to the trees on the east side of the court house square and in front of the destroyed structure. The flames were so fierce that the beautiful maple directly in front of the fated building was burned alive, while those on the eastern border of the court house square were parched fearfully on the side next to the roaring flames.

The show was drawing to a close Tuesday evening when the film burst into uncontrollable blaze. The crowd rushed out pellmell, but without casualty. The wooden structure was doomed, though for once in the history of the town running water was soon accessible, from the pipe line used in the paving construction. But, even if the water had been immediately accessible, the pressure was too small to have successfully fought the blaze in the two-story and highly inflammable structure.

Fortunately, the wind set just right to threaten neighboring structures the least possible. The R. M. Burns home, one of the oldest buildings in the town of Pittsboro, and containing specimens of the very finest of antebellum craftsmanship, was not threatened at all, though within only a few feet of the doomed building, being protected by trees and blaze bearing obliquely across the street by the northeast corner of the court house. At the height of the blaze, however the intense heat did set fire to the little county garage on the southeast corner of the square. But water from the pipe line mentioned served to quench the flame before it utterly destroyed the little structure or threatened the next little one, containing, it was stated several barrels of gasoline. A slight shift of the wind had made the danger in this quarter more immediate and would have given the prisoners in jail an uncomfortable hour from smoke and heat if they had not been moved.

The two-story building, long used as a store but in recent months occupied by the Casco Theatre, was built of pine heart, evidently, and made a surprisingly vicious and scaring blaze. The super-heated gasses from the smoldering pine within rolled out the northeast door in voluminous flame. Several snap shots of the scene were taken by Mr. Harry W. Bell, which, if successful should serve as a reminder of one of the intensest blazes Pittsboro is likely to see.

The building, belonging to the Lanus, estate was without insurance, as was the equipment of the theatre. However, the chairs, piano and one film were safely removed. But upstairs was the store room for coffins and caskets of the Chatham Hardware Company. There were three about seventy-five caskets and coffins some of them very costly, and only five of them were saved. Mr. Griffin, head of the Hardware Company, had \$1,000 insurance on his stock, but the loss is evidently much heavier, as some of the caskets sell for several hundred dollars.

The loss to the three young men who owned the theatre, while not mounting, is severe, under the circumstances. We understand that one film destroyed stands them in such case in the forfeiture of \$450. The loss to the Lanus estate, while considerable, is not so great, in view of the need for modernizing Pittsboro business houses, as at first might appear. In fact, as suggested above, one of the most serious damages is that to the beautiful trees of the square and of that part of East street.

During the blaze, the veteran Squire Burns was helpless in his home only a few feet away; yet, as stated, the fortunate drift of the wind and the barrier of trees, prevented any great degree of uneasiness for the Burns structure.

A feature of the event that causes talk was the recent prophecy of Evangelist Stewart, whose meetings at the Methodist church the past two weeks were more or less affected by the operation of the theatre. Mr. Stewart is reported to have said that something would happen to that theatre, and that soon. But it was rather a case of self-defense that caused the conflict between the theatre and

## SUING SOUTHERN OIL CO.

E. G. Morris Seeks \$8,000 Damage From Oil Company.

E. G. Morris, the Asheboro real estate dealer, was here on Tuesday and entered suit for \$8,000 against the Southern Oil Company, of High Point, for violation of a contract made in connection with the sale of the lot on which the new filling station on Main street is located.

The contract for the sale of the property contained a provision that the Southern Oil Company would build the filling station and lease it to Mr. Morris' son Clifford for a term of 5 years at a rental of \$15 a month, to be cancelled only in case of mismanagement or failure to make good on the part of the lessee.

The Oil Company erected the filling station, but have leased it to Messrs. W. F. Bland and Joe Carroll who have occupied the station and have made a fine start in business. Since the lease to Messrs. Carroll and Bland, Mr. Morris has bought the filling station now operated by Mr. A. B. Roberson, possession to be secured on January 1.

Mr. Morris has employed Messrs. Siler and Barber, of Pittsboro, and Congressman Hammer's firm at Asheboro to prosecute his suit.

## BRICHAVERN NOTES

—Brickhaven, July 13.—At last the longed for rain has come and while it was not a soaking rain, the shower will help wonderfully, and we are so grateful and thankful that the drought has been broken.

Harold Mims, Hayes Harrington, and Jack Harrington, will leave for the Boy Scout Camp near Fort Bragg next Thursday. We are very glad that boys are having this opportunity and hope that they may enjoy the two weeks in the open and return greatly benefited in every way by the experience.

Messrs. W. A. Griffin, Sam Utley, and Grady Truelove, accompanied by Misses Annie Utley and Louise Harrington motored to Lakeview yesterday.

The ball game played here Saturday between the Cary nine and the home team resulted in the score of 6 to 12 in favor of the latter. Fuquay Springs will play here next Saturday.

Mrs. Allen Davis, of Raleigh, is spending a few days here with his daughter, Mrs. A. M. Cotton.

The Junior Christian Endeavor social which took place last Wednesday afternoon and seemed to have glad, happy time.

The superintendent is well pleased with the progress the Juniors are making and commend them highly for being so enthusiastic and interested at the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Overby, of McCullers, have been visiting their sons Messrs. J. H., N. T., and R. H. Overby. They returned to their home on Sunday.

Master Kenneth Mims, of eNw Hill, is spending this week with his aunt, Mrs. H. A. Harrington.

The members of Christian Chapel church held a business meeting after services last Sunday and voted almost unanimously that Rev. Fuller Johnson continue the pastorate of that church another year. Mr. Johnson has served the people faithfully and well, and we feel that it is wise to recall him to the work.

Mr. and Mrs. Garland Oldham, of Carboanton have taken rooms at the Boylan Ranch and will probably be in our community several months. They seem to be splendid people and we are always glad to have such people with us.

Mr. and Mrs. Phyl Harrington, who have been spending their vacation in West Virginia, have returned and report a glorious time. We are very glad to have them home again.

the meeting. The young men owners, Messrs. S. H. Moffitt, Will London, and J. F. Phillips, had their contracts for films before they were informed of the coming of the evangelist, and like the fellow who had hold of the bear, found it impossible to turn loose and save themselves.

Pittsboro had not previously had a movie show, and this misfortune will probably mean another long term without one, though there are many who will not regret the fire half so much if that proves to be the case. However, there is probably no one in town who does not sympathize with the young men who have suffered the loss of their investment in what they hoped would in the long run prove a profitable enterprise.

## MANY BILLS PAID BY ROAD COMMISSIONERS

The board met in regular session Monday with all members present. The following bills were approved: Isaac Ferguson, difference in mules \$150.

Hanover Bank, New York, to Jay note, \$10287.00.

R. A. Doughton, for registration and license for 3 trucks, \$4.50.

J. B. Burns, boarding road prisoners, \$18.90.

R. F. Huddleston, lumber, 464.18.

S. J. Lindley, \$73.75.

O. M. Poe, lumber, \$90.90.

Tisingle and Starr hauling lumber, \$40.32.

Birch Phillips, June salary, \$75.00.

J. R. Coggins, corn, hay and etc., to J. W. Harmon, \$63.84.

C. S. Ellis, Machine Co., shop work, \$7.35.

J. L. Brewer, June salary, \$65.00.

E. M. Phillips, June salary, loading pipe, \$76.70.

Floyd Sizemore, June salary, \$76.00.

Joe Phillips, 30 days work on roads \$60.00.

E. T. Brooks, axe, phone messages, and freight, \$2.95.

L. L. Smith, lumber, \$158.55.

Maness Garage, repairs to road machine, \$10.30.

Thomas Hamlet, June salary, \$75.

R. A. Wilson, June salary, bolts 35c \$76.35.

Frank Gattis, June salary.

Lee Copeland, labor \$4.50.

Frank Copeland " \$11.25

Joe Hammock, Jr., " \$58.00

M. J. Burns, " \$40.00.

Floyd Norwood " \$51.00

Alfred Johnson, salary, rent of mules and machinery, shop bills \$227.75.

Justice Riddle, salary, \$100.00

Chatham Hardware Co., \$219.03.

Standard Oil Co., \$785.91.

Siler City Hardware Co., Dynamite \$37.50.

Henry Eubanks, labor, \$13.75.

Will Copeland, " \$7.00

Bud Hackney, " \$4.50.

Wm. Sturdivant " \$58.27.

Doc Hackney " \$4.50.

Doc Perry, " \$10.12.

Milton Harris, " \$61.50.

Simon Burke, " \$7.50.

John Sanders, " \$10.00.

John Speagle, " \$17.77.

Henry Williams, " \$26.50.

Fred Roan, " \$21.45.

Will Hargrove, " \$26.50.

Phil Lee, " \$45.37.

Lonnie Gunter, " \$18.00.

Bailey Hackney, " \$6.75.

Thomas Scurlock " \$33.55.

Joe Farrar, " \$50.00.

Marcus Gunter " \$10.12

Julius Gunter " \$3.75.

Paul Hackney, " \$6.75.

Johnnie Jackson, " \$22.25.

Conroe Headen " \$32.12.

Baxter Copeland " \$4.50.

Blake Baldwin, " \$66.00.

Hullian Copeland, " \$4.50.

James Mann, " \$34.50.

David Jones, June salary, \$65.00.

J. M. Hammock, shop work, \$25.85.

J. W. Harmon, freight paid, \$5.76

J. T. Boone, groceries to Harmon, \$2.65.

J. W. Harmon, June salary, \$150.00

J. W. Harmon, pay roll, June, 666.46.

Oren Roberson, labor \$10.00.

Sam Beard, labor, \$20.00.

D. C. Beard, June salary, \$75.00.

Broidy Johnson, June salary \$65.

W. B. Harper, shop work, \$50.25.

Thos. Leach, 6 prs. shoes to J. W. Harmon, \$20.00.

Elder Motor Company, repairs to road machine, \$116.90.

Chatham Motor Co., tires, etc., \$55.85.

Walden & Thomas, freight, \$1.87.

The Hardware Store, Siler City, \$25.25.

R. H. Moffitt and Co., work on Packard truck, \$94.15.

Goldston Motor Co., gas and oil, \$9.45.

E. F. Craven, repair work, \$31.37.

Griggs Sales Co., tires for Packard truck, \$180.00.

W. M. Norwood, salary for June, \$75.00.

G. M. Smith, salary, \$75.00.

Bennett Hardware Co., bolts, \$15.7.

Ralph Harper, shop work, \$16.05.

A. B. Filling Station, oil and spark plugs, \$5.55.

The Hardware Store Co., \$103.10.

Connell and Johnson, supplies to Harmon, \$351.80.

T. M. Bland & Co., supplies to A. Johnson, \$244.65.

Connell & Johnson, supplies to A. Johnson, \$292.77.

## CHATHAM TO HAVE COUNTY FARM AGENT

District Agent McCrary Receives Assurance from County Commissioners of Co-Operation—County to Pay only \$900.—Board of Agriculture to be chosen.

Monday was a day unusual significance for Chatham county. That day the county commissioners consented to make an appropriation to secure a county agent. The county has been without such an agency for several years and, to the casual observer has not been keeping pace in its agricultural progress with counties which have such agents.

As stated in the Record two weeks ago, District Agent O. F. McCrary, had concluded it was time to attempt again to secure the co-operation of the commissioners in the support of an agent for Chatham, and came over to consult with a few of the Chatham folk. He expected to return the first Monday, but, on advice, decided that he would have a better opportunity at the second Monday meeting. He came again the latter of last week and thoroughly enlisted the interest of County Attorney, Horton.

He was here Monday and presented such a proposition to the commissioners that they could scarcely afford to turn it down. Mr. McCrary proposes to put a proved man in the county and asked for an appropriation of only \$900.00. Mr. McCrary says that he will put a man in the field just as soon as he can find the right man, and hopes that it will not be long.

## County Board of Agriculture

Mr. McCrary suggested the selection of a board of agriculture for the county, in accord with the more progressive practice. This board will be advisory to the county agent and helpful to him in broadcasting his plans over the county and securing the co-operation of the people.

Mr. McCrary asked the commissioners to take charge of the selection of the board of agriculture, and they in turn deputized County Attorney W. P. Horton to make a careful selection of three good men from each township, and to designate a chairman and two assistants. These men, according to Mr. McCrary, are not to be chosen because they are wire-pullers or politicians, but on the ground of public spirit and a vital interest in the welfare of the farmers.

Together with the county agent the board of agriculture will plan a county-wide program, similar to that of Alamance published in last week's Record.

Further, Mr. McCrary assures the Record that he hopes to put a man here who will put old Chatham upon the agricultural map and make her blossom as a rose.

## SENDERS RESPONSIBLE FOR RETURN POSTAGE

Affective August 1, the postal laws are amended as follows: All domestic insured and collect-on-delivery parcels are accepted with the understanding that the senders in every instance, guarantee any return or forwarding postage which may be necessary when such parcels become undeliverable. All domestic insured and collect-on-delivery should bear, in connection with the sender's return cards pledges guaranteeing return and forwarding postage, but regardless of whether or not the parcels bear such pledges they shall be treated as though the pledges were on the parcels.

S. D. JOHNSON, P. M.  
Pittsboro, N. C.

## EGG HATCHES AFTER 24 HOURS IN ICE BOX

Miss Fannie Horne can claim a unique experience with store-bought eggs. One day last week she got some from a Pittsboro store and placed them in the ice box. The next day taking them out for use, she discovered that one had an aged look and laid it on the window sill where the sun shone a goodly part of the day. Imagine her surprise when, after two or three days, a chick was hatched. The biddy is thriving, and, if its prenatal experience is significant of its vitality, it should live till its head is cut off.

A London hatter, Dr. J. E. Barnard, of London, working at night with his microscope, has discovered the infective agent in cancer.

## REVIVAL AT MONCURE

Home-Coming at Haywood—Sunday School Day at Providence—Personal Notes.

Moncure, N. C. July 13.—Mrs. J. R. Jenks and little children have returned home after a visit to relatives at Fort Mills, S. C.

Mrs. R. C. Goodchild, is spending a few days in Moncure, N. C.

A revival meeting began at the Methodist Church last Sunday morning July 12th, Rev. R. C. Goodchild preached a fine sermon and his singing was enjoyed very much. As Rev. Wm. Stewart, the evangelist, who had conducted a two weeks' meeting at Pittsboro, felt somewhat indisposed, he went to his home at Burlington, to spend the latter part of the week-end, but he is expected in Moncure today, Monday, to preach at 8 o'clock.

Rev. C. M. Lance, the pastor, preached a good sermon to a large congregation last Sunday evening. The singing by Rev. R. C. Goodchild and a solo by Mrs. R. C. Goodchild were enjoyed by the large congregation.

The Epworth League met at 7:30 o'clock and carried out an interesting meeting. Miss Catherine Thomas, the president was in the chair, minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary, Miss Pauline Ray, Mrs. W. W. Stedman was the leader for the evening. The subject for the evening was, "The Beatitudes of those who have not seen." It was a fine program.

Miss Mary Olinger, of Sanford, spent last week-end with her sister, Mrs. J. E. Moore.

Messrs. J. K. Barnes and C. D. Orrell motored to Raleigh one day last week on business.

Miss Inez Holt left today, Monday, to visit relatives and friends at Sanford.

Miss Amey Womble spent last week at Carroboro with her sister, Mrs. Hillary Marks.

There will be a Home Coming Day at Haywood at the Presbyterian church next Sunday, July 19th, 1925. Everybody is invited to attend and bring a basket. A good program of singing and speaking has been prepared.

This Home-Coming Day is not a denominational affair, but a community affair. There are many people who have relatives buried in the cemetery there, and who have moved away, but would like to come back home again!

Mrs. Lawrence McVicar, Providence Rhode Island is visiting her sister, Mrs. R. L. MacVicar, of Moncure, N. C. Mrs. S. V. Holt is spending today in Raleigh with relatives.

A down-pour of rain struck this community Monday evening. It was a gully-washer, as people express it. This rain was needed in this section very badly, for the extreme heat of the sun was beginning to wither the cotton and corn. Crops are looking good since the rain and it seems that we can see them growing.

Sunday School Day was observed at Providence M. E. Church last Sunday evening at three o'clock. The subject for the afternoon was "God's Good Gifts."

1. God's Gift to Childhood.
2. God's Gift of Home and Mother.
3. God's Gift of Love.
4. God's Gift of Church.
5. God's Gift of the Bible.
6. God's Good Gift of Christ.

Each point was brought out by the leader, Mr. Moyle Johnson.

The following children said recitations:-

Welcome,—Henry Johnson.

God is Good,—Swannie Cox.

Sit on the Lid and Laugh,—Raymond Cox, Estelle Johnson, and Ruth Stedman;

Children's Day—Estelle Johnson.

Just Because it is Children's Day—Ruth Stedman.

Do good for the Master, Thelma Johnson.

God Will Watch over You,—Camilla Stedman.

Recitation: Love—Wilbur Clegg.

The Ten Commandments. recited—Carlton Clegg.

Rev. Z. E. Cox read an interesting piece, the subject of which was "The Golden Windows."

Rev. R. C. Goodchild was present and made an interesting talk, then sang a solo—"Jesus Never Fails." He closed by singing the chorus over in Hindoo language.

This program was interspersed with songs by the children.

Hank's Chapel choir was present

## MRS. B. M. CAVINESS DROPS DEAD IN GARDEN

Quite a Batch of Interesting Items From Bennett—Farmer Equipping Home with Light Plant.

Bennett, July 13.—Miss Nancy Yow, who lived with her brother, Mr. Yow, who is a merchant here, died last Thursday after a short illness, though she had been in feeble health for some time. Her body was interred in the Shiloh Christian church cemetery of which church she had been a member for several years. Rev. R. G. Underwood, her pastor, conducted the services.

Saturday morning, Mrs. B. M. Caviness, wife of Brack Caviness, who lives three miles of Bennett, died suddenly while in the garden. Mr. Caviness was in the field at work and expecting her to bring some water from the house. When she failed to come, he returned to the house to see what was the matter, and entering the home he could not find her and going to the garden about three hundred yards found her dead. She had gotten a mess of potatoes and started back when life left her. She leaves her husband and one son, Columbus, who lives near Coleridge, and one daughter, Mrs. Johnnie Oats, near Bennett. She had been a faithful member for several years of Pleasant Grove Christian Church where she was interred in its cemetery Sunday. A large crowd attended the funeral which was conducted by her pastor, Rev. William Moffitt, assisted by Rev. C. E. Gangier and Rev. Mr. Star.

Rev. J. C. Kidd filled the pulpit at the Baptist church on Sunday night preaching to a good-sized congregation. Also Rev. C. E. Gangier filled the pulpit at the Christian church on Sunday morning. Revival services began at Mount Zion M. E. church on last Sunday, being conducted by the pastor, Rev. Mr. Star and Rev. F. D. Brady.

The local base ball team was defeated for the second time during the season at Gulf on Saturday by a score of 6 to 5. The boys will play Mount Vernon Springs on the diamond here Saturday.

A new business has been established here recently under the name of Motor Service Co. Auto Repair Shop by Messrs. R. M. Folkner and Wess Alred. Their shop is near the hotel.

Mr. Eli Scott of Greensboro came down Sunday to visit his old home, relatives and friends, returning on Sunday evening with his family, accompanied by his sister, Mrs. P. C. Brady, and Miss Eadre Purvis.

Mr. C. E. Jones and wife visited their relatives and friends at Greensboro Sunday.

Mr. J. L. Phillips of Siler City, who is connected with the Heith Brothers Real Estate company of Greensboro was in town Saturday listing property for sale to come off in a big auction sale here Saturday, July 25 when the Hotel Property here will be sold.

Mr. C. R. Jones who lives out not very far from town, was in town today to get a light plant that he will attach to his home. This machine is arranged so that he can attach a saw, corn mill or any other light machinery to the engine. Mr. Jones is one of our best farmers and also assistant mail carrier on the Bennett rural route and teaches school in the fall and winter season.

The corn crop through this section as it stands is the finest we have seen and with good seasons no doubt will be a fine crop. The wheat crops are turning out better than was expected, a good many saying they are making more by one third than they expected.

The mayor of the town has ordered us to clean up around our business houses and our homes this week and we trust that each and all will obey and have a clean place. We note that a good many of the homes out side of the town round us are kept in better shape than around our town lots here in the village.

ED. S. PHILLIPS, Cor.

Dusting cotton by airplane will be one of the feature demonstrations of the State Farmer's Convention at State College this year.

and sang many pretty songs for us. Their leader was Mr. White. They have a good choir and all seem to be interested in singing. Their presence and singing were appreciated and helped the program very much. We thank Hank's Chapel Choir and all who participated in the program.