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County Historical Society Aborning

Meetings For The Discussion Of Local History Are Planned

There is an infant of promising achievement aborning. It is the Chatham County Historical Society. Several months ago, in accord with a state-wide movement, Mrs. Henry A. London was appointed the county historian. She appointed a committee to assist her in the research and preservation of historical data. Saturday was the first meeting of the committee, though only four answered to the call of Mrs. London.

Few as were those present, however, the meeting was both pleasant and profitable. It was decided that the first matter of moment is to arouse a county-wide interest in the history of the county, which is far richer than the average Chathamite, native or imported, has realized. In accord with that idea, or purpose, Supt. Reid Thompson was appointed a committee to arrange for meetings at the various centers of the county at which they county history will be discussed, with emphasis upon the history of the community in which the meeting is held. It was decided to arrange for a meeting at the Moncure school, as Lockville and Haywood are two of the most historic spots in the county.

At the several meetings opportunity will be given for those interested to enroll themselves as members of the Chatham County Historical Society. The date of that meeting has not yet been determined, but that and other dates will be furnished to the county papers as they are fixed.

While at this meeting the editor was presented with one of the few remaining copies of a historical sketch of the county as delivered at a Fourth of July celebration at Pittsboro in 1786 by Major H. A. London. Turning through it, the writer, as an example of what interesting things may be discovered, found that the first bridge built in Chatham county was the Sympart bridge, later the Prince bridge, and now the Seaforth bridge across New Hope creek. The contract for the building of that bridge was ordered to be let to the low bidder just 150 years ago. Today the splendid new concrete bridge stands there just completed, which makes this historical fact of unusual aptness just now.

Another thing, the little building where the big tree was blown up behind the L. N. Womble store here, was the location of a Bowie knife factory during the war of the sixties. That was Dr. West Harrison's office, which was converted into a Bowie knife factory, and Mrs. London recalls seeing the dread weapon in the making in the little building now standing there.

In fact, there are a thousand things in the 200 years of Chatham history which should be rescued and preserved. Of course, many of them are already in the histories, but it is the hope to make them more popularly available, and the common property of all intelligent Chathamites.

A most delightful feature of the session Saturday was the serving of delicious refreshments by Mrs. Cordon, daughter of the hostess and county historian. Those present and enjoying the occasion were W. D. Siler, Reid S. Thompson, J. B. Atwater, and O. J. Peterson. The other fellows, at least some of them, would surely have been present if they could have known how enjoyable the occasion would prove.

A SILER CITY MAN ARRESTED IN RALEIGH

(Raleigh Times) Camouflaged as a vegetable truck piled high with sacks purporting to contain potatoes, a rum running hotch truck was intercepted here Friday night while passing through the city and found to contain 85 half gallon jars of whiskey. The driver, who gave his name as R. W. Stewart, of Siler City, was arrested and is being held in the city jail in default of \$500 bond.

Detectives Saturday followed this whiskey seizure with a raid on the home of Brewer Powell, a negro living in the Lincoln Park section, and captured 24 half-gallon jars of whiskey. The negro furnished \$100 bond.

The truck was halted by Detectives Bailey and Glover, who caught a glimpse of something which looked like paper cartons beneath a pile of sacks. They inquired of the driver the nature of his load and were told that he had a load of potatoes. Investigation, however, disclosed that the sacks contained straw instead of potatoes and the cases held corn whiskey of the quality usually dispensed by moonshiners.

Stewart told the detectives that he had no business in Raleigh, but was merely passing through the city on his way to Siler City.

Flubb: "He's always boasting that he keeps his word!"

Diner (indignantly): "Bring the proprietor here at once, there's a wasp in my soup!"

Waiter: "It's no use sending for the boss, sir. He's scared of 'em himself."

America's Richest Girl



Miss Doris Duke, 15, daughter of the late James B. Duke, tobacco financier, who was just awarded by the Supreme Court a \$1,500,000 Fifth Avenue House filled with the richest furnishings, a private railroad car bearing her name, four automobiles, a collection of rare tapestries and other luxuries worth a fair sized fortune. She is the richest girl of her age in America.

NEW HILL ITEMS

Mrs. Sis Minesly was buried in New Elam church cemetery last Wednesday afternoon. She was a native of Chatham county but had been an inmate of the county home in Wake county for a few years, having no relatives with which to live, she went to Raleigh. Mrs. Minesly was 77 years old. Funeral services were conducted by Mr. Ruffin Farrar. He said she had been of help to so many people especially in this vicinity and that there were but few homes that she had not been in to care for the sick. As she has no relatives to give the writer any information we cannot write of her. We know her husband has been dead many years, and that before her marriage she was a Miss Welch.

Quite a large crowd from this section last Friday afternoon attended the funeral of Mr. Joe Sturdivant of the Mt. Pleasant section. Mr. Sturdivant was reared here. He was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sturdivant. He married Miss Bettie Mann, also of this community, who with several grown sons and daughters survive him. He also leaves two sisters, Mrs. Hattie Wilson of Raleigh; Mrs. Winslow Goodwin of Apex; two brothers, R. F. Sturdivant of New Hill; J. E. Sturdivant of Bynum.

All the sick of this vicinity seem to be improving. We are glad to note, and hope all will soon be completely well again.

Mr. and Mrs. Lassie Sturdivant of Cary were guest Thursday night of Mr. R. F. Sturdivant and family.

There was a box supper at Merry Oaks school Saturday night for the benefit Merry Oaks Baptist church. The boxes did not sell for a great amount, but the prizes and other things sold all amounted to a neat sum. Mr. Buchanan of Bonsal received the prize for being the ugliest man, and Miss Thelma Auman was voted the prettiest girl and received a large cake.

February 27 being little Miss Myrtle Beckwith's fourth birthday anniversary on Sunday Mrs. Beckwith, Myrtle's mother, prepared an excellent birthday dinner for her, which she enjoyed very much. Those present were Mr. W. H. Beckwith, the little hostess' grandfather; Miss Mary and Remie Webster and C. D. Webster.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Drake and son John, Jr., of Greensboro, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Drake.

MR. JOE STURDIVANT A SUICIDE VICTIM

The sad news was heralded over the county Thursday that Mr. Joe Sturdivant had shot himself at his home a few miles from Bynum. The rash act was committed on the piazza of the home and the instrument used was a shotgun. The load of shot was fired into the breast.

The only explanation of the deed was the ill health of Mr. Sturdivant the past two years.

The burial took place at Mount Pleasant Methodist church Friday afternoon.

He leaves his wife, who was Miss Bettie Mann, and one daughter and four sons.

MACHINERY ORDERED FOR NEW COAL MINE

The anthracite coal mine, just across the Chatham line in Moore county, but belonging to the Dorsett family of Siler City and others, has been shut down for the present. Machinery for the operation of the mine on a larger scale has been ordered and will be placed upon arrival. The Record carried a description of the mine several months ago, and it will be recalled that the coal is a high-grade anthracite and easily accessible, being near the surface.

Operations hitherto have been on a small scale, with simple implements. The opening of this mine places Moore with Chatham and Lee as having the monopoly of North Carolina coal.

A Senate committee took train for the coal fields of Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio to learn, at first hand, conditions there. The House passed a bill to send our gold-star mothers to Europe, at government cost, that these bereaved women may visit the graves of their soldier dead. "Uncle Andy" Mellon ruled against making 50 cent pieces bearing Lindbergh's profile—said it was not done in the case of living men—but congress went merrily ahead on the idea anyhow.

Washington Letter

Congress Hears From The People — Naval Appropriation Bill Cut To The Bone — Hoover On Flood Relief.

(By WILLIAM P. HELM, Jr., Washington Correspondent of The Chatham Record.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—Congress heard last week from the folks back home. So did the White House. By letter, petition and telegram, the quiet men and women of the nation, back on the lonely farms, in the small towns and villages, and of the great cities, found voice. Like the roar of the surf on a rockbound coast, it rolled in upon the capital, a deafening deluge of command. And it was the Master's Voice that spoke.

They spoke of many things, those everyday home folks, but mainly they thundered an emphatic veto to the great naval building program that President Coolidge advocates and congress now is seriously considering. From almost every quarter of the nation came word that the great armada must be built. America, said the home folks, is at peace with all mankind and needs no mighty fleet as a plaything to tempt her bureaucrats to war.

The billion dollar bill for building the fleet, mammoth though it be, was hardly mentioned. That wasn't the point of the protests. There are many billions one protesting woman wrote, quick to jump into action for the building of warships really needed, but not a dollar for armament to ruffle the world's serenity or to plant distrust in hearts abroad.

And congress answered with a sweeping reduction in the program. The House naval affairs committee junked the President's plan for 71 fighting vessels including 32 submarines and recommended that only 16 vessels be built—14 cruisers and one airplane carrier. The proposed cost dropped from \$1,000,000,000 to \$274,000,000. This measure brought about by the pressure of public protest, is now before the House. It may be that the program will be cut still more.

The big navy plan is dead. And once more the silent master of the White House as he looks out from his window to the Virginia hills, has learned the identity of the men and women who run the U. S. A.

Next in importance, perhaps, was Herbert Hoover's appearance before a Senate committee to answer the question, "Where do you stand on flood control?" Mr. Hoover read from a prepared statement. He carefully avoided offending President Coolidge and at the same time apparently sought to win favor of the States. The President, it will be remembered, wants the States to pay about \$1,000,000,000 of the flood control bill and the States want Uncle Sam to pay it all.

Mr. Hoover, apparently, is learning the political game. He told the committee he would favor the appointment of a federal commission to find out about this matter of the States paying something and report back in a year. That would be after election, of course. In the meantime, congress, he said, could go ahead and appropriate money for preliminary work. It was a straight out compromise that avoided a yes-or-no answer.

The committee believed that Mr. Hoover had crawled out of a hole after him. He declared that the President approved his program.

Senator Jim Reed shot out of Washington to the Southwest and left a comet-like trail of oratory behind him. Governor Lowden's private Secretary came to Washington and attended to important campaign affairs, 'tis said, albeit without publicity. Attorney General Smith of Kansas journeyed to the capital to get himself admitted to practice before the Supreme court and while here waxed enthusiastic over the chances of Senator Charles Curtis, Kansas favorite.

As an aftermath of the alleged attempt jury-fixing in the Fall-Sinclair trial, the courts found Harry F. Sinclair, William J. Burns and his son and Henry M. Day, Sinclair's business pal, guilty of contempt of court. Sentences: Sinclair, six months in jail; Day, four months; the elder Burns, 15 days; junior \$1,000 fine. The cases were appealed, of course. For a time, at least, there are likely to be no attempts at jury-fixing in the District of Columbia.

Lobbyists engaged the Senate's attention. Mr. Carway of Arkansas put in a bill to make the lobbyists register with the Secretary of the Senate and file monthly statements of their expense accounts, all under heavy penalty for failure to obey. If this measure is passed, the Senate will have to put some more clerks on the payroll as there are hardly fewer than 5,000 lobbyists in Washington. And what a good time the newspaper men will have with those expense accounts. Incidentally, the bill probably will pass. Some of Washington's most pompous windbags will then be punctured.

A Senate committee took train for the coal fields of Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio to learn, at first hand, conditions there. The House passed a bill to send our gold-star mothers to Europe, at government cost, that these bereaved women may visit the graves of their soldier dead. "Uncle Andy" Mellon ruled against making 50 cent pieces bearing Lindbergh's profile—said it was not done in the case of living men—but congress went merrily ahead on the idea anyhow.

President Coolidge and his satellite

Goldston Items

Miss Ethel Key and Mr. Vann Oldham were united in marriage at Guli Sunday afternoon about five o'clock at the home of Rev. Mr. Wicker. Mr. Wicker performed the ceremony.

Mrs. Oldham's home is in Cairo, Georgia. She has taught mathematics in the Goldston school for the past two years.

Mrs. Oldham is an accomplished young woman. She is a graduate of Bessie Tift college, of Georgia.

Her work here has been very successful. Her pupils like her and she is highly esteemed by all who know her. She has an attractive personality and pleasing personality. We are glad that she has decided to reside in North Carolina.

Mr. Oldham is the son of Mr. C. G. Oldham, of Goldston. He is a fine young man with a good character. He is generally liked by all who know him. He has recently gone in business as a merchant in Gulf.

Mr. and Mrs. Oldham's many friends no doubt wish them much success and happiness with many years of happy wedlock.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Goldston, of Elizabethtown, were visitors here last week. They were accompanied home by Mrs. Goldston's nieces, Misses Mary Womble Elkins, Bernice Elkins and Mrs. Landon Riley and little son. Mrs. Riley will reside in Elizabethtown as Mr. Riley is at work in that section.

Rev. L. M. Chaffin filled his regular appointment at the Methodist church last Sunday morning. He preached a good sermon in his usual earnest manner.

Mr. James Goldston is in South Carolina this week on business.

EGGS-ACTLY \$500 FOR A HEN

That's what F. A. Sausome paid the University of British Columbia not long ago for one White Leghorn hen. She weighed four pounds and \$125 a pound is a pretty high price for a chicken, but she was worth it, all right. You see, she laid 230 eggs in 234 days.

Not to be outdone by her Canadian cousin, Pullet No. 211, owned by Eugene Brown, of Northampton county, North Carolina, cackled 323 times in 365 days, and she didn't lie a single time.

Consider also the case of Will Lay, of Marion county, Tenn., who made \$499.57 clear profit on a flock of 1500 hens in three months. Evidently the hens owned by Will Lay will lay. Then there's A. R. Broadwater, of Edgefield county, S. C., whose 270 hens netted him a profit of \$625 dollars from January 1 to July 1, 1927.

If you want figures that will make you dizzy just think about them, take a nation-wide look at our poultry industry. Every year American hens lay enough eggs to pay the cost of two Panama Canals. Poultry raising is a billion dollar crop. It is our fifth biggest farm line and it is growing so rapidly it's hard to keep up with its growth.

Here's another way of sizing it up. To eat all the eggs produced in this country last year eleven men would have had to start their meal twenty centuries B. C. and eat an egg a minute every day and night.

PIE SUPPER

There will be a pie supper at Caroline school house Wednesday night, March 7, 1928. The proceeds will go for the benefit of the school. Everybody invited.

ites crossed the Potomac on February 22, and attended opening services at the \$4,000,000 George Washington Masonic Memorial. The House heard, once more, Washington's Farewell Address.

So many prohibition agents fell down on the civil service exams held last fall that it looked, for a time, as if nobody would be left to make the rounds. Now examinations, it was announced, are to be held soon. Uncle Sam decided to send eight more commercial agents abroad to help revive our export business. A New York Congressman pressed a bill providing for a hurry-up of the federal building program. This, he said, would help provide jobs for some of the 4,000,000 people estimated by him to be out of work in the country.

"Helen Maria" Dawes, or, more properly, Charles G. Dawes, Vice-President of the United States, went up to Newark, N. J., and made a talk. "Listening to those long-winded speeches in the Senate," he said "is worse than war."

William Green of Council Bluffs, Iowa, lean, lithe, handsome and 71, was named by President Coolidge to a life time job at \$12,500 a year as Judge of the Court of Claims. Mr. Green is—or was, till he got the new job—chairman of the House ways and means committee. In a way, as President Coolidge and "Uncle Andy" Mellon look at it, Mr. Green has been naughty in upsetting the apple cart on tax legislation. Hence he is to be punished. There are 500 more candidates for that kind of punishment up on Capitol Hill.

Congress complained of the bad air at the Capitol. So the budget director, General Lord, put an item of \$323,000 in the estimates for the purpose of giving the House and Senate better ventilation. Hence congress soon will be relieved of the suffering caused by its own hot air. But—how about the rest of us?

Farm Boys and Girls



Senator Arthur Capper who has just introduced a bill which furnishes what he calls a "practical program for the advancement of agriculture."

It asks for Federal aid to extend the agricultural education of boys and girls on the farms.

MONCURE ITEMS

We are sorry to state that Mr. Clay Farrell, carrier on route one is ill today.

Miss Lillie Hackney, who has spent about a month with her sister, Mrs. J. F. Sparrow, of New York, returned to her home here last Thursday. Since her return Miss Hackney has been doing some supply work at the post office.

Mr. Stormy Maddox who has been here looking after the estate of Maddox Bros. left here Thursday night for his home at San Potosi, Mexico. He was accompanied by his mother, Mrs. W. C. Maddox, as far as Graham, Texas, where Mrs. Maddox will visit her son who lives there.

Notices have been posted that the Steam Electric Plant of C. P. and L. Co., will materially reduce their force of employees in the near future. It has caused a certain amount of uneasiness among the men. This is very regrettable as this plant employs a great number of men and we regret to lose any of our citizens.

We are informed the hydro-electric plant at Norwood has been put in operation and there is plenty of water, so the Steam electric plant here is not needed at present.

The Epworth League met at the usual hour last Sunday evening. Miss Ruth Womble, the president, called the meeting to order. Miss Lois Ray called the roll and read the minutes of the last meeting. Mrs. W. W. Stedman was leader for the evening.

Messrs. O. M. Mann and Floyd S. Harmon were the unlucky ones drawn on the jury at Raleigh last Thursday out of 150 men from Chatham.

Messrs. W. W. Stedman and J. E. Holt are the unlucky ones from Haw River township to be drawn on the jury for court at Pittsboro, March the 5th.

A birthday party was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Stedman last Saturday afternoon in honor of their daughter, Camelia, whose birthday was Feb. 22. The color scheme for the occasion was red, white and blue, patriotic colors, for her birthday came on the same date as George Washington.

Twenty of her friends and schoolmates were present. An afternoon of games and contests were enjoyed, after which refreshments were served. She received many nice presents.

PRAYER SERVICE HELD AT THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A United Prayer Service was held at St. Bartholomew's church on Friday afternoon. A large number of women from the different churches came together in a meeting both spiritual and impressive. Rev. G. R. Shannonhouse opened the service with appropriate prayers after which a hymn was sung. Mrs. Mary Barber of the Presbyterian church who had as her subject, "Answer To Prayer," made the first address. She gave many instances from the Scripture, showing direct answer to prayer. Mrs. Shannonhouse pointed out the effect of prayer on the one praying, this being the subject of her talk. Mrs. Victor Johnson gave personal instances of answer to prayer. Mrs. Horton, of the Methodist church in her remarks on "Peace" suggested that the way we could begin to work for Peace would be to hold up before our children the lives of men who have become famous along other lines than war. She mentioned several men of today who are pioneers in their line of work and most worthy of emulation. Mrs. George Brewer, of Baptist church, in speaking on "United Prayer," brot most forcefully to each of us the true meaning of prayer. Her remarks formed a fitting closing for the service.

JOHN MANLY GILMORE

Mr. John Manly Gilmore, aged 75, died in a Greensboro hospital Monday, February 13, and was buried at Rives Chapel Tuesday. Rev. E. W. Byler, of Bonlee, conducted the funeral services. He was the father of Mr. C. O. Gilmore. His wife survives him.

State Failed to Make Out Case

Trial of Alleged Floggers in Wake Turns Out to be a Water Haul

After all the trouble and expense of getting a Chatham county jury to try the flogging case in Wake county, the state failed to make out a case and a verdict of not guilty was directed by Judge Harris, at the instance of the Solicitor and private prosecution counsel last Friday evening, and the jury was dismissed and hustled back to Chatham.

The first venire, probably known now by every citizen, was turned down because of irregularities in the manner of drawing it, and a second venire of 150 was ordered drawn Wednesday evening to report in Raleigh Thursday at 2 o'clock. This drawing was made under the direction, or supervision of Clerk Hatch.

Late into the night and early the next morning some of the deputies were pressing through rain and muddy roads to summon the men and get them started to Raleigh. Four big busses came Thursday morning to take back the men. Some began to reach Pittsboro early in the day, but it was five o'clock before the last straggling ones came in and were sent on to Wake. Three of the busses carrying about 70 men got off in time to reach Raleigh for the afternoon session and work of selecting the jury was started, while the other bus remained here and the sheriff's office was striving to get in touch with the deputies still in the field and get reports on the summoning. Mr. Fred Straughan, over in Bear Creek, seemed to have the hardest and longest job. It was two or three o'clock before he reported over phone that he had served all his men, and that some of them were then on the way. It was decided that it would be better to wait until the report could be complete that no technicality may cause another exception to the venire.

However, the jury had been selected from the seventy who first arrived in Raleigh before the late ones arrived. Fewer than a hundred men, all told, of the 150 actually reached Pittsboro and were forwarded on to Raleigh. The jurors were as follows: J. L. Lindley, Hadley; Orris Mann, Haw River; T. B. Thrift, Hadley; John A. Marshall, Hadley; C. H. Marks, Cape Fear; R. A. Horton, New Hope; J. R. Poe, Oakland; W. J. O'Daniel, Baldwin; J. M. Durham, Baldwin; J. R. Goodwin, New Hope; Floyd S. Harmon, Center; Gordon Keck, Center.

If the case had continued, the 12 Chathamites would probably have been held apart from others over Sunday and possibly until Tuesday or Wednesday. Consequently, there was probably no grief on the part of the Chathamites when the prosecution decided that it could not make a convincing case and threw up its hands.

CLUB NOTES

The February meeting of the Music Department met with Mrs. W. P. Horton on Saturday evening. Two new members were given a most cordial welcome. Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Braxton of Bynum were the two new members. After repeating the Collect the secretary, Miss Emily Taylor, called the roll and read the minutes of the previous meeting. 12 members were present, among the number, the oldest member of the department, Mrs. Henry London. It was a pleasure to have her with us again.

Mrs. Victor Johnson, Chairman, announced that the Music Department had furnished six double Victor records and two books of instruction for use in the Music Memory Contest.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, a delightful program was rendered on the Victrola, the department records being used.

A sweet course was served by the hostess.

CELEBRATE SILVER WEDDING

Mr. J. B. Atwater, of Bynum, went up to Durham Saturday evening to join Mrs. Atwater in a trip to Raleigh to be present Saturday night at the celebration of the silver anniversary of the marriage of her brother, Mr. C. C. Page and Mrs. Page. Mrs. Page was a Bundy. Mr. Page and Mrs. Atwater are double first cousins of Messrs. Henry Frank and R. N. Page, and the late Walter Page of world-wide renown.

Mr. Page is city commissioner of public works in Raleigh, but was formerly a railroad man.

MUCH SICKNESS IN COUNTY

There has been numerous cases of illness in the county, though fortunately there have been comparatively few fatalities. Mr. J. W. Womble has been seriously ill of pneumonia. Mr. Fred Lilly has suffered from a combination of ill and has been very ill. Mr. Frank May was sick all last week and is not yet well. Mr. J. M. Dismukes at Carbondon was critically ill. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Scott of Farrington were also among the sick, the former having a severe case of pneumonia. Mrs. O. J. Peterson has not been well for several weeks and has been confined to her bed a goodly part of the time. Mrs. J. W. Moore is convalescing satisfactorily from an operation at Watts hospital some time ago. She is at home.