

MR. DEEVER REPLIES

Raleigh, February 15, 1913.
Editor Sylvan Valley News:
I do not usually reply to newspaper articles, and especially when the writer refuses to sign his name to his article; but because of peculiar circumstances I desire to say a few words in reply to an article signed "Merchant" in your issue of February 14th, inst.

The writer seemed to be riled over the simple fact that I tried to do something which I thought would be to the interest of the shippers of Brevard and vicinity. The gentleman need not worry over me being "buncoed," or essay to lecture me as to my proper course while in this house. I am amply competent, I think, to follow the line of my duty without any suggestion from a "nom de plume." But he says I acted without proper information and got nothing new for the people.

Let us see. I have heard considerable complaint along the line suggested on my former letter. This answers the first charge in the bill of complaint. There was no "hobnobbing with high railroad officials for concessions we already have." My request was made in open meeting of the committee together with several like requests.

Now as to the statement that I got nothing for the community that they did not already have, I wish to quote a letter received from Mr. J. J. Hooper, general freight claim agent of the Southern railway, which I take to be authoritative, absolutely confirming my position and showing my friend "Merchant" must have slipped a cog. Here is the letter:

Washington, D. C., Feb. 12, '13.
Mr. Charles B. Deaver, Representative, Raleigh, N. C.

My Dear Sir: Since I had the pleasure of a short talk with you when I was before the committee, as you will remember, I have been investigating the claim situation at Brevard and will later give the agent specific authority to pay valid claims within certain limits. Although I understand from him that he has been anticipating this authority to some extent, I am inclined to believe that very shortly the claim situation at that place will be entirely satisfactory, and I am obliged to you for calling the matter to my attention, as it is the intention of the company to deal justly and promptly with its patrons in respect to freight claims, and I was sincere in making that statement before your committee.

I believe you also mentioned Waynesville, N. C., and as soon as I can finish an investigation at that place will take whatever action the conditions warrant. Trusting this will be satisfactory, and assuring you of my pleasure of meeting you, I am yours respectfully,
J. J. HOOPER,
Freight Claim Agent.

The reason Waynesville is referred to in this letter is because the member from Haywood asked me to make the request for his town also. He was sitting across the aisle from me but did not belong to the committee.

The letter speaks for itself, and shows that while the agent has been "anticipating" this authority to some extent, he has not had "specific" authority to do so, for Mr. Hooper says he "will later give the agent specific authority to pay valid claims"

CHAS. B. DEEVER.

Editor Sylvan Valley News.

In your paper of February 14th, 1913, I read an article signed "Merchant" in which he takes issue with our representative about the prompt payment of claims against the railroad. This has always been the policy at this station to pay all claims. It has always been the policy of the Southern railway for several years to pay all claims promptly when we know the facts. This has been our instructions and we adhere to it as close as we can, as our records will show. The greatest trouble we have is to get the people to submit their claims. A great many people tell us about them, when we have to have the original bill, bill of lading, original

invoice, and a bill of damage against the Southern before we are allowed to pay them. S. C. YATES,
Agent Southern Railway.
February 19, 1913.

DANCING A GREAT SIN

Editor Sylvan Valley News:

I have never heard the like of dancing in all the world. The daily Raleigh News and Observer has reported from one to five dances in nearly every issue through the winter, and every one the most enjoyable occasion of the season. I say it without the fear of successful contradiction that the ball room is a wicked, corrupting amusement—an institution of the devil. It is revelry, put right down by the side of "adultery, fornication, uncleanness, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like, of the which I tell before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."—Gal., v:19-21.

So that the whole tendency of the ball room and dancing is to destroy virtue, and leads to adultery, fornication, prostitution, death and hell. I believe that nine-tenths of those who really love and enjoy the ball room will dance out of it into hell, and will be companions of the rich man to all eternity, crying for a drop of water to cool their parched tongues. I believe that inaugural ball in Raleigh was an abomination to God; and yet it was reported as being the grandest and the most enjoyable occasion ever known in Raleigh. The climax of the great demonstration must be capped with an infernal dance. I don't suppose the devil was ever better pleased, for he knew that the whole tendency was to prepare those women for houses of ill fame and a home in hell. It is estimated that 85 per cent of fallen women get their downfall in the ball room. I had hoped and prayed that Governor Craig and his wife would have nothing whatever to do with that infernal ball, and yet they must lead the great procession to the auditorium and sit on the platform and watch the two hundred couples dance till a late hour. If they had done as Governor Aycock did, kick the whole thing out at the back door, there is no telling the good effect it would have had for virtue, morality and righteousness throughout the state.

Governor Aycock is just that much the cleanest governor we have ever had.

President-elect Wilson and his good wife have raised themselves at least 100 per cent by vetoing that cursed abominable inauguration ball, and saved thousands and thousands of dollars. The good effect will tell for the nation throughout all eternity.

More anon. F. M. JORDAN.

State News

A hunting and camping trip to the mountains near Canton ended disastrously for three young men, Jake Smathers, Perry Cook and John Suttles, last week, when they were arrested and charged with violation of the state law against setting out forest fires. The defendants were each held under \$100 bond.

W. B. Williamson, a prominent banker of Asheville, and Thomas Settle, the progressive candidate for governor, treated the members of the board of aldermen and others to a fist fight last Friday night. The dispute arose over the question of paving the street on which they live.

Grover Burgin of Black Mountain died at the Mission Hospital in Asheville Monday afternoon as the result of injuries received when he was run over by a logging train.

BREVARD INSTITUTE NOTES

The last month of the midwinter term is more than half gone and every one apparently realizes that the school year is hurrying toward the last quarter and is pushing his work with all his might. We have some good workers and are proud of our student body as a whole.

The "special cooking class" are having a good deal of hard work and incidentally a good deal of fun. When they make anything particularly dainty and toothsome they are allowed to sell it to the other students. As school girls and boys are always hungry, there is a ready sale for the "left-overs."

Last Saturday night a very enjoyable valentine party was held. Valentines, both pretty and comic, were freely distributed, and much merriment ensued. Quite a number of the students were dressed to represent some famous person whose birthday occurred in February, and a prize was awarded to the one who guessed the largest number of persons represented. Miss Daisy Holcom won the prize.

The topic of most interest, outside of work, is the play which is being rehearsed by the joint societies. It will be "Scenes from the Merchant of Venice," and will be presented on March 1st, probably at the Auditorium.

MATTERS OF RECORD

The following deeds have been filed for registration in the office of register deeds:

J. C. Capps to J. M. Gosnell and wife, twenty-one acres in Little River township, consideration \$350.

D. L. Green and wife to County Board of Education, two acres in Hogback township, consideration \$25.

Brevard Tannin Company to T. E. Patton, Jr., one acre in Brevard township, consideration \$1.00.

Sarah Johnson to Leander S. Gash and Martin A. Gash, 375 acres on waters of French Broad river in Henderson county (now Transylvania), consideration \$500 "and the further consideration of divers other good offices." Deed dated May 27, 1848.

W. P. Whitmire and wife and A. M. Verdery, Jr., and wife to S. C. Yates, house and lot on Whitmire street, Brevard, consideration \$1600.

John W. Duckworth and wife to Delia A. Gravley, five acres in Brevard township, consideration \$875.

J. L. Bell and wife to D. M. Holden of Greenville, S. C., 400 acres in Dunns Rock township, consideration \$6,100.

J. O. Mackey to W. P. Mackey and others, interest in land in Brevard township, consideration \$1.00.

J. E. Mackey to W. P. Mackey and others, interest in land in Brevard township, consideration \$1.00.

J. C. Capps and wife to J. M. Gosnell, twenty-one acres in Little River township, consideration \$350.

M. L. Lyon to A. H. Gillespie and wife, 170 acres in Catheys Creek township, consideration \$7.00.

James Whitmire to A. H. Gillespie and wife, one-twelfth interest in 254 acres in Catheys Creek township, consideration \$250.

James Whitmire to A. H. Gillespie and wife, land in Eastate township, consideration \$200.

A. H. Gillespie and wife to M. L. Lyon, fifty-five acres in Catheys Creek township, consideration \$670.

Clarinda Owen and heirs to J. A. Owen and wife, fifty-one acres in Gloucester township, consideration \$408.

Clarinda Owen and heirs to Elizabeth Owen and J. A. Owen, twenty-five acres in Gloucester township, consideration \$308.

The following marriage licenses have been issued:

George Chastala of Roanoke and Edna Mosser of Jackson county.
T. C. Kinsey and Emma Dotson, both of Roanoke.

BIG INCREASE IN YIELDS

An average yield of 44.6 bushels of corn per acre was secured by 498 farmers in Alabama and Mississippi who cultivated 8,352.5 acres in 1912, following the methods advocated by the field agents of the department of farm improvement work, maintained by the companies that make up the Southern Railway system. On neighboring farms where the ordinary methods were followed the average yield was 17.5 bushels per acre. In the same states 674 farmers who grew cotton under the methods advocated by this department had an average production of 1,205.5 pounds of seed cotton per acre on 14,363 acres, while on neighboring farms where ordinary methods were followed the average yield was 531.5 pounds of seed cotton per acre. C. A. Lawrence of Plantersville, Ala., averaged 109.25 bushels of corn per acre on 35 acres; A. Henderson of Greenwood, Miss., averaged 100 bushels per acre on 25 acres; B. Killian of Collinsville, Ala., averaged 2,732 pounds of seed cotton per acre on six acres; Dr. C. N. Parnell of Maplesville, Ala., averaged 2,313 pounds on 20 acres, and a long list of other farmers who made splendid yields of both corn and cotton by following the methods advocated by the department could be given.

These figures from the annual report of Mr. T. O. Plunkett, manager of the department, show what is being accomplished by farmers living along the lines of the Southern Railway and affiliated companies through the aid of the agricultural experts, the farmers in all cases cultivating their own land with the resources at their command. The work of this department has been extended to all states served by the Southern Railway and affiliated lines, field agents having been placed in Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky and Tennessee in September, 1912. They have been cordially received and it is expected that their work will prove as successful as that of the agents in Alabama and Mississippi.

The department of farm improvement work grew out of the movement inaugurated by President Finley to aid the farmers in the territory threatened by the Mexican boll weevil to learn how to grow cotton in spite of the weevil. For this purpose practical farmers who had grown cotton in Texas under boll weevil conditions were employed and their word proved so successful in not only aiding farmers to successfully combat the weevil but also in teaching them how to get larger yields per acre by the adoption of proper methods of culture, rotation of crops, and greater attention to live stock raising, that President Finley determined to extend the benefits of this work to the entire territory along the Southern and affiliated lines. The field agents in the service of the department are agricultural experts whose services are given without any cost to the farmers and who work in full co-operation with the state and federal departments of agriculture and the various state agricultural colleges.

National News

Talk of electing two democratic senators in Illinois has practically ended, nearly every party leader except Governor Dunne being ready to admit that the only chance of breaking the deadlock is through a combination that will leave the party only one senator.

A large number of New York women are walking from that city to Washington to present a petition to President-elect Wilson in regard to woman suffrage. The advocates of "Votes for Women" are planning to have a big parade in Washington on March 3rd, they having been denied the privilege of marching in the inaugural parade.

OPPOSED TO MEASURES

Raleigh, February 15, 1913
Editor Sylvan Valley News:

I hand you this item of news as a matter of general concern to our people. Senator W. J. Hannah, acting with his accustomed courtesy, has just shown me two bills affecting our county which he says he received from Mr. W. W. Zachary with the request to introduce and pass the same.

Bill number one provides for a bond issue on the county of about \$200,000, so I figure it, and in addition to this provides for township bond issues amounting to 10 per cent of the taxable property of such township. The bills are for the purpose of constructing, macadamizing, sand-claying or otherwise improving the public roads; county bonds to draw 5 per cent interest and township bonds 6 per cent interest. Under the provision of township bonds suppose, for instance, that Catheys Creek township has a taxable property value of \$300,000, then this township could issue \$30,000 worth of bonds in addition to the regular county issue. Bill provides for a general county road man to spend the money, and for various road officials with salaries varying in possibility from \$2.00 to \$3.00 per day. Provides for a county engineer without stating salary; one-fifth the voters may order election, and a new registration of voters is made compulsory. Those voting against bonds must vote a ticket "Against Good Roads."

Bill number two calls for general county system of working roads, with a general county overseer, with a salary not exceeding \$3.00 per day. Township overseers are appointed, under the control of the general county overseer, at a salary not exceeding \$2.00 per day. Bill levies a special tax from 10 to 20 cents on the one hundred dollars worth of property in every township, in addition to bond issues. Bill allows commissioners to use 50 per cent of the levy taken from the townships "in equal per cent" to buy road machinery and operate the same. Provides that the commissioners may take all the township funds from above levy, except what is necessary for general expenses, to operate the road machinery and maintain the chain-gang while in the township. The township must then pay its proportional part of said machinery for the use of the county. Road officials provided for at per diem salaries. I give only a gist of these bills, but enough to show their tenor.

I am opposed to them both and shall fight their passage. I am convinced the people want no bonds, and are also opposed to this road law. The people have a right to know every man who favors opposes this matter, and it is my duty to endeavor to see that there have a "showing of hands," and a record shall be made of those favoring and opposing measures. As for me I am afraid to take the people's full confidence, for they fear a bill and should therefore draw contract. Respectfully,

CHAS. B. DEEVER.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ORGANIZED

A number of the members of the Catheys Creek Baptist church met last Sunday and organized a Sunday school, electing C. C. Duckworth as superintendent.

The time of meeting was fixed at ten o'clock each Sunday morning. All the members of the church and residents of the community are extended an urgent invitation to attend the Sunday school.

A special request to the deacons of the church to be present next Sunday is given, as there is some important church work to be attended to.