

Sylvan Valley News

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INVESTIGATION IN BUNCOMBE

Creating an unexpected sensation in the Buncombe county Superior court during the term devoted to the trial of criminal cases, Judge E. B. Cline has ordered that the grand jury investigate the conduct of Asheville magistrates and Buncombe county convict guards. The order followed reports in local papers to the effect that four fights occurred in magistrates' courts within a space of five days and the statement of Solicitor Robert R. Reynolds that he had been informed that certain guards have beaten convicts unmercifully. Nine convicts were examined during the week in regard to the treatment they have received at the convict camps.

Determined that the roads of the rural districts shall be as attractive as those of the city, the Buncombe county board of health has passed an ordinance prohibiting the throwing of waste or garbage on any of the highways of the county and providing penalties for the construction of hog pens or other nuisances within a distance of 200 feet of a county road. Buncombe is one of the first counties of the state to enact such a law and the members of the sheriff's department have been ordered to enforce it rigidly. The workings of the enactment are being awaited with considerable interest in the rural districts.

Preparations for the Western North Carolina fair, which is to be held here October 13, 14, 15 and 16, have about been completed and the members of the office force in Temple Court are giving their time to the receipt of entries and the perfection of plans for arranging the exhibits. A representative of Martin's fireworks was here Saturday to prepare for the pyrotechnical displays and she announced that the set pieces will cover a circle of 500 pieces around the banks of the lake. The rockets, shells and small pieces will be fired from the island of the Riverside lake. This provides for the most spectacular exhibition ever witnessed in this section of the state and those who are familiar with the plans for the fireworks declare that the displays will form one of the big features of the annual fair. Secretary D. Harris left Saturday for Lynchburg where he will witness the exhibitions which have been booked for this city. He will visit the shows as a patron of the exposition at Lynchburg and will see for himself just what is offered. Only the very best attractions will be brought here.

J. W. Ducker, who resides near Arden, is in a desperate condition at a local hospital as the result of bullet wounds received last week, and the members of the sheriff's department are searching for Hall Rhodes, who is charged with the shooting. The affair is said to have been prompted by jealousy.

The Grand View Hotel Company, backed by Asheville and Weaverville capital, has purchased the summit of Hamburg mountain at Weaverville, and announcement is made that a handsome summer hotel and cottage colony will be developed on the holdings of the company, work starting within the next thirty days. The hotel will be conducted as a summer resort hotel exclusively, no provision being made for running it during the winter months.

Edward L. Nixon, who spent last summer here as the guest of relatives, was killed at Tampico, Mexico, by six laborers whom he had discharged, according to information received by relatives of the deceased at this city from the state department. Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan, who is visiting Asheville, has been appealed to by the father of Mr. Nixon to see that the guilty parties are brought to justice, and nothing will be left undone in an effort to capture and punish the men who killed the well known American superintendent of an oil company's plant in Tampico.

Stephen Demiss, a Russian employed at a Canton textile plant,

literally worried himself to death over the fate of relatives who are in the Russian army according to the statements of physicians who attended him at a local hospital. The deceased was brought here from Canton shortly after war was declared, stating that he could not sleep for thinking of the safety of his relatives in the Russian army. He lived but a few days after arriving at this city for treatment.

A DAY OF PRAYER

President Woodrow Wilson has issued a proclamation designating Sunday, October 4, as "A Day of Prayer and Supplication" throughout our country, requesting all God-fearing people to repair to their places of worship on that day and there unite their petitions to God "to vouchsafe to His children healing peace again" and to restore once more concord among men and nations. Following is the president's proclamation:

"Whereas, great nations of the world have taken up arms against one another and war now draws millions of men into battle whom the counsel of statesmen have not been able to save from the terrible sacrifice;

"And, whereas, in this, as in all things, it is our privilege and duty to seek counsel and succor of Almighty God, humbling ourselves before Him, confessing our weakness and our lack of any wisdom equal to these things;

"And, whereas, it is the especial wish and longing of the people of the United States, in prayer, in counsel, and all friendliness, to serve the cause of peace;

"Therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States of America, do designate Sunday, the fourth day of October next, a day of prayer and supplication, and do request all God-fearing persons to repair on that day to their places of worship, there to unite their petitions to Almighty God, that, overruling the counsel of men, setting straight the things they cannot govern or alter, taking pity on the nations now in the throes of conflict, in His mercy and goodness showing a way where men can see none, He vouchsafe His children, healing peace again and restore once more that concord among men and nations without which there can be neither happiness nor true friendship nor any wholesome fruit of toil or thought in the world; praying also to this end that He forgive us our sins, our ignorance of His holy will, our willfulness and many errors, and lead us in the paths of obedience to places of vision and to thoughts and counsels that purgo and make wise.

"In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done at the city of Washington, this eighth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fourteen, and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and twenty-ninth.

WOODROW WILSON.

"By the president,

"WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN,

"Secretary of State."

In response to the above call of the president there will be a union service at the Methodist church on Sunday night, October 4, commencing at 7:30 o'clock. All ministers of Brevard will take part in this prayer service, and all our townspeople and visitors are invited to attend.

A union choir composed of representatives of the choirs of each denomination will be practiced for this service at the Methodist church at four o'clock Friday.

Toned Up Whole System.

"Chamberlain's Tablets have done more for me than I ever dared hope for," writes Mrs. Esther Mae Baker, Spencerport, N. Y. "I used several bottles of these tablets a few months ago. They not only cured me of bilious attacks, sick headaches and that tired out feeling, but toned up my whole system." For sale by all dealers.—Adv.

INVITATION TO EDITORS

At a meeting of the Brevard Club last Thursday night a number of important matters were taken up and discussed by the unusually large number of members present, the reports of the officers were read, and a buffet luncheon was served the members after the business was disposed of.

At this meeting a formal resolution was passed by the club placing the membership on record as favoring the movement to invite the North Carolina Press Association to hold its next June meeting in Brevard. At the recent meeting at Wrightsville Beach the editor of the News extended an invitation to the editors on behalf of the town, and at that time three of the seven members of the executive committee, who have the matter of selecting the meeting place in charge, declared they would vote for Brevard. The matter of the selection of the meeting place will be attended to at the January meeting which meets in Raleigh while the legislature is in session, and at that time Brevard will be represented and our claims placed before the committee, and it is reasonable to suppose that the next meeting will be held here.

A committee was appointed to appear before the commissioners to ask them to push the work of putting the road in good shape from a place near Blantyre to the Henderson county line. It is understood that Henderson county has agreed to meet Transylvania with a good road at any point and that work is being pushed on the other side of the line.

Mr. T. W. Whitmire stated that at present he only knew of two houses in the town of Brevard that were for rent, and that these were not located in a place to make very good renting property, and that during the past season he had turned away hundreds and hundreds of people who wanted houses. He stated that if the town wanted to grow it would be necessary to have more houses at once. While the club, as an organization, could do nothing to remedy this condition a plan was suggested by Mr. C. M. Cooke, Jr., whereby the members as individuals could help in building up the town, and that was by subscribing liberally for stock in the Brevard Building and Loan Association, a series of which is now open.

The reports of officers showed the organization was in a flourishing condition, that a substantial increase in membership had been made and that much work had been accomplished.

WANTS JOINT SPEAKING

Brevard, N. C., Sept. 23, 1914.
Hon. Geo. W. Wilson, Democratic Nominee House of Representatives, Brevard, N. C.

My Dear Sir: Responsive to the time-honored custom in this county of the candidates for the house of representatives meeting each other in joint discussion, I am, as the republican nominee to the office above mentioned, taking this opportunity of cordially inviting you to meet me at the several voting precincts in the county at such times as we may mutually agree upon, for a discussion of whatever claims we may have to present to the people.

It is my desire, and shall be my earnest endeavor, to pitch this campaign upon as high a plane as my ability will permit, keeping it free from the injection of mudslinging and acrimonious debate. And I am quite sure that in this regard I shall have your earnest co-operation. I shall, with whatever ability I have, appeal to the calm and considerate intelligence of the people, and not to their passions or prejudices, and I am firm in my persuasion that you will heartily lend me your assistance.

Will you favor me with an early reply, and accept my very highest personal regards?

Sincerely yours,

CHAS. B. DEAYER.

THE CAUSE OF THE WAR

The editor of the News has been asked by a subscriber to give, for his information, and for the information of our readers, the cause of the great war now in progress in Europe. This is a pretty big contract, but we will endeavor to give, in as few words as possible, a short sketch of the various events preceding the many declarations of war between the nations of Europe, as they appear to us.

Away back in 1878 Austria assumed the protectorate of the provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, thus incurring the displeasure of Serbia, and when, in 1908, these two provinces were made a part of the Austria-Hungarian empire Serbia became very bitter against her, since which time she has never missed an opportunity to harass the dual empire, and everything possible was done to stir up strife.

On June 28, 1914, Francis Ferdinand, the heir to the Austrian throne, and his wife were assassinated while on a visit to Sarajevo (pronounced Sar-a-yav-o) by a Servian country boy, after an unsuccessful attempt had been made by a Servian student earlier in the day.

Austria at once began an investigation of the assassination and found that Servian noblemen were implicated in the plot—in fact a son of King Peter had lent aid in the conspiracy. Austria immediately demanded that all pan-Servian demonstrations and all pan-Servian publications be suppressed, and that every aid possible should be given to the Austrian army officers who were detailed to go into Serbia to arrest, try and convict everyone implicated in the assassination of the prince.

To this ultimatum King Peter of Serbia replied that he would crush the pan-Servian movement, jail all the agitators who preached revolt against Austria, and suppress all publications that should abet them in their aims, but "to permit Austrian army officers, however, to enter my kingdom, jail, try and condemn my subjects, amenable to the laws of my kingdom and who owe no allegiance to Austria, would be an insult to the national honor of Serbia to which I, as ruler, would never submit." After this reply was received by Austria war was declared on Serbia.

Russia, through her hatred for Austria-Hungary, and by reason of the fact that her religion and that of Serbia is largely the same, and also through the hope that the dual empire might disintegrate and a new power rise up in her stead, espoused the cause of the Servians as against the Austrians, and at once began to mobilize her mighty army—at the same time calling on the Kaiser of Germany to use his good offices in maintaining peace between Russia and Austria. While messages were being passed between Russia and Germany, the Germans learned of the mobilization of the Russian army, and after thrice demanding in the most emphatic and abrupt manner that it cease at once and being thrice refused, war was declared by Germany on Russia.

As France is a member of the triple entente—composed of France, England and Russia—she at once came to the rescue of Russia by beginning mobilization of her army on the German frontier, the Germans having been mobilizing on French frontier instead of the Russian border, possibly with the hope that she could be revenged for the loss of Alsace and Lorraine in 1870.

Upon Germany's announcement that she intended to enter France through Belgium, Belgium loudly proclaimed her neutrality and called upon Great Britain to help maintain it. This office has been performed by Great Britain since the battle of Waterloo, and England therefore demanded that Germany at once get off of Belgium soil, which she refused to do, and therefore England declared war on Germany.

Japan's reasons for jumping into the conflict are somewhat in doubt, but the most likely reason yet ad-

vanced is that she wants to court favor with England with the hope that the favor will be returned sometime in the future when she is in need of it.

As yet Italy, although a member of the triple alliance—composed of Italy, Germany and Austria-Hungary—has taken no part in the great conflict—sentiment in that country being somewhat divided. Late reports say that Turkey is now mobilizing her army of a million men for purpose of assisting Germany, and it is feared that there will be an anti-Christian uprising in that country.

Diplomatic relations between Turkey and the United States are today in a very critical state, due partly to the indiscreet utterances of one Rustom Bey, ambassador to this country.

While at this time it seems inevitable that Germany must finally be defeated no one can say how long the conflict will last. The enormous cost of carrying on the conflict would seem to insure its early termination. It is estimated by some well informed statisticians that the combined cost now amounts to \$54,000,000 per day.

In the meantime we would suggest that all Americans go to church next Sunday and join in the nation-wide peace movement and pray for peace.

Mr. George W. Henderson, one of the oldest and best known citizens of the county, died in Beard Mody and was buried at Oak Grove cemetery, near Quebec, Tuesday. A write-up of his life, which came in too late for this issue, will appear next week.

MASONS VERY ACTIVE

Although the Masonic lodge is only scheduled for twelve meetings a year, for the past several weeks they have been meeting every Friday night in order to dispose of the large amount of work ahead of them, and from present indications it would seem that the same condition will exist throughout the winter months.

At a special communication last Friday night the Master Mason's degree was conferred, after which all present were invited to Macfie's drug store where Mr. J. S. Silverstein had them served with ice cream, after which Mr. T. H. Shipman, the master, passed around the cigars.

Tonight (Friday) the regular October communication will be held, and in addition to the regular routine business the Fellowcraft degree will be conferred.

Next Sunday morning the entire membership of the lodge and all visiting brethren are urged to meet at the lodge at 10:30 a. m. for the purpose of marching in a body to attend services at the Episcopal church. A special sermon is to be preached by Rev. C. D. Chapman, the rector, and no doubt there will be a large attendance of Masons at this service.

COMMISSION GRANTED G. & W.

Greenville News, Sept. 25.

A commission has been issued today by the secretary of state to the Greenville & Western Railway Company of Greenville, with a capital of \$50,000, with the following to be the directors of the road: Thos. Eggleston, A. P. Coles, Asa G. Candler, all of Atlanta, Ga., R. E. McTieme of Bainbridge, Ga., and John McCord of Atlanta, Ga. These gentlemen bought the road from W. D. Thompson, who had bid it in at the master's sale in Greenville on June 1st of this year. This is the old Greenville & Knoxville Railroad Company, and it has been a dream for several years to connect Greenville across the mountains with Knoxville, Tenn., by completing this road which at present extends from Greenville to the foot of the mountains.

It is presumed that the intention of the new owners is to complete the road, which would mean a big thing for Greenville and the up-country generally.