

## To Our Readers

On account of time spent in re-arranging our office in order to make room for additional machinery and equipment ordered, we are publishing only a four page paper this week. Next week, of course, we shall resume the regular size, eight pages.

In order to publish a better newspaper and give our readers a better and prompt service, we found it necessary to purchase additional machinery and equipment. This has been ordered and is expected here this week. It will take up a good deal of room, and we had to prepare for it by re-arranging the whole office, and this task has taken several days hard work. With our increased facilities, we shall be able to give a far better service than ever before.

We have made arrangements for a fuller treatment of the news of this town, county and section, and for a concise but complete summary of general outside news every week. As the political happenings of 1910 will be of very unusual interest and importance we have arranged to give a thorough presentation of that subject. "Ajax," whose communications in the last campaign aroused so much interest, has promised us a letter twice a month. Events at the Nation's capital will be covered by letters from two different sources, both of them accurate and interesting. In fact, all along the line our readers will see improvements in the paper.

The new machinery costs money, and a heap of it; and our expenses are already heavy. We therefore ask all who are indebted to us to pay promptly and save us the trouble and expense of going after

it. If you cannot pay in full right now, pay what you can and help us to get our books in good, healthy condition. Remember that what you pay goes at once into the paper, and the more prompt you are, the better the paper will be.

Next week we shall resume the regular size, eight pages; and every effort will be made to get out the best paper possible.

## Masons

Raleigh special to Charlotte Observer

Raleigh, Jan. 11.—The one hundredth annual communication of the Grand lodge A. F. and A. M. of North Carolina convened in the Masonic temple here tonight at 7:30 Grand Master Samuel M. Gattis presiding. The attendance is said to be the largest on record for what is known as an off year, that is a year when the legislature is not in session. Delegates are arriving on every train and the attendance may yet exceed any previous year.

Reports from various committees are being received at tonight's session and every report shows a very successful year. The condition of the fraternity throughout the state is very gratifying to its members and friends.

The report of the grand secretary shows the installation of 21 new subordinate lodges during the past year. The membership numbered 20,014 master Masons in October last. In 1895 the membership numbered 9,842, showing an increase of over 100 per cent. during the period of 14 years.

Our idea of a close friend is one who is willing to loosen up occasionally.

## Relief Promised

The few innocent words we said last week about an up-town express office seem to have aroused plenty of interest. Within 24 hours a petition was being circulated and signed requesting the change.

J. W. Bailey, agent for the company, called on us Monday and stated his reasons for opposing the change. But he promised to put into effect at once a very great improvement which will enable patrons on Main street to have their out-going express handled with ease and dispatch.

The following expressions of opinion are interesting:

J. Mack Rhodes, cashier, 1st National Bank: "In my mind there is no doubt whatever that we ought to have an up-town express office. There is enough business here to entitle us to have it."

Rev. R. B. Grinnan, pastor Hendersonville Presbyterian church: "We ought certainly to have an up-town express office. Other towns have it. Orange, Va., a little town, not nearly so large as Hendersonville, has it and has had it for years, had it when I was a boy."

J. D. Waldrop, insurance and renting agent: "I heartily endorse the suggestion made by The Times that Hendersonville should have an up-town express office. This town needs that accommodation and I think we are entitled to demand it."

J. W. Grimes, Wanteska Bank: "We need an express office up-town where we can get at it. It is something we need very much."

McD. Ray, attorney: "If the express people will really fulfil the promises which Mr. Bailey has just made, that will be a very good arrangement, and the town will be indebted to The Times for a great improvement in the express service."

F. V. Hunter: "I endorse the suggestion made by The Times last week. I have long been in favor of an up-town express office."

Miss Mattie Davis: "I am heartily in favor of an up-town express office. We need it."

J. D. Davis, clerk of town council: "Much needed. Would be great convenience to our people. Hope the express company will decide to let us have an office up-town."

W. A. Smith, president Wanteska Trust and Banking company: "I am of the opinion that the business of the town done through the express company furnishes a sufficient reason, based upon an adequate consideration, to justify the patrons of the company in asking for an office up-town, conveniently located."

Dr. A. H. Morey: "The business of the town demands an up-town express office. I hear constant complaints of the present state of things."

H. G. Ewart: "Hendersonville should have an up-town express office. It is no longer a country village, but a city of 5000 people. During the fall and early winter it has an enormous express business and in the other seasons as large, if not a larger business than other towns of the same size in the state."

"It is an outrage for the Southern Express company to require its patrons to submit to the inconveniences they are now subjected to."

"Instead of injuring the financial interests of the company, an up-town office will in my judgment largely increase its receipts."

R. M. Oates, president Light and Power company: "The suggestion as to having an up-town express office is good not only from stand point of convenience to patrons, which point is certainly entitled to some consideration, but also from point of view of good business. No one can deny that convenience and ease of use

makes for more use and this is well illustrated by experience of Western Union Telegraph company. Since this company moved its office up town, its business and revenue have steadily increased and the year 1909 showed the most substantial increase of about 34%, so I was told.

"Looking at the matter from any standpoint you choose, even from that of the Express Company itself, the proposed move must result in good, and I hope your efforts may meet with success."

Editor Times:

Referring to editorial in last issue of The Times in regard to the necessity of establishing an express office on Main street, I wish to state that while in some instances it might be more convenient to have an up town office, to a good portion of our patrons the present location is more convenient. The greater portion of our business, from a revenue standpoint, is derived from the shipments of vegetables and produce and owing to the weight and bulk of these shipments it would be very inconvenient to the shippers and to the company to undertake to handle them from an up town office, to say nothing of the increased expense that would necessarily follow. We are endeavoring to give a good and accommodating service by the immediate delivery of all matter received for persons living within the city limits and so far have been able to handle the business and keep down complaints to a very low minimum.

For the further convenience of the public we have now instructed our man on the express wagon to call for packages to be shipped by express from the business section of Main street, and within the next few days each of our patrons in this section will be supplied with a placard to be used as a signal for the wagon to stop and call for same.

I trust that this will improve the service materially and that same will be satisfactory until our city grows larger and the average volume of business will justify a better and more expensive service.

Yours very truly,  
J. W. Bailey,  
Agent Southern Express Co.

C. E. Brooks: "We have excellent express service, everything being delivered. The carrier will also call and receipt for any packages you wish to send out. It is my opinion that if the office is moved up town we will not have free delivery. Owing to the fact that most of the express shipped from here is heavy produce, the present way the express is now handled is the best for all concerned."

Lee's birthday, January 19, will be observed with appropriate exercises by the Margaret Davis Hayes chapter U. D. C. The exercises will be held at the court house beginning at 11:30 a. m. Everybody invited, veterans especially.

There are some who would rather raise a hue and cry every day than a crop once a year.—Dallas News.

## School Building

The Hendersonville graded school building is a massive structure of granite built half a century ago. In strength and simple dignity of design, it is a magnificent piece of work, but—it is utterly unfitted for its present use.

It consists of an assembly room of noble proportions surrounded by a number of bedrooms. In order to use these bedrooms for school rooms, partition walls have to be removed. But one third of the building is so constructed that the partitions cannot be removed; and therefore the rapidly growing school, which needs all the space in the building, has to crowd its pupils into two-thirds of the space.

At the request of the chairman of the school board, a representative of The Times inspected the building this week. He found the conditions as follows:

The chapel, 39 x 44 ft. and 20 ft high, is used for the high school (116 pupils). There are also two recitation rooms for this department, one of them on the third floor, thus necessitating, at short intervals, noisy trips of 30 or 40 students up and down two flights of stairs. The rooms used by the rest of the school are given in the following table:

Grade	Dimensions of Rooms	Population
6 and 7	19 x 41 x 11 ft	71
2 and 5	19 x 28 x 9 ft	72
3 and 4	19 x 15 x 8 ft	39
1	17 x 27 x 8 ft	66
3 and 4	39 x 19 x 8 ft	71
1	17 x 27 x 8 ft	61

In other words, the rooms are too crowded; and the serious inconvenience of overcrowding is increased by lack of proper ventilating and heating appliances. And one-third of the building is doing nothing.

What are you going to do about it?

We can tell you what the trustees

want to do. They want to remodel the whole building. And they have plans and estimates. They would do away with everything except the outside walls, and two inside walls which are of granite; and rearrange the building as follows: 1st floor, 4 rooms, each 20 x 33 x 11 ft., for the lower grades, each room to have cloak room and toilet room attached; 2nd floor, 4 rooms similar to those on 1st floor, also chapel (with gallery) 46 x 39 x 20 ft; 3rd floor, 3 class rooms and one recitation room. This plan transfers the chapel from the 1st and 2nd to the 2nd and 3rd stories; it also provides for installing a furnace (which is badly needed), new window panes, sash and framing (which are absolutely necessary in any case), and some minor improvements.

And the cost? \$10,000.

The property cost \$6,000. By spending \$10,000 as above indicated, the result would be a building which could not be duplicated for less than \$25,000.

Is it worth while? They are your children; decide for yourselves. A tax of 6 cts on \$100 would pay interest on the necessary bonds and provide a sinking fund which would retire them in less than 25 years.

All of which is respectfully submitted for your careful consideration.

## Mrs. W. E. Jackson

Mrs. W. E. Jackson died Tuesday night at her home in Hendersonville, aged 80 years. Funeral services were held Thursday at Mud Creek church, Rev. J. L. Brookshire officiating. She is survived by four sons and one daughter. Her husband died last year. Mrs. Jackson enjoyed the esteem of all who knew her and the sorrowing family have the sympathy of the community.

## Johnston's Great ANNIVERSARY SALE

Our Greatest Price Reducing Event

- 25c Childs all wool Hoods 10c
- 25c Ladies all wool Fascinators 10
- 25c Misses Canton Flannel Drawers 10c
- 25c Ladies and Mens Gloves 10c
- 25c Ladies and Misses wool Vests 10c
- 15c Red wool Flannel 10c
- 15c Yard wide Cannon Cloth 10c
- 15c Fancy colored China Matting 10c
- 20c Embroidery Edging 10c

We offer our Goods which are new and seasonable at Great Bargains

S. JOHNSTON  
321 Main St.

## A Happy New Year!!

We are convinced that Honest Merchandising has its Reward. This is evidenced by the confidence and patronage so generously bestowed by our many friends. Appreciating the many courtesies extended, we express our sincere thanks to each and every one of our patrons, and hope by continued attention to merit your further patronage.

With best wishes for a most prosperous New Year, we are

Yours very truly

F. LEWIS & SON  
"The Underselling Store"

## Come and see our new soda fountain

## HUNTER'S PHARMACY

## The Justus Pharmacy

Always Have the Best of Everything in the DRUG LINE

The Drug Store on the Corner