

THE NEWTON ENTERPRISE

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Little is Doing Among Warring Nations

Severe winter weather has checked operations in the various war zones. Among the western front there is a sea of mud. Little fighting is reported in progress anywhere except the Balkans where the Austrians are hammering on the Serbian remnants and the Montenegrins. Italy is sending an expedition into Albania, which lies between Serbia and the sea. Germans are reported as preparing an invasion of Egypt and the capture of the Suez canal, as well as getting ready for an invasion of Asia and India. There is even some talk of an invasion of England, and large troop movements are reported in Belgium and along the coast.

Henry Ford's peace crowd has reached Norway and has been warmly though not officially welcomed. Marshall French has relinquished command of the western front to Gen. Douglass Haig. Greece has formerly protested against the fortification by the allies of Salonki, but 200,000 men are at work there. America has replied to the Austrian note, reiterating the demand that she disavow the sinking of the Ancona, punish the submarine commander and pay for the Americans killed. Unless Austrian accedes, diplomatic relations will be broken off.

Fatal Sunday School Row.

Sunday afternoon at North Fork Baptist church, Buncombe county, a row having an old feud at the bottom of it, started, with the result that Martin Burnett is dead with a bullet in his heart; William Burnett is in custody with a wound in his head; Claude McAfee, who used the pistol, is in a hospital expected to die. After McAfee had shot Martin Burnett, and wounded William, the latter cut him to pieces with a knife. McAfee claims Martin first attacked him with a knife and he shot him dead.

Thus, it may be inferred, the season of good will is at hand.

Southern Strong For Courtesy.

To encourage employees to be courteous in all their dealings with the public, the management of Southern railway is asking that reports of examples of courteous acts on the part of employees be made to it. With this policy in view the following has been printed on the menu cards in some of the Southern railway dining cars:

"The management of Southern Railway Company expects its employees to distinguish their service to the public by courtesy and requests the traveling public to report examples of successful service so that the employees may be encouraged by appreciation of their efforts."

Germany Disavows Acts of Germans.

The German government has issued an official statement in which it strongly disavows alleged acts of lawlessness in the United States by Germans, who stand indicted with plotting to blow up canals, bridges, buildings and ships; munition factories and all plants engaged in supplying the allies, of which events there has been a plenty. The German government would not have its citizens violate the laws of this country, says the statement, and it assures the United States that none of these things has been done by order or with the sanction or knowledge of official Germany.

Judges in the Primary.

Attorney General Bickett has ruled that under the new primary law candidates for superior court judgeships shall be nominated in their respective districts, each judge being voted for in the district in which he lives, but in the election the entire state will vote as usual for all the judges.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS ITEMS

A Few of the Happenings of Local Interest—What Folks are Doing.

The Landmark notes that Dr. P. F. Laugenhour, formerly of Newton, has been quite ill but is able to be up and about his home in Statesville.

Saturday E. M. Wilson purchased the half-interest of his partner, Roland Robinson, in the New York cafe, and is now sole proprietor. Mr. Robinson has not decided what he will do.

The lot sale J. Smith Campbell at Maiden Saturday was attended by a large crowd, and about 40 lots sold, ranging in price from \$25 to \$100.

The appointment of J. H. Aiken as postmaster in Hickory was confirmed last Thursday. Mr. Aiken was appointed to succeed the lamented A. C. Link, who died suddenly last spring, and this was the first time there had been opportunity of confirmation.

Rev. J. A. Snow of St. Paul's, Columbus county, who was recently called by the Baptist congregation to be pastor here, has advised that while he has not resigned his present charge, he is seriously considering the Newton offer, and doubtless will accept it.

The telephone office will observe Sunday hours Saturday, account of Christmas. Christmas day business will be more or less suspended, though it being Saturday, it is likely that there will be some business carried on. It is not a holiday for the rural carriers, who will tote the Christmas packages as usual. The banks will be closed, and generally speaking, everybody will take a day off.

Thirty-nine counties have appropriated \$24,880 for demonstration work. Catawba gives \$600; Burke \$540, Cleveland \$600, Lincoln the same and Mecklenburg \$720. Homer H. B. Mask is the county agent here, and he is one of the finest there is, doing a great work for the county in connection with the farm life school. If Catawba people will co-operate with him during the year and thoroughly organize for pig, corn, tomato, and poultry club work, Catawba will have "some" exhibit next year.

Thursday night the country store of C. W. Taylor at Olivers was destroyed by fire. The origin of the blaze is not known. About \$1,000 was carried on the stock, which was worth considerably more, so that the loss is heavy on Mr. Taylor, who has had a fine business. Mr. Taylor had closed the store at 10 o'clock, in company with several men, and gone home. A short time afterward he heard an explosion and going out, saw one side of the building in flames. It is believed to have been incendiary and set on fire at that side of the store. Mr. Taylor had one of the best, cleanest and most up-to-date country stores in the county and his loss will fall heavy.

At a meeting of Baptist laymen and ministers in Hickory Friday, the idea of consolidating South Fork institute and the associational schools in Lenoir and at North Catawba, was discussed with favorable criticism, and Osborne Brown, who presided over the meeting, was instructed to call a second meeting at Hickory within the next 30 days, of the trustees of the three schools, since these authorities are the people who must execute any plans for consolidation. North Catawba offered 400,000 bricks, 15 acres of land; and the state mission board will put in \$5,000, and there will be about \$20,000 to start with. Newton would like to have the consolidated school if there is a chance. Hickory and Lenoir will put in bids.

Capt. Andrew Long of the Navy is expected this week to spend Christmas with Dr. T. W. Long and family.

Judge Shaw's Ruling Startles The State

A dispatch from Morganton Friday carried a report of a ruling made in Burke court by Judge Shaw to the effect that towns couldn't make citizens pay for street improvements along their property and at once it became apparent that if the supreme court sustained such a ruling, it would affect every town in the state and upset tens of thousands of dollars worth of improvements, throwing such a burden on municipal treasuries that bond issues would be imperative. Saturday, however, a second dispatch from Morganton stated that Judge Shaw only ruled on the question of jurisdiction and did not pass on the point the first dispatch said he did. Suits were brought by the town to compel certain property owners to pay their improvement assessments, and were first before a magistrate and taken to superior court on appeal. Judge Shaw held that magistrates had no jurisdiction and the town appealed from his decision.

North Carolina Report On the Leading Crops

The government crop report and estimate on North Carolina shows that the aggregate is 8 per cent above last year and prices December 1 averaged 7 percent above last year.

In this state 3,050,000 acres were planted in corn and 64,050,000 bushels were produced. The price averages 77 cents.

There were 950,000 acres in wheat which produced 10,355,000 bushels which average \$1.20.

The sweet potato crop covered 85,000 acres and produced 8,925,000 bushels. In 1914 the acreage was 76,000 and 6,840,000 bushels were grown. The price this year averages 56 cents against 65 cents in 1914. The average production per acre this year was 104 bushels.

Married.

Saturday in the office of the register of deeds, Henry Hudson, son of the late Lawrence Hudson, and Miss Ellen Ledford, daughter of Chauncey Ledford, were married by Rev. W. W. Rowe.

Saturday afternoon also Richard Hepler and Miss Blanch Setzer, of the Ivey mill, Hickory, were married in the register's office, Rev. W. W. Rowe officiating.

Register Sigmon issued seven "pairs" of license Saturday and turned two applications down. The holiday rush has started.

Yesterday the register issued several more licenses and turned down two applications. The names of those who secured license are Christmas secrets, and won't be "let out" till after it is over.

The 13th Judd a Cannibal.

Wesley Judd, colored, was captured along with a 50-gallon still by revenue officers at Merry Oaks Friday, and in the scrimmage the negro lunched on one side of the face of Posseman Watkins and made a meal from his left hand. He ate the posseman's hand while he was manacled. He is the 13th Judd to be hunted for for illicit distilling, but the others escaped.

600 Horses Drowned.

Six hundred horses were drowned in North river, New York, when a barge on which they were carried to a steamer sank under its load. The animals were worth \$200 each and were being shipped to France for war purposes.

Box Supper at Moss School.

J. D. Fisher requests announcement that there will be a box social at the Moss school Friday night—Christmas eve. Every one is invited to attend.

CUPID PRECEDES SANTA CLAUS

Runaway Affair Saturday First of Christmas Weddings—Claremont News Notes.

Claremont, Dec. 20.—As usual, Cupid has preceded Santa Claus, appearing Saturday and arranging a runaway wedding in which Miss Bertie, the 15-year-old daughter of R. L. Moser, and Ralph Carpenter were the principals. Miss Moser was milking Saturday morning when she received a note from the young man to meet him at Charlie Carpenter's. Borrowing clothing from a neighbor, she made a hasty trip to Claremont and Rev. R. M. Carpenter performed the ceremony. License was secured Friday with the expectation of getting married Sunday night but a phone message that night hurried the event. The bride's people were opposed to it because of her age. We are expecting several other weddings before the holidays are over.

There will be a Christmas tree at St. Mark's Lutheran church Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Christmas day there will be services at Mt. Calvary Lutheran church at 10:30, when a treat will be given the Sunday school.

There will be a play at Claremont school Thursday night—"The Old Maids' Association". The children will give other exercises also. School will close Thursday for the holidays and re-open January 1.

Ed Sigmon is home from City Point, Va., to spend the holidays with his mother, Mrs. Sid Sigmon. Knox Sigmon and George Cloninger are here from Bryson City. Miss Addie Hoke has arrived from New York to spend a month with her sister, Mrs. Charles Little, who has been very ill for nine weeks.

George Wilkie spent the weekend in Statesville. Mrs. Eva Little and Miss Beulah of Catawba spent last week with Mrs. Garland Huit. Mrs. Joe White of Newton Rt. 4 spent a few days here this week, the guest of her daughter, Miss Esther White. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Huit of Charlotte, Va. have been the guests of Mr. Huit's brother, Guy C. Huit.

Sam Yount came home Friday from Kannapolis to spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Yount. Miss Mary Sigmon spent Saturday in Newton, shopping.

Summy Duyck died last Saturday at his home near Claremont, leaving a wife and four children. The family has everybody's deepest sympathy.

Mrs. R. R. Boggs of Catawba, Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Rockett of Route 2 and Miss Lela Whitener of Catawba were among the visitors Sunday.

Cotton Ginners' Report.

Spot cotton yesterday was 11½ cents here. The ginners' report came out with 10,303,263 bales, far behind last year, but it made little to-do on the market, which closed 3 to 5 points above Saturday.

The Newton Markets (Corrected Every Issue)

Cotton	11½¢
Cotton seed	60¢
Cotton seed meal	1.90
Cotton seed hulls	75¢
Wheat	\$1.30
Flour	\$3.00 to \$3.20
Bran	1.85
Corn	75¢ and 80¢
Corn meal	1.00
Oats	60¢
Rye	1.10
Peas	1.25
Irish potatoes	90¢-1.00
Sweet potatoes	40¢
Dried fruit	3¢
Chickens	10¢
Eggs	30¢
Butter	25¢
Turkeys	12½¢-13¢
Beeves	3½ to 4¢
Calves	
Hogs	10¢
Sheep	
Dry hides	15¢
Green hide	12½¢

Christmas Trade Booming and Town is Thronged

Fair weather has lifted the gloom from holiday shopping and the stores are thronged with buyers of Christmas goods. The outlook last week was most discouraging. Merchants here never made such preparation for holiday trade as they have this year, bringing on huge stocks of stuff and of a class higher in grade than ever. But last week's weather made it appear that much of this would be left in the shelves. Saturday morning, however, the sun came out to shine in a cloudless sky and large numbers of people came to town.

Yesterday was a busy day everywhere, and many a Christmas gift was purchased and laid aside for Saturday. Merchants are highly pleased and the indications are now that every day this week, right up to Friday, will be busy ones.

—Don't forget Rev. M. A. Abernethy and his scheme to carry good things to the inmates at the county home, Christmas.

With the Holiday Advertisers This Issue

The city bakery would have you place your bread orders early.

The New York cafe has an advertisement this issue.

Read Caldwell Cochran's suggestions.

Read C. M. Rowe's specials at cost this week.

Get your presents at Goodman & Frieze.

E. H. Yount & Co. tell you exactly what to get for "him" — man or boy.

Christmas candy boxes at Clapp's drug store.

Santa Claus is at Drum's, according to the new adv.

All the well-known brands of candy at Freeze Drug Co.

Abernethy & Thompson, the Christmas Store.

President Wilson's Wedding.

The wedding of the president and Mrs. Galt took place in Washington Saturday evening in an extremely quiet manner with only relatives attending, and the couple went to Hot Springs, Va., for their honeymoon. Many presents were sent, although it had been given out that none save those from close friends could be accepted, and all except such, that are of intrinsic value, will be returned to the people who gave them. The affair was the talk of the world but there were no frills whatever to it and everything was carried out in the simplest manner possible, both desiring a plain home wedding.

The defendant having demanded a trial by jury, the following jurors have been summoned by the sheriff in the Lee Schrum case today, six of them to be selected to hear the evidence and decide whether or not he should have been arrested: Sam Fry, G. W. Sigmon, S. H. Schell, Quince Hawn, N. A. Travis, Ed Smyre, Lee Cline, Jas. McRee, Chas. Bolick, S. L. Killian, E. E. Hartsoe and Ed. Bolick.

Two hundred hearts were lightened yesterday when 200 pockets were made heavy at the Shuford National bank, which paid out over \$3,000 saved in "chicken money" by the Christmas club during the year.

—Mrs. George Smyre, who was so badly burned Thanksgiving day, is improving at her home on Middlebrook under the skilled attention of Mrs. R. R. Brady, the well-known trained nurse.

A deed was filed yesterday that was made July 21, 1880, by B. F. Eaton of Davie county to R. L. White of this county, for \$80, for a lot in west Hickory, along the railroad, being a part of the Attwood addition.

CATAWBA STATE'S MODEL COUNTY

Study of the Subject of Co-operation Reveals County's Advanced Progress

A letter from Chapel Hill says: The model co-operative county in North Carolina is Catawba.

The people of that county have not only waked up to the possibilities which may be obtained through co-operation, but they have gone to work with so much spirit that they have won the honor of being ranked as the finest model of co-operation in the South. Co-operation among the farmers may be divided into three general classes; co-operative production, co-operative marketing, and co-operative societies for banking. The farmers of Catawba county have developed each of these to some extent.

The first step towards co-operation taken by the Catawba county folk was the founding of the Catawba creamery in 1910. The total initial investment in this creamery was only \$1,200. When the business began, the number of patrons was 38. The first month's operations produced sales of butter to the amount of \$940. Three thousand pounds of butter were made during the month. By the end of the first year the amount paid to the patrons had reached \$14,868. The second year witnessed a marked increase both in the number of patrons and in the amount of business. The amount paid out for butter fat this year was \$22,015. The Creamery company was incorporated in 1912 with an authorized capital stock of \$50,000. It was, and still is, a requirement of the company that at all times 75 per cent of the stock must be owned by the farmers. At the present time only ten shares are held by others than farmers.

The great success of the creamery could not fail to impress the farmers of Catawba county with the importance of co-operative enterprises; and so, they have hastened to form other such associations. In 1913 the Catawba County Sweet Potato Growers' association was organized with a membership of 60. The association had three purposes in organizing; first to increase the production of sweet potatoes; second, to improve their quality; and third to standardize the package for their shipment. The association has been growing steadily and is meeting a long-felt need in Catawba county.

But the Catawba county farmers do not limit their co-operation to enterprises merely for the sale of their products; he also applies the principle of co-operation to the supplies that he purchases. In order to supply this need, the Farmers' Union Warehouse company, incorporated in 1913, with an authorized capital stock of \$25,000. This warehouse is a wholesale warehouse for all the farmers in the county. It handles such articles as fertilizers, seeds, implements, wagons, buggies, and harness. The farmer's produce may be also marketed through the warehouse. Last year the warehouse did a \$2,500 business.

More instances of improvement might be cited. But what has been shown should convince the most skeptical that the county has greatly improved, and that the most powerful single influence in bringing about the improvement has been the practical application of the principle of co-operation in the various farming industries of the county.

Sale of Dairy Cattle.

It now appears that the meeting of the State Live Stock and Dairymen's association in Salisbury, January 25-28, will see the largest consignment of pure-bred Guernseys and Jerseys ever brought into the state. Twenty consignments have already been made and arrangements are being completed for bringing in an additional half carload of Guernsey heifers from northern points. —News Letter.

Hawa History May Be Placed in Public Schools

George W. Hawn of Hickory, author of the volume, "The Catawba Soldier in the Civil War," was in town Friday afternoon, and when asked what sale his book was making, said he had about 400 copies left and that he had ceased efforts to interest the public. He said, however, that the idea of placing a copy in each school library in the county would be presented to the board of education, and in this manner it was hoped that a few more copies might be disposed of.

The idea was favorably received by several citizens to whom it was mentioned, and it is believed that the board will approve it and that the citizens will approve the board's approval. The book presents in very admirable form the civil war history of the county. That it is not what the author had hoped to make it, and that it is not, perhaps, what it might have been, are forgotten in the fact that it is what it is—a very valuable volume, of interest to almost every family in the county, and a book that should be in every home. The idea of putting it in the schools, so that the children of younger generations may know what Catawba county youths of fifty years ago suffered and accomplished, is one that should be welcomed by the county.

Died.

Robert M. Petrie died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Lizzie Leonard, in Lincoln county Wednesday, after six weeks illness with paralysis. He was an old soldier, acting as lieutenant-colonel of the Catawba county militia. Surviving him are one brother, Lawson Petrie of Hickory, and six children—Mrs. C. A. Jonas, wife of the state senator; Mrs. B. Wilson of Rutherford college, wife of the well-known Methodist preacher; Mrs. J. R. Goins and Mrs. D. W. Workman, Mrs. Leonard and Dr. R. W. Petrie of Charlotte. Mr. Petrie first married Miss Sue Leonard of this county and after her death married Miss Eliza Yoder of Lincoln. He was paralyzed about six weeks ago and had been unconscious only at intervals.

Automobiles.

There are registered in this state 23,700 automobiles, about 5,000 more than ever. In the country there are under license 1,500,000 machines and the output of the plants last year was nearly half a billion dollars. About 40 million dollars worth of trucks have been exported to Europe for war purposes. Europe will be full of second hand machines after the war.

Claims For Titanic Victims.

The White Star line is willing to pay \$664,000 damages to the families of victims of the Titanic disaster, in which more than 1,500 people lost their lives. About \$500,000 of it would go to Americans if the compromise is affected.

—More snow is indicated by the signs of the times and there may be a "white" Christmas, or it may be a dismal rainy one, which is always the extreme end of the limit.

—Nothing definite has as yet been done about the bridge over the river at Lookout. Representatives of Catawba and Iredell have held a meeting with the Southern Power people, discussing the proposition to divide the cost of the bridge among the counties and the company, each paying a third and operating it as a toll bridge until paid for, together with the Mooresville and Buffalo Shoals bridges, which would be taken over by the counties if the plan is adapted.

Miss Grace Gaither, student in Flora McDowell college, Red Springs, came home last week to spend Christmas.