

ONLY TEN SHOPPING DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS

THE SANFORD EXPRESS

FOREMOST IN CHARACTER and CIRCULATION

VOLUME 47, Number 18.

SANFORD, NORTH CAROLINA, DECEMBER 15, 1932.

Published WEEKLY.

FIVE CENTS

TOWN TOPICS

A weekly resume of opinion pertaining to local developments in the news.

The deep, resonant voice of Angus Wilton McLean, former Governor of North Carolina, echoed about the lobby of the Hotel Wilrik Monday evening as he conversed with Mayor Warren R. Williams and Austin McCormick, both old friends of his. The former governor appeared in fine fettle for a young man of fifty-nine years. He came to Sanford by way of Chapel Hill, where he attended a meeting of the trustees of the University of North Carolina. At one o'clock Tuesday morning he shook hands with his two friends and boarded a train for the North.

As a lad in Scotland county, Austin McCormick, local cotton buyer and well known political leader, formed a deep seated admiration for Angus Wilton McLean, then starting out as a young lawyer in the small town of Lumberton. He gave the Lumberton man warm support in the 1924 primary when his aspirations to the governorship were obscured only by the ambitious reflection of Josiah William Bailey. Later when Mr. McLean was governor he demonstrated his confidence in Mr. McCormick's ability by appointing him auditor of the North Carolina Railroad, perhaps better known to many as the "Mullet road." Austin enjoyed the title of "Mr. Auditor" for a year. He liked sitting around the huge mahogany table of the railroad directorate, basking in the esteem due one of his official rank but he could never entirely obliterate the cotton business from his mind when attending these other wise happy sessions. He was truly glad when his term expired.

Tal, game, J. Edwards, his overcoat besplattered with the falling drops of rain, stroked his grey whiskers and commented philosophically about the "sad state of affairs that have arisen in our State" as he stood in front of Joe Lazarus' drug store on Steele Street Tuesday morning.

It was an ideal morning for sober reflection for above the sky was draped in heavy, watery dark clouds. "Yes, things were in a pretty bad sort of way when Cam took leave of the executive mansion," mused the Greenwood sage. "Angus arrived on the scene just in nick of time to save the State. What we needed at the time was a man with a fiscal turn of mind, one who could check and double check every expenditure and that was Angus all over. The State is \$189,000,000 in debt, according to the last report of the treasurer and it is hard to tell how much further in the hole we would have gone if Cam had stayed in four more years."

With that characteristic impatient drawl of his, a whimsical inheritance of those who begin life in the northern corner of "Ole Virginia," "Pop" Collins, night clerk of the Hotel Wilrik, reminisced over the palmy days when he was assistant manager of the Shoreham in Washington. Back then, even more than now, the Shoreham, relates "Pop," was the rendezvous of Washington society and officialdom. To see such figures as Bryan, Borah, Lodge, Reed, Smoot, Baker, Hoover and others meander about the lobby was an ordinary occurrence. Not infrequently the charming, naive Alice Roosevelt Longworth was present, and, as always, the center of a host of admirers.

Quite often North Carolina's distinguished were guests but the one who stamped his impress more so than any other was Angus Wilton McLean, then assistant secretary of the treasury and member of the War Finance Corporation, who made his home at the Shoreham. McLean was a "crony" of Joe Tumulty, Mr. Wilson's private secretary, "Pop" recalls, and the two were often seen in each other's company, strolling arm in arm about the Shoreham lobby. The former governor's opinion, is by far and wide, North Carolina's most able public man and he hopes to see him either in Mr. Roosevelt's (Continued On Page Eight)

Error In Contractor's Bid Puts Aldermen In Stew

LAD IS RECOVERING FROM ACCIDENT HURTS
Thomas Hayes, 7-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Hayes, of 109 North Steele street is improving after injuries received when struck by an automobile driven by Mrs. C. C. Hatch on Saturday evening. The accident occurred at the corner of Steele and Gordon streets. It was first feared that the little fellow was seriously injured but the X-ray pictures show that no bones were broken. It is thought that the accident was unavoidable.

HARVEY WALLACE TO DIE TOMORROW

Lee County Negro To Be Put To Death At State's Prison For Murder.
Harvey Wallace, convicted at the August term of Lee Superior court of first degree murder for the killing of the late N. H. Perry, of Cummock, will die in the electric chair at the State's Prison early tomorrow morning unless there is a last minute commutation of his sentence from Governor Gardner.

However, no recommendation for clemency has been made by Executive Counsel Tyre C. Taylor, who has interviewed Wallace. There will likely be a double electrocution as Alex Grier, Gas ton county murderer, is also scheduled to die tomorrow morning.

The Executive Counsel said he was "convinced" both Negroes are guilty. He said both have confessed Wallace having confessed to Solicitor Clawson Williams.

POULTRY SALE SATURDAY

A cooperative poultry sale will be held in Sanford on Saturday, December 17th. This sale will be under the auspices of the Lee Mutual Poultry Association, and the poultry will be received at Palmer & Reeves Stable on Endor street, from 9 a. m. to 3 p. m.

Heavy hens will sell for 8c per pound, and Leghorn hens, 6c per pound. Other grades of poultry will be in proportion. The turkey market is in such an unsettled condition that we are not setting a price at this time. However, turkeys will be bought at the market price on that day. This price is expected to be cheap.

The poultry market is very weak at present and it is not advisable to sell except when absolutely necessary. It is hoped that the market will be stronger after Christmas. There have been many requests for a poultry sale, therefore, this sale has been arranged for the benefit of those who feel that they must sell before Christmas.

PRIZES OFFERED FOR THE BEST CHRISTMAS TREE

In order to encourage artistic arrangement and decoration of Christmas trees in Sanford homes this year, Mr. H. C. Roberts, of Lee Hardware Co., announces that his firm will give a prize to the person who has the best tree this year. Mr. Roberts requests that all who are interested in entering the contest call at Lee Hardware Co. at once and enroll their names.

The store will name three judges who will visit the homes of the contestants on Christmas eve and decide who is entitled to the prize. Contestants may use either cedar or holly trees. The decision, however, will be based on the effectiveness of the light, the uniqueness of arrangement and the originality of the decorations. Should a lady win the prize, she will be awarded an aluminum electric percolator, the heating element of which is absolutely guaranteed for one year. Should a boy or girl win the decision then either an air rifle or a pair of skates will be awarded. Visit Lee Hardware Company and enroll your name in this contest at once.

BOARD REJECTS PROPOSALS FOR WATER SYSTEM

Action of Contractor In Demanding Change of Bid Creates Storm of Debate.

CALL FOR NEW PROPOSALS

All proposals for water works improvements, received by the Town of Sanford on December 2, were rejected in a special meeting of the board of aldermen, held Monday evening. The board decided to readvertise for proposals to be received on December 22. Action was taken by the board without a dissenting vote.

It was the general expectation that the special meeting of the board would result in an award of the work to one of the bidders submitting proposals as of December 2 and the action of the board was greeted on the streets here Tuesday morning with intermingled surprise and no little criticism.

It was frequently reiterated at the meeting of the board that the amounts specified in the proposals seemed to be fair and that with the two lowest bidders, particularly, both of whom are local contractors, the figures expressed in the bids were very satisfactory.

Reason for the rejection of the December 2 bids is ascribed to the action of W. L. Jewell, local contractor, who maintained at the meeting of the board before which the bids were opened that he had made an error in his bid and that he be allowed to change his bid.

It was recalled that Mr. Jewell had insisted that a \$1,250.00 item contained in one of the brackets of his proposal should have been listed at \$125.00 and that this mistake caused an error of \$1,125.00 in the total of his bid.

In discussing the incident Mayor Williams stated to the board of alderman that Mr. Jewell's sealed bid was along with five others in a pile on the table at which they were opened and the envelope containing his bid was on the bottom and was the last opened. He pointed out that Mr. Jewell made no mention of an error in his bid until the board had adjourned; when this was done he demanded the return of his bid that he might correct his error. Mayor Williams states that Mr. Jewell was told that this would not be permissible and that he then took up the sheet on which the figures of his bid were written and changed the figures which he asserted were in error.

At this juncture, Mayor Williams was interrupted by W. W. Chaffin, city engineer, who stated that Mr. Jewell did not change the figures but that he himself, at the request of Mr. Jewell, did so.

Mayor Williams also stated to Alderman Ledwell who was absent at the meeting at which bids were originally opened, that Mr. Chaffin, City Engineer, stated to the Board that Mr. Jewell had no right to make any change in a sealed bid.

Mr. Jewell's original bid was \$29,400.04. J. W. Stout & Co., local concern, made a bid of \$29,367.78. On the face of the original bids the Stout bid is lower than the Jewell bid by \$32.26. Allowing for the change in one item for which Mr. Jewell insisted, his bid would be scaled to \$28,275.04, or \$1,082.88 lower than the proposal of J. W. Stout & Co.

In view of the complications arising out of the former meeting a suggestion was voiced that the two lowest bidders be asked to resubmit bids. Mr. Pittman, the town attorney, rendered the opinion, however, that this would not be legal and that readvertisement would have to be made which would open the entire matter to new bidders.

Mayor Williams ordered that all checks held on the contractors who submitted proposals be returned to them immediately.

Miss Camille Carroll, a student at the Conservatory of Music, Durham, recently spent a few days at home with her parents.

McPHERSON NAMED TRUSTEE DEFUNCT MINING PROPERTY

Carolina Coal and By-Products Company Is Involved To Extent of \$1,000,000

SENATOR DIAL IS SUE

Vast Amount of Property Is Involved In Legal Entanglements; May Be Sold

Judge T. J. McPherson of this place, was appointed trustee in bankruptcy proceedings under order of Judge Johnson J. Hayes, of the Federal Court, by H. F. Seawell, Referee in Bankruptcy, of the Carolina Coal and By-Products Company of Cummock, last week. This company was placed in the hands of a receiver by the action of creditors several months ago and D. A. McLaughlin of Vass, made trustee. For some reason he failed to qualify. Judge McPherson informs The Express that he will take charge of the company and get the business of the company adjusted as soon as possible. He was required to give \$5,000 bond.

The property that is involved includes two coal mines, all mining machinery and equipments, a railroad three miles long, 1,000 acres of land in simple and the mineral rights of 4,000 or 5,000 acres.

Messrs. Gavin and Teague and Williams and Williams of this place, represent some of the creditors. These creditors have brought suit in the courts against the coal company and N. B. Dial, a former United States Senator from South Carolina, to set aside a claim of first mortgage bonds to the amount of \$400,000. The suit was brought for the receivers and is being heard by Judge McPherson.

Sanford stores are offering almost every type of merchandise during the holiday period. There are all sorts of novel and useful gifts, there is the large regular supply of merchandise, much of which is in Christmas packages, there are thousands and thousands of toys for children—there is a gift for every body right here in the Sanford stores.

And the prices. Investigation discloses that almost every article offered today is being offered at a lower price than last year, a price lower than has been the instance in many decades. Some articles are lower by a third than in December, 1931, and radically lower than in the halcyon days of 1918.

The streets are beginning to show signs of Christmas activity. There is bustle and life as people move cheerfully along, seeking just what present would be best for father, mother, brother, sister, other members of the family and friends. It is not yet too late to do early shopping and every man and woman who start today will have plenty of time to finish the shopping and to get every present ready for Christmas delivery.

The school boys and girls will soon be returning home for the Christmas holidays and there will be a little army of them in Sanford. Many of the citizens of the town will also have friends and relatives as holiday guests. The force of clerks at the post-office will be busy till the holiday season is over handling the Christmas presents and cards that will be sent through the mail to friends and loved ones. Since the financial depression has been on many are not able to give costly presents. In fact many have confined their remembrances to Christmas cards. More Christmas cards were sent through the Sanford postoffice during the holidays a year ago than ever before in the history of Sanford. No doubt thousands of them will be handled through the mails this Christmas.

Mr. D. B. Teague went to Chapel Hill last Friday where that night he attended the annual meeting of the University Alumni Association. Mr. Teague was president of the Alumni Association one year, beginning with October 12th, last year at which time the Association was reorganized.

Mr. and Mrs. Rex Kelly recently visited Mr. and Mrs. Jack Anderson in Greensboro.

TANTALIZER

The letters in the lines below properly arranged spell the names of two persons in Sanford. If the persons whose names are represented by the group of letters decipher their own names and bring copies of this paper to The Express Office before next Wednesday night, to each of them will be given a free ticket admitting them to the show at the Temple Theatre Thursday night.

EEPT THCMNISO DALEREN MHSEL
Carrie Glass
Katie Yates

HOLIDAY TRADE IS RETARDED BY BAD WINTER WEATHER

Sanford Folks Are Gripped By Yuletide Spirit As Glad-some Event Nears.

DEPRESSION MARS EVENT

Few Will Be Able To Give Presents This Year But Will Send Post Cards.

The Christmas spirit is beginning to prevail in Sanford despite the fact that a season of rainy weather is on and we are in the midst of the greatest depression in the history of the country. It is now only 10 days till Christmas. Practically every store in Sanford has completed Christmas decorations and the windows and interior of the stores present a decidedly attractive appearance, fully in keeping with the holiday season.

Last week Chief of Police John T. McKernan and a number of laborers who are paid with money secured from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, went to the woods near Sanford and selected five beautiful cedars of uniform size and with a truck brought them to town and placed them at the following street intersections in the business district of the city: Intersection of Hawkins avenue and Carthage street, Charlotte avenue and First Street, Carthage and Steele streets, Wicker and Steele streets, Melver and Chat ham streets. These trees cost \$5.80 each. The trees are beautifully lighted with colored electric lights. The Sanford Merchants Association agreed to pay for the lights if the town would pay for the trees. Trees were placed at these crossings last Christmas. They are a constant reminder that we are in the midst of the Christmas season.

Sanford stores are offering almost every type of merchandise during the holiday period. There are all sorts of novel and useful gifts, there is the large regular supply of merchandise, much of which is in Christmas packages, there are thousands and thousands of toys for children—there is a gift for every body right here in the Sanford stores.

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World In Throes of "Great Moral Confusion" - Graham

MEETING POSTPONED

Mr. T. L. Riddle, secretary of the local unit of the Railroad Employees' and Taxpayers' Association of North Carolina, received a wired message Wednesday morning stating that Mr. W. L. Stanley, vice president of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, could not be present and speak at the meeting of the Association, which was to have met at the City hall Friday night, on account of pressing business engagements. The meeting of the Association was postponed indefinitely. It is hoped that Mr. Stanley will be able to attend some future meeting.

KIWANIANS ELD DIVISIONAL MEET

Local Club Host To Fourth District Officials of Carolinas Kiwanis.

The divisional meeting of Kiwanis at the Wilrik Hotel last Friday evening, celebrating the close of J. C. Pittman's tenure of office as Lieutenant Governor, was one of the most successful banquets ever staged in Sanford. The fourth division of the Carolinas District, comprising 7 clubs, combined a meeting, a banquet and a Ladies Night with unusual artistry. James M. Lynch, of Florence, an International Trustee, and Franklin Keane, Field Secretary and "silver-tongued orator," were the principal speakers.

Mr. Pittman, who was praised continually during the meeting for his alert leadership, presided as toastmaster and handled the ever surprising program with a master's touch.

Following turkey dinner, the address of welcome was offered by W. E. Horner, who did a good job of it. He took the visiting clubs in rotation and offered a facetious reason why Sanford was glad to welcome each. Wash ton Crumpton, of Lumberton, Lieutenant Governor-elect, responded to the address.

P. H. St. Clair president of the Sanford Kiwanis Club, who has missed only one meeting since the club was organized some eight years ago, made a short talk on attendance. He emphasized the importance of giving each member of the club a part on the program as often as possible. Give him recognition by making him a cog in the wheel and if he possesses the Kiwanis spirit, he will be pretty apt to attend regularly. The presidents and presidents-elect were presented by President-elect Dr. J. F. Foster, of the Sanford club. Dr. Foster will take charge as president of the club the first Friday night in January.

Going into the program, Mr. Pittman announced that each club would have five minutes in which to stage a stunt. The following Kiwanians managed offerings for their clubs: Fayetteville, Dr. Patton; Lumberton, Wash Crumpton; Selma, Star Harper; Smithfield, Dr. J. W. Whitehead; Sanford, Herbert Dowd, presenting L. E. Warrick. The Selma club was awarded the prize for a stunt consisting of a balloon-blowing contest, using tremendous balloons which were released after having been inflated. The big blimps sailed viciously around the ball room, causing banqueteers to duck under tables. The Sanford stunt was aspech by Mr. Warrick, who entered in hilarious make-up and delivered a lecture on the depression. The Sanford High school coach, going right home for his examples, said, "When my boy was born one neighbor gave us a crib; another gave us a carriage. Now, if someone will just lend me fifteen dollars to finish paying the doctor, the boy will be ours."

Bill Montgomery, of Wilmington, Governor-elect, was introduced and then Mr. Pittman presented Herbert Hennig Governor of the Carolinas District, who spoke briefly and ended by presenting his fellow statesman, James M. Lynch. Mr. Lynch, famed for his golden voice, which he handles with the skill (Continued On Page Five)

NOTED EDUCATOR REVIEWS CAUSES PRESENT UNREST

Dr. Frank P. Graham Delivers Address Before Local Pierian Club.

WORLD IN MORAL CHAOS

The moral conceptions of the new generation, the young men and women of today, are the by-products of the backwash or aftermath of the great World War, said Dr. Frank Porter Graham, president of the Greater University of North Carolina, in an address delivered yesterday before the local Pierian Club in the ball room of the Hotel Wilrik.

"The nations of the world can not indulge in a war that takes a toll of ten million lives without tremendous repercussions in moral and ethical conceptions resulting therefrom," said the distinguished speaker.

Lauds Wilson. In speaking of America's entry into the world conflict, Dr. Graham paid a tribute to the late commander-in-chief, Woodrow Wilson, whose contribution to the era was an "injection and projection of a magnificent moralistic idealism which is the heritage of the human race."

"We cannot spend four years killing millions without something happening to our conception of human values and life itself," said he, "nor without resultant moral and intellectual confusion from these processes." The speaker declared that life is not a compartmental thing but is an integral thing and that when there is revolutionary change in conception there is always change in life.

The World War and the great moral confusion, a product of the "aftermath," represent a transitional period in the world's history and is comparable to the great change of the Fifteenth century, which marked the discovery of America, the rounding of Africa, the invention of the printing press, the Renaissance and the fall of feudalism, Dr. Graham told the audience.

In that glorious period the world, said Dr. Graham, found a freedom to which it had not been accustomed and youth, too, found a new freedom. Many young people lost their way in what they felt was the new freedom and found themselves broken. The present era, he said, is analogous of the former period in that revolutionary changes have taken place and that youth has temporarily deserted the old sanctions for new-found freedom. Many of the youth of today likewise will lose their way and become broken, said he.

Honesty Needed. The speaker pleaded for intellectual honesty, declaring that the intricate problems of the day cannot be met by a false modesty but that they should be approached with open mind. He said that we could not refuse to recognize what every boy and girl of this generation know and which they pick up daily from the theatre and the newspaper. "Bring these problems into the sunlight," said he, "then we can determine what is real, what is sordid and superficial, what is fundamentally true."

Dr. Graham in discussing the changes that have come over man cited his relationship to the universe. He told of the primitive theory which, in effect, was that the surface of the earth is flat. Later, said he, Sir Isaac Newton advanced the idea of the fixed point theory. That is, that the sun was the fixed center of the universe and that other planets was fixed. This made up a heliocentric universe. In the present era of transition the Einstein theory of relativity is the temporary concept and now we have a universe the different integers of which are relative to each other and there is no center at all.

"Take the neighborhood that I once knew," said he, "the neighborhood once exerted great influence. In those days 'what the neighbors might say was a powerful thing' but concrete roads, steel rails and electric wires (Continued On Page Eight)