

COMMERCE BODY FINISHES FIRST YEAR; MEET MARCH 10

Stockholders Urged to Attend Meeting Here Next Tuesday
Future Activities Will Be Discussed

With a record of accomplishments valued at up in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, the Sampson County Chamber of Commerce this week ended its first year as Sampson's civic and commercial representative, and a meeting of the subscribers and stockholders of the organization has been called for Tuesday, March 10, at 7:30 p. m., to determine the future activities of the organization.

A meeting of the directors of the chamber was held last Friday afternoon, at which time a review of the past year was given, and the next year's activities talked over. It was decided, however, to wait until after the meeting of the entire organization next Tuesday before taking any definite steps towards formulating the 1925 program.

A condensed report of the activities of the chamber, as made by Secretary T. B. Smith, was given the directors and approved by them. This report will be found on page 2 of this section.

Had Good Results
Although it is exceptional for such an organization to get direct results in a year of operation, the report shows that Sampson was fortunate in this, as results of great importance have been secured for the county by the chamber.

Starting soon after organization, the chamber secured refrigerator car service from Clinton for truck and berry shippers, and helped shippers in the distribution of their crops. Inspectors from the government and the state school of agriculture were secured, who aided Sampson shippers in the making of a standard package and selling to an advantage. The chamber also saved the truckers from losing the market entirely by getting a change in train and express schedules that permitted them to ship properly.

Throughout the entire year the chamber has worked with other similar chambers in Eastern Carolina in opposition proposed freight increases that would take millions of dollars annually from the section. This fight is still on. Realignment of express rates from Roseboro and Garland, to give them the same advantages as enjoyed by Clinton and Autryville, were sought and obtained by the chamber. This permits shippers to load at these points, instead of making long hauls to a better shipping point.

Benefitted Clinton
On behalf of Clinton, the chamber succeeded in getting the Clinton Building and Loan association reorganized and on its feet. It was also instrumental in getting a new hotel for the county seat, by interesting those now erecting the building in the project. The secretary also has had several conferences with a highway mill man with a view to getting a plant located here. This matter is still pending.

One of the biggest completed jobs of the chamber was the securing of an allotment of pickle acreage for Sampson county. Indications for a while were that none of this business would be given to Sampson, but through the efforts of the president and secretary of the chamber, the deal was closed with a fair yield, Sampson will produce \$50,000 or more worth of cucumbers this year and have a ready market for them.

The chamber has also secured the efforts of state and national representatives towards the formation of a branch in Sampson of the state truckers association, through which better marketing conditions for truck and berries will be established. The first public meeting on this project will be held here Wednesday, March 11.

In addition to those enumerated, hundreds of lesser activities have made the first year of the chamber a busy one, and have served to show those who have watched its course that it is of tremendous and lasting value to the county at large as well as to the individual points that receive direct benefits.

Minutes of Meeting
The minutes of the directors' meeting last Friday follow:
"At a regular call meeting of the directors of the Sampson County Chamber of Commerce. Roll call shows the following officers and directors present: George E. Butler, (Continued on Page Two)

THIEVES BUSY IN BEAR SKIN SECTION

Last Thursday night prowlers were busy in the Bear Skin section. Mr. Eugene McKoy had two bales of cotton which were stored in a shed about 400 yards from his house stolen. The theft was discovered the next morning when Mr. McKoy went to his barn to feed. It is thought that the cotton was taken between dark and 2 a. m.

A second robbery was committed that night when radiators belonging to J. D. Crumpler and H. G. Holland which were stored in the Crumpler garage were taken.

SIGN CONTRACTS FOR CUKES FRIDAY

Pickle Plant Representative to Be Here for Two Days to Close Arrangements

The actual contracts for cucumbers, which will be made with those who are now listed with the Chamber of Commerce, will be signed in Clinton Friday afternoon and Saturday, March 6 and 7. At that time representatives of the J. Weller Co., will be in Clinton and duplicate contracts will be signed with the growers. The previous arrangements have been made by merely listing those who desired cucumber acreage.

It is pointed out by the pickling concern that it is necessary that all who expect to grow the pickles sign contracts, in order that the buyers may know just who to purchase from. Duplicate contracts will be prepared and signed in each case, and the buyers will thereby agree to take the full yield as provided in the contract.

All of the necessary details of the cucumber project have been arranged, including the securing of a delivery point. The G. A. Clute warehouse will be used for this purpose, the growers delivering their crops to that place, where they will be weighed and paid for. From there they will be shipped daily to Wilmington to a large central brining point, it having been decided by the Weller firm not to install brining plants at any point, but to do it all at the central point.

It is estimated that the cucumber acreage allotted to the Clinton section of Sampson will bring \$50,000 or more this year with a moderate fair crop. The cucumber acreage was secured by the Chamber of Commerce.

TO TEST COWS FOR CITY MILK

Clinton Provides for Tuberculin Test of Animals Furnishing Food

Following the passage of an ordinance to that effect, the town of Clinton has ordered that all milk dealers selling milk within the limits of the town have their cows tested for tuberculosis. Failure to have such tests made prohibits the sale of their milk. Discovery of tubercular germs in their milk bars further sales from their herds until such germs are eradicated.

State, national and community regulations of this order have become general in order to safeguard the health of users of milk, and the step is taken here in order to give Clinton the same protection as that enjoyed in other places.

The city health department will have charge of the tests, and they will be made without charge to the owner. Tuberculin will be furnished at cost where needed.

During February the city health officers condemned 286 pounds of beef; 328 pounds of pork; 40 of lard; 300 of fish; 64 of sausage meat; 28 of liver pudding; 100 of calves and five gallons of oysters.

MUSIC MEMORY CONTEST
EXAM WEDNESDAY
The music memory contest examination is being held at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon at the College street building. Parts of twenty sections are being played by the music teachers of the city, Messdames J. R. Best, R. F. Royal, Misses Gladys Newman and Emily Sessoms. The prizes given by the Woman's club and Sorosis club will be awarded immediately following the examination. Three prizes are offered: \$5 in gold, \$3 and \$2 to the three scoring highest.

A second examination will be held for all pupils from the fifth to eighth grades inclusive who made a grade of 50 or more in the first exam. The student making the highest grade in this exam will be entitled to go to Raleigh and compete for the state prize in the music contest which will be held May 2-9.

INDEPENDENT IN ANNUAL NUMBER SHOWS BIG SIZE

Issue Is More Than Three Times the Size of Predecessors

GREATER GROWTH TO COME
End of First Year Finds Publishers Preparing for Even Greater Expansion and Improvement in Paper

This issue of The Sampson Independent, the first of the second year in the life of the greater Sampson newspaper, finds the paper in a larger size, with a better equipment, and with a bigger program of expansion than any previously attempted in this county.

Established a year ago by the consolidation of The News Dispatch and The Sampson Democrat, the paper has steadily grown in public favor. By the installation of many thousands of dollars worth of new and modern equipment, the paper and its plant have extended its scope of possibilities, and the coming year promises to see even greater expansion than the one just ending.

Covers Entire County
This issue of The Independent, in addition to going to our regular list of approximately 4,000 subscribers, also goes to a supplemental list of about 2,000 homes, thus placing it in approximately every home in Sampson county, and giving it a truly county wide circulation. When it is recalled that the combined circulation of the two former papers was less than 3,000, it will be seen that this is truly a large accomplishment.

Modern machinery and co-operation made this issue possible. Only by the installation of our new press could it have been produced. The issue took just 2,000 pounds of news print, which would have done the two former papers for two months.

In the 22 pages of this issue there are 154 columns of matter. Seventy columns of this are devoted to advertising, and 84 columns are devoted to news and features. The colored comic supplement takes 28 of these columns, and the remaining 56 columns are devoted to news of interest to all of Sampson. There are 3,234 inches of matter in the paper, compared to 960, the size of the former papers.

Would Reach New York
If this issue of The Independent were stretched out in a ribbon, one page wide, it would extend nearly from Clinton to New York, as it would make 570 miles of paper ribbon.

In county news this issue excels, we believe, anything previously published in Sampson. Throughout the paper will be found approximately 30 columns of county news, representing every section of the county. Thanks for this valuable matter is extended to our staff of regular correspondents, who have furnished us with letters reviewing the activities of their sections.

While it probably will be several months before The Independent offers another paper of this size, such a paper is not impossible, and we hope, may be only a forerunner of many big ones to come. Plans are rapidly being compiled for greater expansion in all lines of endeavor, and the second year of the paper promises to show even greater advancement than has the first.

COLORED CHILD BURNS TO DEATH

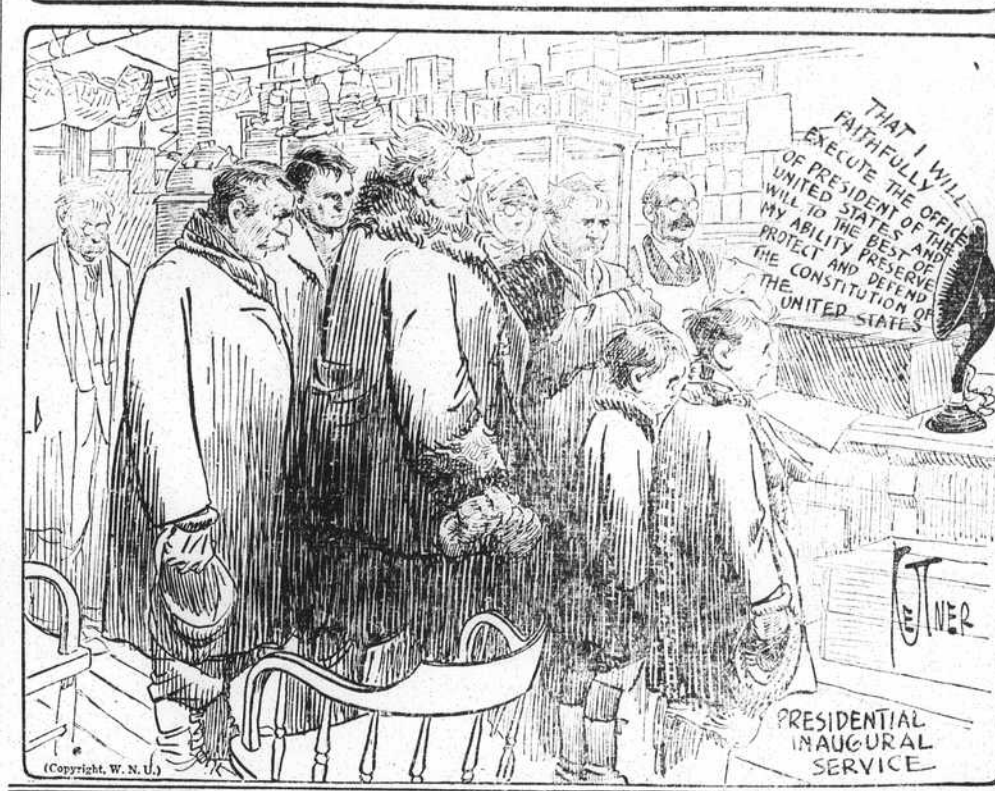
Four Year Old Daughter of Robert Royal Catches Fire in Open Fire Place

Macie Royal, aged four, daughter of Robert Royal, colored, of near Lon Best's store, was burned to death Tuesday afternoon when her clothing became ignited from an open fire place.

The little girl, with her two sisters, Essie Lee and Beulah, aged 2 and 9 respectively had been left alone while the mother called at the home of Royal's parents about one eighth of a mile away. The older sister tried to put out the fire in her sister's clothing and was slightly burned.

Finding the fire beyond her control they ran into the yard and called for help. The mother heard their cries and ran home, but the child was dead when she reached her, all of the clothing having been burned from her body.

Fifteen Hundred Miles From Washington



STATE EXPERTS VISIT SAMPSON

Agricultural Extension Men to Show Growers How to Combat Spread of Weevil

To bring to the attention of cotton farmers in Eastern Carolina the importance of preparing in advance for the boll weevil this year, the agricultural extension service of State College has arranged a series of public meetings to be held during the week of March 9. As now planned, two parties of speakers will be sent into the field. The meetings will be held under the auspices of the local county agent in each county. In arranging these meetings the extension service is cooperating with the soil improvement committee of Atlanta which organization will have two experts helping with the work.

As now arranged, one party consisting of W. Bruce Mabee, extension entomologist for State College and C. P. Blackwell, agronomist with the soil improvement committee will hold meetings as follows: Lillington, March 9, with County Agent H. A. Edge; Red Springs, March 10 with County Agent O. O. Duke; Salemburg, March 11 with J. H. Henley, teacher of agriculture in the high school; Faison, March 12 with County Agent L. L. McLendon; Goldsboro, March 13, with County Agent A. K. Robertson; and Trenton, March 14 with County Agent E. F. Fletcher.

The second party consisting of E. C. Blair, extension agronomist and C. A. Whittle, of the soil improvement committee, will hold meetings at other points during the same period.

Each of the meetings will begin promptly at 10:30 on the morning scheduled. The extension service workers state that they have secured the services of two valuable experts to assist in bringing to North Carolina farmers the message of growing cotton under weevil conditions and all farmers living near the points where meetings are to be held are urged to take advantage of them.

GARLAND HOME BURNS

The home of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Cromartie of Garland was destroyed by fire last Wednesday. At the time that the fire occurred none of the family were at home and so the origin of the fire is unknown. A few neighbors discovering the fact that the house was burning hurried to the scene, but too late to save more than a few articles of furniture and clothing.

For the present Mr. and Mrs. Cromartie and family are making their home with Dr. and Mrs. R. S. Cromartie.

CHILDREN GIVE HIKE

The pupils of the fourth grade had a hike Friday evening at the close of school for their teacher Miss Marian Row. The youngsters went out in Park Heights where they enjoyed a lunch.

HOLD S. S. CONVENTION

New South River Baptists will hold a Sunday school convention at the Spring Branch church near Dunn March 27, 28 and 29. Everybody is invited. The program has not been completed and will be announced next week.

SHADY GROVE HAS SIX GOOD WALKERS

Sampson county still has a few pedestrians. Last Saturday Miss Alma Jones, Miriam Carter, Lina Flynn, Lou Belle West, Mary Wilson and Cora Barefoot walked from Shady Grove to Dunn, a distance of about 12 miles in three hours and a half.

MR. BEN PUGH DIES WHILE TRAVELING

Former Sampson Man Is Third Death in Family in Past Four Months

Mr. Bob Pugh received a message Tuesday afternoon from his sister-in-law, Mrs. Janie Pugh of Brooklyn, N. Y., stating that Mr. Ben Pugh, his brother had died suddenly in Buffalo and that the body would be brought here for burial.

Mr. Pugh was about 50 years of age and was a native of this county and spent his early life here. About twenty years ago he left for New York state and began traveling. He was here in January to attend the funeral of his brother Mr. Oscar Pugh who died January 17 in Florida. Buffalo was to have been his last stop this trip, as he was to go on to his home in Brooklyn. Mr. Pugh had made his home with Mrs. Janie Pugh his brother's widow, for a number of years.

Mrs. Pugh will arrive Wednesday at 5 p. m. and it is not known whether the body will arrive on the same train. The remains are to be conveyed to the G. B. Cherry home on DeVane street where Mr. Bob Pugh resides. The hour for the funeral has not been determined. Rev. J. E. Holden, pastor of the Methodist church will be in charge.

This is the third death in the family since September when Mrs. Lillie Lamb, who had been a Miss Pugh, died. Another brother Mr. Jim Pugh of Waycross, Ga., also survives.

GEM TO PRESENT BIRTH OF NATION

The Birth of a Nation, recognized as the greatest motion picture ever screened, will play a return engagement at the Gem theatre here Monday and Tuesday, March 16 and 17.

The picture will be shown afternoon and night, with one show only at each time. The new organ now being installed at the Gem will be in use by that time.

H. E. CLASS GIVES LUNCHEON

A practice luncheon was given at the high school by a class in home economics last Thursday at 12:30 o'clock. The table was decorated with jonquils and an appetizing meal was served in three courses. Covers were laid for eight. The guests included Superintendent C. B. Thomas, Mrs. C. C. Corbett, Misses Grace Finley, Eva Culbreth, Gertrude Carrington, members of the faculty; Misses Mary Peterson, Corinna Malpass, Elizabeth Finch, members of the class. The waitresses were Misses Francis Darden and Elizabeth Hobbs.

CLINTONIAN MAKES GOOD AT DUKE

Jasper Clute Attracts Attention by his Excellence in Producing Lighting Effects

Jasper Clute, who has made his home in Clinton since early childhood with his aunt, Mrs. M. J. Herring, was highly praised at Duke University where he attends school. The following article appeared in a recent issue of a Durham paper.

Jasper Clute, the well known Taurian electrician, has accepted a position with the General Electric company, New York. Soon after he is graduated from Duke University in June he will leave for New York, where he will also do graduate work in Union College in connection with his work with the General Electric company.

Mr. Clute secured this position mainly through the excellence of his work in the engineering department, but his reputation with the Taurians contributed to his success in winning the position. One of Durham's most prominent architects, Mr. Gilbert White, who was successful in stage lighting work in New York City before he came to Durham, complimented Mr. Clute very highly after he saw the unusual lighting effects used in the Taurian production of "Cyrano de Bergerac" last fall. Mr. White said in part, "the lighting was fully as good as the professional lighting in New York theatres, and I was unusually surprised and pleased with it."

It is the policy of the General Electric company to hire promising electrical engineering students who wish to do research work in connection with their regular work with the company. Besides paying a regular salary to Mr. Clute, the company will also pay his expenses in Union College, thus enabling him to secure a professional degree at the same time he is doing regular work with the company.

At present Mr. Clute is working on an especially designed switchboard for the Taurian players, one which they may keep and use in all of the future productions. He will have it finished in time for the production of "Monsieur Beaucaire" in March.

ROUND DOZEN ENTERTAINED

Mrs. W. M. Bethune entertained the members of the Round Dozen Wednesday afternoon in a charming manner at her home on Sunset avenue. A color note of pink and green was prettily carried out. Pink carnations and bouquets of spring blossoms were used. After a number of progressions at bridge an attractive prize was given to the winner of high score. A delicious course of refreshments was served. The substitutes for the afternoon were Messdames L. L. A. Moore, S. J. Ashby, Jr., Misses Emma Walker Hubbard, Margaret Stevens and Mildred Fleming.

GUILD HELD MEETING

The Guild of the Episcopal church held its regular meeting Monday afternoon. Plans were perfected for serving lunch Saturday in the room vacated by W. A. Smith & Co. The following week they plan to serve dinner from Monday to Friday.

OFFER SAMPSON TRUCK GROWERS GOOD SALE PLAN

State Takes Hand in Organization of Producers for Better Profits

TO MEET HERE MARCH 11
Agricultural Experts Will Hold Meeting in Clinton and Tell Growers of Results in Other Places

More equitable sale of their product, a better average price throughout the growing season, and a lessening of the present sales expense, permitting of a better price to the producer is offered by North Carolina State College Extension service and the State Bureau of Markets. The plan, and its known results, will be presented for the first time in Sampson county on Wednesday, March 11 at 2 p. m.

Organized sales, especially among truck and produce producers, has proven exceptionally profitable in other sections, and is rapidly becoming general, especially in heavy production centers. With the support of the national and state governments, it is rapidly becoming the means of bettering farming conditions, and placing the biggest business in the county on a sound footing.

Had Marketing Troubles
Although a big truck and berry county, Sampson county in years past has had to buck the market organizations, and has had to gamble with its products, shipping blindly to markets and taking what ever it could get for its product. In many cases this has been nothing and the producer even having to pay the carrying charges on stuff dumped into a river.

National and state agricultural experts have for years been working on a sane marketing plan, whereby the farmer may have assurance that his product is to be offered at a ready market, and where it will get a fair price in proportion to that which the consumer eventually pays.

A plan has eventually been worked out that has proven satisfactory in every instance, from the California and Florida fruit fields to the potato sections of the famous Aristook valley of Maine. This plan, with modifications to meet local conditions, is being spread over North Carolina, and an opportunity to put it into effect in this county will be made at the meeting March 11.

To Give Details
Two experts in co-operative sales will be here to give information on the subject. They are Messrs. E. W. Gaither, district agent of the Agricultural Extension Service of the State College and George R. Foulke, special representative of the state division of markets. They will tell what has been done in other fields and, if desired, help Sampson to organize and become a part of the state unit.

The Sampson unit, if such is organized, will become a part of the big selling unit to be established at Wilmington, where all sales from this territory will be handled. Sales through this unit, it has been proven, will cost less than through the present commission house plan, as the expense in the co-operative plan is only five per cent as against the ten per cent charged by the sales agencies. Better prices are also obtained, it is claimed, through regulation of shipments to points that need products, instead of the present system of glutting markets at times.

Every berry or truck grower in the county is urged to attend this meeting, which has been arranged by the Chamber of Commerce.

JOLLY EIGHT MEETS

Miss Annie Gray Boney entertained the members of the Jolly Eight club in a pleasing manner at her home on Sampson street last Saturday afternoon. After a number of progressions at bridge Miss Allie Lee Graham was found to have high score and received a lovely corsage of sweet peas. Low score was made by Miss Elizabeth Graham who was presented a corsage of violets. A delicious course of refreshments was served by the hostess. Favors were miniature corsages of violets. The club will meet next week with the Misses Graham at their home on Lisbon street.

BARN BURNS

The barn of Mr. Hardy Warren of Herrings township, who lives on the Clinton-Dunn highway, was lost by fire last Tuesday afternoon about 3 o'clock. All feed stored in the barn was destroyed, but no stock was lost.

GIVE BOX PARTY
There will be a box party given at Maple Grove school Saturday night, March 7. The public is invited.