

Come To Mass Meeting, Whiteville, Monday, Jan. 9th

THE COLUMBUS COUNTY PAPER—EVERYBODY READS IT.

THE COLUMBUS COUNTY PAPER—EVERYBODY NEEDS IT

THE NEWS REPORTER

TWENTY-FOURTH YEAR.

FOR THE COUNTY OF COLUMBUS AND HER PEOPLE.

\$2.00 PER YEAR

VOLUME XVII.

WHITEVILLE, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 1922

NUMBER 42

CERRO GORDO FOLKS HAVE PISTOL DUEL

Christmas Shooting Affair Between Two Young White Men; Much Personal Mention of Cerro Gordo Folks

Cerro Gordo, Jan. 4.—Christmas, "Merry Christmas," has come and passed and about the only ill or sad effects reported was a pistol duel between Robert Hillbourne, a young farmer of the Porter Swamp community, and Charlie Rodgers, a young unmarried man, about 23. Several bullets are said to have taken effect in young Rodgers's legs and breaking some bones, and injuring him otherwise until it was necessary for him to be carried to the hospital in Florence for surgical treatment. One or two bullets are said to have taken effect in Hillbourne, though his condition is not regarded as being quite so serious as Rodgers. The time of the sad affair was on Friday night preceding the National Holiday, and young Rodgers was carried to Florence the next afternoon, and it still is in the hospital, or, at least, this is our information.

Mr. W. W. Nance, a progressive farmer, prosperous merchant and near and good neighbor of ours, is numbered among the several farmers in this section that always large crops of corn, potatoes, peas, peanuts, cotton, tobacco and other crops and raises large herds of cattle and hogs as well. Thus far in the season he has already butchered sixteen (16) fine fat hogs and is not done killing yet. And it is generally each year that he also has a nice fat pig to kill. "Hard times" cannot do much harm to such folks as him and his. During the past few days Mr. Nance has invested in some purebred swine, and it would be a pity if a disaster of real wisdom for several others to do likewise.

Brick and other necessary material is being placed on the vacant lot just across the street from the new building. It is also understood that Mr. M. B. Kellihan, local merchant and livestock dealer is the owner of this building. Mr. Kellihan has a wide reputation as being an astute, shrewd, business man.

In spite of the inclement weather that prevailed during the Yuletide a family re-union was held in the home of Mr. E. H. Nance, a mile or so east of town. Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Nance, Fair Bluff; Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Nance and family, of Cerro Gordo; Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Nance, of Charlotte; Mr. J. E. Nance, of Raleigh; Miss Beulah Nance, of Charendon and Miss Mamie Haynes, of Charlotte.

Mr. and Mrs. Belton Jones is spending some time with relatives, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Jones.

Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Owens spent Wednesday with Mr. E. H. Nance. Mr. I. E. Nance returned to Raleigh, where he holds a position with the Dillon Supply Company Tuesday morning.

Miss Mabel Benton, of Evergreen, is visiting relatives and friends here during this week.

COLUMBUS EX. SOLDIERS TO HOLD MASS MEETING

Columbus County Post of American Legion to Be Organized Here Next Thursday Night

In our advertising columns Adj. F. M. Hester is issuing a call for a mass meeting of veterans of the World War to be held in the court house here next Thursday night. The purpose of the gathering is to organize a post of the American Legion and good speakers will be on hand to address the boys and assist in the organization. For some time work has been actively forward preliminary to the organization of the post. The membership is already very large—one and three or four hundred of the boys are expected at the meeting for Thursday night when all officers will be elected and the post regularly established.

All ex-soldiers are invited to attend, whether they are members of the legion or not.

ALL GOOD CITIZENS WHO CAN COME SHOULD ATTEND THE HIGHWAY M. A. S. MEETING AT THE COURT HOUSE MONDAY AT NOON. YOU ARE INVITED.

After spending several days with relatives and friends Miss Beulah Nance, an esteemed member of the Clarendon school faculty, has returned to that place to resume her duties in the school.

Miss Mamie Haynes, of Charlotte, is spending some time with friends here.

Mr. Wesley Nance visited his brother and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Brown, in Bolton, during the week past.

Miss Pauline McAllister is at home after spending several days with Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Jones in Tabor.

Mr. Charles Dorsey, of Fair Fax, Ga., was in town one day last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffie Williamson, of Dunn, have been spending several days with relatives here and in Bolton.

Mr. Elliot Robertson, of Wilson, was the delightful guest of one of our "fair daughters" last Thursday. Welcome Mr. Robertson this section of eastern North Carolina is noted for its large numbers of the "gentle sex" and fertile soil.

Mr. Dewey Spivey, of Laurinburg, spent Christmas with friends in town.

Mr. Earl Brown, of Bolton, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Harrelson and others a few days during the first of last week.

Mr. Tom Buffkin, of Green Sea, S. C., was in town one day recently.

Heck desires to express his sincere thanks to the young ladies that were so thoughtful and kind-hearted as to hand us the above news. The paper, we are sure, greatly appreciate your worthy assistance as well.—May the New Year be the happiest one that you could wish for. "HECK"

A father in the East has disinherited his daughter because she bobbed her hair. Cut off without a cent.—Detroit News.

HAVE HEAVY ACREAGE PLANTED TO BERRIES

Columbus Is Going Back to a Popular Fruit On a Big Scale; Plants Are Doing Extra Well

It is understood that the canvass made by the Chadbourne Chamber of Commerce has revealed the fact that seven hundred and seventy-five acres of strawberries are being worked in Chadbourne's market territory. This is an increase of more than two-thirds over what was being grown there last year.

A similar canvass made by Mr. Dan Hester of Whiteville has brought to light that Whiteville territory has one hundred and seventy-five acres in berries. Quite enough to guarantee the establishment of a strong little market for the first year. Quite a number of farmers in this territory are waiting until spring to plant and the present acreage is expected to be considerably increased then.

The plants that were put out this fall have made a strong healthy growth. During Christmas week Mr. Hester showed the News Reporter man a large handful of blooms and small berries that had been plucked from plants that were set out a short time ago. Of course, these berries will never reach maturity through the cold of winter but their presence on the plants go far to show the growth that the latter have made this fall and winter.

ALL GOOD CITIZENS WHO CAN COME SHOULD ATTEND THE HIGHWAY M. A. S. MEETING AT THE COURT HOUSE MONDAY AT NOON. YOU ARE INVITED.

Another thing that disturbs us is an 18-year-old girl who lets her mother grow old in ignorance.—Galveston News.

RESENTS CURRIE'S INSULTING LETTER

Development Board Takes Strong Exception to Remarks Made By Mr. Currie Regarding Columbus Co.

A letter addressed to the editor of the Wilmington Dispatch, signed by George H. Currie, and published Thursday, December 22nd, 1921, has caused a storm of protest from the people of Columbus county, especially those residing along the route of the Wilmington-Charlotte highway from Lake Waccamaw east along the Atlantic Coast Line railroad to the Brunswick line, to which section Mr. Currie's letter particularly refers.

We can well understand why Mr. Currie and others interested would like to have the state give them a road along the route they are advocating, but we cannot understand why such men should wish to take this highway which is justly ours away from us and in their efforts to do so refer to our section as the habitat of snakes, skunks and disease spreading anophorics.

At a rousing meeting held Dec. 30th, by the citizens of Columbus county, an organization was perfected for the purpose of looking after the interest of this section in the matter of the state highway, and amongst other things, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, certain interest from Acme to Clarkton at the 19th hour are strenuously endeavoring to change the route of the Wilmington-Charlotte Highway, which route is through Delco, Freeman, Bolton, Lake Waccamaw to Whiteville, straight along the Atlantic Coast Line railroad, to a circuitous route which takes in Acme, Armour and East Arcadia.

(Continued on page four)

DAVID J. LEWIS DIES AT HOME HERE LAST NIGHT

Influential Member of Whiteville Bar Succumbs to Short Illness---Widely Known and Esteemed in Eastern North Carolina.

Mr. David J. Lewis, senior member of the law firm of Lewis, Powell and Lewis and one of the most prominent planters of Columbus county, died at his home here last night at 7 o'clock, following an illness of seven days. His death was due to uremic poisoning. Mr. Lewis, while apparently enjoying the best of health, was suddenly stricken Thursday morning of last week. At times there seemed slight chances for his recovery, but at no time was he out of danger, and during the last two or three days of his illness those familiar with his condition held no hopes for his recovery.

Mr. Lewis was sixty-four years old and was married thirty-one years ago this week to Miss Lucy Howell, daughter of Mrs. Frances A. Howell, of Whiteville. Besides his wife, he is survived by eight children: Messrs. Richard M., Ross H., Julian D., and Gordon Lewis, Misses Bess, Madge and Etta Lewis, all of Whiteville, and Mrs. William H. Richardson, of Raleigh. There also survive two sisters and one brother: Mrs. Joseph Regan and Miss Lorena Lewis, of Fairmont and Mr. S. F. Lewis, of Whiteville, and three small grand-children, William H. Richardson, Jr., and David Lewis Richardson, the latter being his namesake and Rome H. Lewis, Jr.

Funeral services were held from the residence at 3 o'clock this afternoon, conducted by the Rev. F. D. Woodall, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, South of Whiteville, of which Mr. Lewis was a member of the board of stewards. The minister was assisted by Rev. I. T. Newton, pastor of the Baptist church and Rev. Andrew J. Howell, pastor of the Presbyterian church.

The burial was in the family plot in the Whiteville cemetery. The active pallbearers were: Messrs. Hugh Mack Lumsden, Morrison Formy Duval, A. F. Powell, Jr., J. A. Maulsby, Jr., Belton Thompson, and E. F. Powell. The following gentlemen were requested to act as honorary pallbearers: Messrs. J. G. Thompson, D. M. Thompson, J. L. Powell, R. H. Powell, J. D. Maulsby, J. B. Schulken, J. A. Brown, Chadbourne, Dixon McLean, of Lumberton, J. B. Clark, of Fayetteville, C. D. Koonce, of Chadbourne, J. L. Memory and Irvin B. Tucker, and Drs. W. H. Crowell, R. B. Whitaker, H. B. Maxwell and R. C. Sadler, and Floyd Johnson.

Among those who arrived last night for the funeral were: Mrs. Lewis and Miss Lewis, from Fairmont, and Mr. Richardson, from Raleigh. Mrs. Richardson and her children having been here since Friday. Mr. Howell, Mrs. Lewis's brother, arrived this morning, by way of Clarkton. Mr. Lewis arrived here from the residence at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

designs been seen in Whiteville those sent by the friends of Mr. Lewis and family. The flowers were both profuse and exquisite having been sent from all parts of the State and from other States. They formed but a mute testimony of the esteem in which the deceased was held.

In the death of Mr. Lewis, Whiteville, Columbus county and this entire section of the State lose one of their best citizens and friends. He was, first of all, a home-loving man. As a father and husband he was a preeminent example of love and loyalty. He loved his church and his God and labored faithfully at all times in the service of His Master. He loved his community, helping always to protect its interests and resenting any infringements upon its rights, but in a liberal, broad-minded manner.

Mr. Lewis was born in Bladen county, but came to Whiteville when a young man; and, coming here, he made it his home in theory, as well as in practice. He was always identified with the best movements of the town and surrounding country. He was influential in politics, but never aggressive to the point of offending those who held different views from his. Above all, he was tolerant, and there ran through his being a sympathetic strain that made him love his fellow-being and spurn that which tended toward animosity. Summed up, he was a friend of Humanity, a Christian and a patriot.

Mr. Lewis was a son of the late Richard M. and Clarissa Lewis, of Bladen county. He studied law under the late Judge Dick, of Greensboro, and was for a time in the office of the late Col. French, in Lumberton. He has always enjoyed a large practice, due both to his efficiency as a legal student and practitioner and to the great confidence which was placed in him. His death cast a gloom over the entire community and his memory will always be revered in this section of the State and in other sections where he formed lasting friendships.

It is well to add that Mr. Lewis was a friend of education and of other constructive measures and programs. He did much toward awakening the people of Columbus to a fuller sense of their duty toward young minds. And young people loved him. For many years he taught a class of young men in the Methodist Sunday school here, and his interest in them, collectively and individually, was always at the highest point. He was instrumental in leading many into the Kingdom of God.

Telegraphing his sympathy to the family, Governor Cameron Morrison, paid Mr. Lewis this tribute:

"I have lost a good friend and the state one of its finest citizens. I wish I could go down and be with you, but imperative business here makes it impossible."

"He fought a good fight; he kept the faith"—and he has gone to his reward.

INTEREST CENTERING AROUND WILMINGTON-CHARLOTTE ROAD

Columbus Citizens Preparing for a Big Mass Meeting to Present Their Claims to Highway and to Show Their Resentment of Efforts that Are Being Made to Change the Route.

(By W. B. KEZIAH)
Every member of the Columbus County Board of Commissioners has affixed his approval to a call for a rousing mass meeting here in Whiteville next Monday in the interest of the Wilmington-Charlotte highway and the route through this county.

The uncalced for activities of Bladen county in an effort to change the routing of a road that was settled upon years ago, and to which she has no moral rights, is arousing justified indignation over practically the whole of Columbus and our citizens are determined to stand by their rights and contest any effort to change the route of the road.

Bladen had a mass meeting at Bladenboro Tuesday. Mr. McGirt, the highway commissioner from this district, was present and accorded the citizens of that county a hearing. He will be in Whiteville next Monday and will accord Columbus county people a like opportunity to present

their claims to the road. The importance of keeping the road in Columbus cannot be over-estimated. There is not a nook or corner of the county that will not benefit by it in one way or another. It was given to us on the merits of the route through here six years ago and it would be little short of a calamity to this county to lose it now through indifference towards the fight that is being waged to remove it and run it through another county.

The people from every section of Columbus are urged to take a day off next Monday and come to Whiteville. Commissioner McGirt must be shown that we are in earnest about wanting to keep the road. There is no better way of showing him than by coming and bringing your neighbor with you to what will be one of the biggest gatherings of its kind that has ever been held in Columbus county. Come and Stand by Columbus.

MASS MEETING

Monday, Jan. 9th, 1922, at Noon
WHITEVILLE, N. C.

Hon. W. A. McGirt, Highway Commissioner, will meet with citizens of Columbus county to hear argument in favor of the present route from Lumberton to Boardman and Whiteville and thence east via Hallsboro, Lake Waccamaw, Bolton, Byrdville, Freeman and Delco. It is important that all citizens of Columbus county be present to show the commissioners they are in earnest in demanding the above route.

All Come! All Come!
COLUMBUS COUNTY
GOOD ROADS ASSOCIATION.

Approved by
Board of County Commissioners:
E. J. GRIMSLEY,
J. C. STANLEY,
E. C. WHITE,
K. CLYDE COUNCIL,
E. A. MOFFITT.