

Sylvan Valley News

Our County—Its Progress and Prosperity the First Duty of a Local Paper.

J. J. MINER, Manager.

BREVARD, TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY, N. C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 1908.

VOL. XIII—NO. 1

TRANSYLVANIA LODGE

o. 143, K. of P.



Meets Tuesday evenings 8.30., Castle Hall, Fraternity building.
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Quarantine Laws Of North Carolina.

HOW DISEASES ARE SPREAD AND INNOCENT LIVES SACRIFICED BY VIOLATIONS OF THESE VERY NECESSARY LAWS.

There appears to be some misunderstanding in this county as to the quarantine laws which affect the human family. Every body knows there is a cattle quarantine, and that its boundaries must be observed by all, but the quarantine of one's home is a proposition which our healthy, mountain people do not understand. In order that none may hereafter plead ignorance, we refer below to those laws now in force in this state.

In order to protect the people from the ravages of catching or "contagious" diseases, certain laws have been enacted by the legislature and written upon our statute books, and it is the duty of all to understand and obey them.

In section 4435 of vol. 2 of the Revisal, and the seven sections following it, we find a law creating the North Carolina Board of Health and setting out the duties thereof. In section 4442 auxiliary boards are created, one for each county. Section 4444 is the law creating the Sanitary Committee of each county, and section 4445 defines the duties of the County Superintendent of Health.

The attention of physicians in the county is especially called to section 4508 of vol. 2, which reads as follows: "When a physician knows that a person whom he is called to visit is infected with smallpox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, typhus fever, yellow fever or cholera, he shall immediately give notice thereof, to the health officer or mayor if the sick person be in a city or incorporated town, otherwise to the county superintendent of health," and in sec. 3443 of vol. 1 it is provided that if the visiting physician fails to report any such contagious disease he is guilty of a crime and shall be fined not less than \$10.

In sec. 4452 of vol. 2 we find: "when a householder knows that a person within his family is sick with any of the diseases enumerated in sec. 4448 he shall immediately give notice thereof to the health officer or mayor if he resides in an incorporated town or city, otherwise to the county superintendent of health, and upon the death, or removal, or recovery of such person the rooms occupied and articles used by such householder in the manner indicated in sec. 4508;" and if any person violates this section it is provided in sec. 3443 of vol. 1 that he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined from one to fifty dollars.

Sec. 4453 provides that no child shall be allowed to go to school if any member of its family has any of the diseases mentioned, and sec. 3441 of vol. 2 makes the violation of this law a misdemeanor, and not only is the householder guilty, but also the school committee and teacher are guilty if

they allow such child to come to school. In addition to the diseases mentioned, this section applies to all cases of measles, mumps, whooping cough and itch, so it will be well for our school committees and teachers to be careful and see that no child from any family having any of said diseases in it is allowed in school.

In order that the various diseases shall be quarantined may be known we will cite Section 4508, it being the section referred to above, and it reads as follows: "Inland quarantine shall be under the control of the County Superintendent of Health, who shall see that diseases specially dangerous to the public health, viz: smallpox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, yellow fever, typhus fever and cholera are properly quarantined and isolated within twenty four hours after the case is brought to his knowledge; and that after the death or recovery or removal of a person sick of either of the diseases mentioned, the rooms occupied and the articles used by the patient are thoroughly disinfected in the manner set forth in the stated instructions, both as to quarantine and disinfectants which shall be furnished to him by the secretary of the State Board of Health. The expense of the quarantine and of the disinfection shall be borne by the householder in whose family the case occurs, if (he) is able, otherwise by the city, county or town of which he is a resident."

Sec. 3449 of vol. 1 reads as follows: "If any person shall neglect or refuse to comply with, or in any way violate the rules promulgated by the county superintendent of health on the subjects of quarantine and disinfection, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined or imprisoned at the discretion of the court not less than \$5 nor more than \$50, or imprisoned not less than ten or more than thirty days.

The quarantine rules as established by the state board of health are, in case of a farmer that he shall not go off his farm, and not over it if other families live thereon, neither shall he allow any person to come into his house or yard. If he lives in a town or city he shall not go out of his house, if he does, he has violated the law and is liable. The law also provides that if the householder is not able to pay the expense of the quarantine and inspection, the county will pay the cost; but he must be unable to pay, and must so notify the superintendent of health.

We understand that a certain magistrate said that he could not find any law in regard to quarantine; also a great many of our good people do not know the law, so we have taken the pains to cite those parts of the law pertaining to this subject.

The people of Transylvania are too law-abiding to willfully violate any law. No county has a prouder record for a peaceful and law-abiding citizenship, too good a citizenship for the quarantine laws to be broken after they are known, and we hope that this will disseminate the law over the entire county.

When we come to think over it the quarantine laws are so very essential—they touch our lives and the lives of our loved ones—that they would be obeyed without the severe penalties attached to them if people would only stop and think. We hope that there is no man so dastardly in Transylvania county who would willingly and knowingly threaten and jeopardize the lives of his neighbor and his neighbor's family. We hope there is no man so cowardly that he would go abroad reeking with the germs of a fatal disease and spread it among the good people of his county and thereby be the cause of many an innocent person's death. That is what a man does every time he breaks quarantine, he endangers the lives of all he comes in contact with—that is how diseases are spread. If a rigid quarantine could be maintained there would be much less sickness. So we want our people to see they they are more culpable by breaking quarantine than if they were to shoot a gatling gun up and down the public roads. Then a man could protect himself, but you cannot look at a man and tell that he has just left a house wherein there are cases of scarlet fever, or diphtheria or some other contagious disease.

Our county superintendent, Dr. Cheatham, is faithful in the performance of his duty, and we ask the good people of the county to sustain him in his action and to report any violations of the quarantine. It is a vital question to each and every one of us and selfishness should play no part in it.

There have been some violations of the law recently, largely due to the ignorance of the law, but in the future that will be no excuse, and those who willfully violate the orders of the County Superintendent of Health should be dealt with immediately and punished to the full extent of the law. No man should be allowed to threaten the lives of his neighbors and his fellow citizens and not be punished. When a country is sparsely settled there is not so much need for a strict quarantine, but as we are now, with people living close together, it does not take a disease long to spread, and one case of a malignant contagious disease may start an epidemic that will kill hundreds.

Our quarantine laws were framed by the best doctors in the state and are based on sound medical knowledge and experience, and are not based on guesswork, and if they are carried out in full we will see a wonderful falling off in diseases that are contagious.

The News should be in every home in the county,

Buck Forest Items.

Left over from last week.

Editor Sylvan Valley News:

W. V. Bryson visited his brother L. L. Bryson of Brevard Sunday.

Mrs. J. B. Rogers of Cedar Mountain was in this section one day last week.

W. C. Ray spent one evening last week at the home of F. L. D. Thomas of this village.

Rev. M. A. Matherson preached a very interesting sermon at Laurel Creek on first Sunday.

Miss Myrtle Clayton's school at Laurel Creek will close Tuesday. Miss Myrtle is an excellent teacher.

Mrs. D. A. Cooper of Hendersonville has recently been spending a few days with her parents Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Ray of this burg.

Rev. A. O. Allison of Boilston was among the visitors to the Buck Forest section last week. We were glad to have him with us again.

Miss Effie Anderson, who has been spending a few months with her uncle Rev. Rufus Ray at Jamestown, Va., has returned to her home at this place. We gladly welcome her back.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

PEACH BLOSSOM.

Glade Creek Items.

Left over from last week.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Perry Townsend a son.

Bascom Allison and wife have moved to Ecusta.

Wiley Townsend passed through our section last Sunday.

The Davidson River boys were in this section last Sunday.

Wade Garwood has been on the sick list but is improving.

Miss Ethel Fowler has been very ill but is slowly recovering.

Monroe Ownbey and wife spent last Sunday on Glade creek.

Mrs. David Sims spent a few days last week with Mrs. P. C. Townsend.

George and Sheldon Sims were welcome visitors among us last Sunday.

Miss Olivia Allison has been quite busy lately sewing for Mrs. E. B. Clayton.

Cleveland Morgan, of Greenville, S. C., has been visiting friends and relatives here.

Rev. T. C. Holtzclaw, M. E. Fowler and Butler Brown dined at the home of M. H. Fowler Dec. 1.

Miss Maud Fowler from Birmingham, Ala., has returned to her old home on Glade Creek and is welcomed by all.

Mrs. I. T. Cairnes, daughter Hessian and son Oscar have gone to Arkansas to make their home. We wish them much success.

PAPA'S BABY.

Don't Take the Risk.

When you have a bad cough or cold do not let it drag along until it becomes chronic bronchitis or develops into an attack of pneumonia, but give it the attention it deserves and get rid of it. Take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and you are sure of prompt relief. From a small beginning the sale and use of this preparation has extended to all parts of the United States and to many foreign countries. Its many remarkable cures of coughs and colds have won for it this wide reputation and extensive use. Sold by O. L. Erwin, Rosman.