

## SEABOARD TO TAKE OFF TRAINS

Will Discontinue Nos. 31 and 32 to Rutherfordton, January 1st.

Raleigh, Dec. 17.—Another chapter in the history of the triumph of the jitney bus over the short line railroad was written by W. T. Lee, chairman of the North Carolina Commission, in an order allowing the Seaboard Air Line Railway Company to discontinue the operation of trains number 31 and 32 between Charlotte and Rutherfordton. One of the chief reasons given by the railway company in requesting that it be allowed to discontinue the trains was that motor bus transportation was making the operation of the trains unprofitable.

"The evidence in this case disclosed, conclusively, the fact that the progress of automotive transportation is curtailing the use of local passenger service of railroads," says the order. "The competition of jitney bus lines will gradually force the railroads to curtail local service and improve through service. To force railroads to continue local service at a great loss will greatly hamper them in the discharge of their more important duties to the public, now that the jitney bus can accommodate the local travel."

**Towns Resist Demand.**  
The petition which was allowed by the Corporation Commission was heard on October 10. All of the principal towns along the line of the road affected resisted the demand of the petition with the exception of Charlotte, by far the most important city reached by the trains. Only one citizen of that city protested.

Findings on which the commission based its order to allow the discontinuance of the trains follow:  
"1. Decrease in the number of passengers carried by the trains from an average of 70 per day per train in 1920 to 27 per day per train in 1924; a decrease of 63 per cent on train 31 and a decrease of 62 per cent on train 32. This decrease is due to the jitney competition and the closing down of cotton mills.  
"2. An operating loss sustained by the railroad company on its four trains between Charlotte and Rutherfordton of \$45,705 annually.  
"3. Less importance to the people located between Charlotte and Rutherfordton of trains 31 and 32 than trains 15 and 16, which carry the early morning mails and the express and which will be continued."

**New Summer Schedule.**  
The Corporation Commission has been assured by the railway company that plans are on foot which, if carried out, will provide a fine summer schedule between Charlotte and Rutherfordton, which will largely compensate that section for the loss they are now to suffer.

Discontinuance of the trains will take place on January 1, 1925.

Other petitions for the discontinuance of short line trains on the grounds that jitney bus competition is forcing them to operate at a loss are pending before the commission at present and the order on the Charlotte-Rutherfordton line may create a precedent under other petitions may be filed as the jitney competition is taking passengers away from the trains in many sections of the State.

### BAPTIST CHURCH

Christmas services at the First Baptist next Sunday.  
Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. Classes for all ages.  
Sermon at 11:00 a. m., by the pastor. Subject: "This Day Is Holy Unto the Lord Your God."  
Jr. B. Y. P. U. at 2:30 in the afternoon.  
Sermon at 7:00 p. m. Subject, "No Room In The Inn."  
Sr. B. Y. P. U. Tuesday night 7:30. Wednesday night 7:30 Christmas entertainment for Sunday school.

### CITY SCHOOLS CLOSE FRIDAY.

The city schools will close Friday, December 19th, for the Christmas holidays. Work will be resumed on Monday, January 5th.

## DRUNKEN MAN SHOTS INTO COCA-COLA TRUCK

Mr. Jay Kiser, driver of one of the Coca-Cola delivery trucks was assaulted by a drunken fellow in the Pea Ridge section of Polk county last Monday. Mr. Kiser had made his delivery of Coca-Cola at a store and when coming out of the building was accosted by a drunk who threatened him with a gun without any provocation. After he was leaving the place the man shot into the truck and broke several bottles. A warrant was sworn out by Mr. Kiser against the rowdy.

## ELLENBORO CHILD STRUCK BY AUTO

Six-Year-Old Daughter of J. C. Byers Seriously Injured on Highway Monday.

Hattie Ruth Byers, six-year-old daughter of Deputy Sheriff J. Chv Byers, of Ellenboro, was seriously injured at Ellenboro Monday morning about 10 o'clock, when she was struck by a passing automobile while crossing Highway 29 in front of her home. She was rushed to the Rutherford hospital where at first it was thought that her skull was fractured by the impact and that her condition was dangerous.

Leading another child the little Byers girl was crossing the road when struck by a Ford car driven by Mr. Jim Bridges, of near Rutherfordton, who was going in the direction of Shelby. A message from Ellenboro stated that the accident was apparently unavoidable and that Mr. Bridges, who was driving at a moderate rate of speed, was not blamed for the mishap. The child was unconscious when removed to the hospital.

### CURRENT OFF SUNDAY.

Mr. E. G. Abernethy, local manager for the Southern Power Co., asks The Courier to state that the current will be off all day next Sunday on account of making repairs on the lines. Electrical patrons are asked to bear with the inconvenience and are promised that this will be the last day of cutting off the power.

Forest City and this territory has been wonderfully blessed with splendid electrical service. It is seldom that trouble occurs. And when the power does go off the trouble is always hastily remedied. There is no comparison between the excellency of the service here and what obtains in some other states.

### A FREAK-IRISH POTATO

The Courier was presented with a freak Irish potato last week by the Haynes Store No. 1, at Avondale. The manager of that store insists that it bears a resemblance to the race of people after which it was named, but the editor of The Courier thinks it favors the ape family more. It has a perfectly formed head with eyes, ears, nose and mouth and to make it look still more human, nature has set a hat on its head, about two sizes too small for it. We have never taken a great stock in Darwin's theory but this is the first time we ever saw a lowly Irish potato trying to evolve itself up to the human family or any of its near-relatives.

This freak is in The Courier's show window. Drop by and see it.

### DRAMATIC CLUB

On Monday evening the Dramatic Club was entertained by Miss Nell Young at the home of Mrs. J. F. Alexander.  
After the business meeting the guests enjoyed two solos by Miss Nell Padgett.  
A play, "The Maker of Dreams," by Oliphant Down, was well received. The cast included: Miss Juanita Minish as Pierrot. Miss Margaret Bostic as Pierrette. Miss Claire Reid as The Maker of Dreams.  
At the conclusion of the program Miss Young served an attractive salad course.

### NEW POSTMASTER AT UNION MILLS

The following dispatch has just been received from Washington: Mrs. Mae E. Elliott has been appointed postmaster at Union Mills, Rutherford county.

## DR. DUNCAN HEAD OF KIWANIS CLUB

Other Officers and Board of Directors Elected On Monday Night.

Dr. A. C. Duncan, who served as vice-president so efficiently the past year, and who has been a progressive spirit in the organization, was elected president of the Kiwanis Club Monday night. The new president succeeds Dr. W. A. Ayers, the club's first president and who has ably and eminently held the position during the first year of the club's existence. Mr. F. I. Barber, who has gained the reputation of being one of the very best secretaries in the South, was elected vice-president. The promotion is a merited one. No one has worked harder for the success of the club than Mr. Barber. He succeeds Dr. Duncan, who was elevated to the presidency.

Mr. W. L. Brown was elected as treasurer, to succeed Mr. B. H. Long. This is also a good selection.

For district trustee, a very important office, Mr. Chas. Z. Flack was elected to succeed Mr. R. R. Blanton. That Mr. Flack will fill this important post with ability and credit to the club is an assured fact.

The election of seven directors resulted as follows: Messrs. T. G. Stone, Dr. W. C. Bostic, J. W. Dalton, B. B. Doggett, J. H. Thomas, R. R. Blanton, C. E. Alcock.

The election of a new secretary will come before the directors at a meeting to be held this week.

Dr. W. C. Bostic, Tom Moss and G. C. Rollins made short talks on the subject of the road from Morganton during the meeting.

Dr. Duncan, in a short talk, stressed the fact that individual effort was necessary to accomplishment by the club. The club has a fruitful year ahead and will accomplish great and lasting good for the city and community if all will pull together and carry out the ideals of Kiwanis.

### METHODIST PREACHERS' ASSOCIATION FORMED

To Increase Interest In Church Work; Will Publish Newspaper.

The Methodist preachers of Rutherford county met in the Methodist church at Forest City on December 15th, and completed the organization of the "Methodist Preachers Association of Rutherford County." The Rev. W. R. Ware, D. D., was elected chairman and Rev. M. W. Heckard secretary and treasurer. Devotional services were conducted by Rev. E. J. Poe. After this reports were had from all the pastors and these were very interesting. The association will meet at different points in the county each first Monday, for the purpose of seeing what can be done to increase the interest in the church work. Among other things that were discussed at this meeting was the idea of a church paper for the Methodists of the county and it was decided to issue a paper monthly for the county. This paper will go into all our homes free of cost and contain news from all the eight pastoral charges of the county. The name of this paper will be, "The Methodist News Herald." It will come from the press the last Friday in each month. The following officers were elected: The Rev. O. L. Simpson, editor, with all the eight pastors as associate editors, and Rev. M. W. Heckard, business manager, with the Revs. J. O. Ervin, W. R. Ware and J. P. Hornbuckle associates.

### THE "OLD RELIABLE" IN NEW LOCATION

Mr. J. C. Johnson, cafe man par excellence, familiarly known among his friends as "Old Reliable," has purchased the stock of goods of M. C. Phillips on Depot street and is now located in the building next to the Coca Cola plant.

Mr. Johnson will run a first-class cafe, but in addition will carry a complete stock of groceries, which will be sold at a very close margin on the cash and carry plan.

Oysters and fish will be specialties, while the cafe service will be of the very best. You are cordially invited to drop in at the new location where the service will remain in the usual high standard.

## DECLINE OFFER ON WESTMINSTER PLANT

Committee Declines to Accept \$15,000 From J. F. Alexander; Other Offers Rec'd.

Shelby, Dec. 16.—The offer of \$15,000 which came from J. F. Alexander, of Forest City and Florida, for the purchase of the Westminster school property near Logan Station, in Rutherfordton county was declined yesterday at noon at a meeting of a special committee of the King's Mountain Presbytery held at Kings Mountain, the committee chairman being Rev. W. A. Murray of the Presbyterian church, Shelby, who is also a trustee of the institution which was closed down 18 months ago. The special committee of six men appointed at a called meeting of the Presbytery here last Wednesday found a number of other offers, action on which they are holding in abeyance for the time being. The Britain church offer was for the church to assume the indebtedness of the school which is \$5,000. Mr. Horace Carpenter of Rutherfordton made a bid of over \$15,000, the amount of which was not announced but which he agrees to hold open for six months. If accepted, the Carpenter offer would mean that the school property would be converted into an orphanage. The Rutherfordton church offered to give \$1,000 annually for a number of years if the Presbytery or a number of churches would buy the property and operate it as an orphanage.

Rev. W. A. Murray as chairman of the special committee which has power to act was authorized to advertise the property for sale. It embraces about 15 acres of land on which are located about 7 buildings, equipped complete from the kitchen to the dormitory rooms also including large library.—Shelby Star.

### NORTH CAROLINA LAWYER ADMITTED TO N. Y. BAR

Rucker, Of Rutherfordton, Is One Of Those Who Successfully Passed Examination.

Rutherfordton, Dec. 16.—Among those who successfully passed the New York State Bar association examination recently was John B. Rucker, of Rutherfordton, who since last January, has been associated with the law firm of E. C. Sherwood, of New York, chief counsel and attorneys of record for the Travelers' Insurance company.

He is a graduate of Wake Forest college and Columbia university. While at Wake Forest he was recognized as a debator and was both anniversary orator and commencement speaker. After his graduation from Wake Forest he was connected with the Newport News, Va., high school system in the capacity of director of public speaking and forensic activities, and still later was appointed director of the high school extension division of William and Mary college, Williamsburg, Va.

Three years ago he received a scholarship to Columbia university law school, from which he graduated with the L. B. degree last year. While in the law school he was selected by Attorney General Stone, then dean of the Columbia law school, to deliver the oration of his class on the occasion of the retirement of Professors Abbott and Charles Thaddeus Terry, who for more than 29 years did active work with the law faculty. He was later chairman of the student government committee of Fernald Hall, and it was in this capacity that he challenged the university authority as to the expediency of placing all races and colors in the same dormitories.

In addition to his work in the legal profession he has taken an active part in religious and civic activities. During the year of 1922 and 1923 he was director of religious education at Washington Square Methodist church, and in 1923 and 1924 he was social director of church organizations at Faith Presbyterian church. He is at present on the staff of the New York Side Y. M. C. A. lecture bureau and is associated with Dr.

### ANOTHER BIG SALE

Mr. N. E. Garvin, efficient manager of the Cliffside Mills Store, reports that their pre-inventory sale, which opened Saturday, December 13th, is going to be one of the greatest in the history of the store. Saturday was another "red letter day" for them. More than two thousand customers traded there Saturday and the building was crowded all day. The sale will continue through until Saturday, December 20.

A page ad in The Courier and a few bills did the work.

## NATIONAL BANK TO BUILD NEW HOME

Directors Well Pleased With Bank's Showing; Optimistic Over Future.

At the regular monthly directors' meeting of The National Bank of Forest City, held Tuesday night, Dec. 9, the directors reviewed the progress of the bank during the year now drawing to a close and were pleased with the showing made. A part of the earnings was set aside to the surplus and in view of the fact that the bank has purchased the corner of the Young block, corner of the Public Square and Cherry Mountain street, on which corner they intend to erect a handsome bank building in the near future, they decided not to declare a dividend at this time.

The management of the bank were well pleased with the progress that has been made and the future outlook for the coming year. The bank's business has continued to grow steadily since opening bespeaks the confidence of the people and the progress of Rutherfordton, one of the best counties in North Carolina.

The directors having in view the future progress and growth of the bank have taken a wise step in purchasing the best corner location to be had in Forest City for a future home for the National Bank's new building.

## PREPARING FOR COMMUNITY TREE

Little Ones Will Be Remembered By Public Spirited Citizens.

Preparations for the Community Christmas tree, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club and backed by all public spirited citizens of the town, are going forward in a most gratifying way. Aiding in this good work is also the Parent-Teacher association and Betterment Club, Ladies' Aid Society of the churches, which have committees busily engaged in the work.

Quite a goodly sum has been subscribed, but more funds will be needed. Don't hesitate to subscribe to the fund. To help unfortunate children is a great and noble work.

Weather permitting, it is likely that the tree will be placed in the public park. In the event of rain, the gifts will be distributed in Kiwanis Hall.

Plans now, not fully matured, call for the Community Christmas tree exercises to be held next Tuesday.

All the ladies of the town are urged to meet at the Kiwanis Club room at 8 o'clock prompt on next Monday night to help prepare the packages for the Community Xmas tree. Please all come and help to make a success of Forest City's first Community Xmas tree. If any persons know of some family that will not have a visit from "Santa Claus," report at once to Mrs. C. E. Alcock, so we may not miss making some one happy at Yuletide.

### MAX GARDNER NAMED PRESIDENT STATE'S FAIR

Raleigh, Dec. 16.—O. Max Gardner, of Shelby, was elected president of the North Carolina Agriculture Society at its annual meeting here today. He succeeds Mrs. Edith Vanderbilt, who retired after serving three years in that capacity.

S. W. Grafflin, general secretary. He will probably remain permanently located in New York city.

## DEATH CLAIMS MRS. J. B. GREEN

Well Known and Much Loved and Respected Christian Lady Passes Away.

On the twelfth day of December, the death angel visited the home and claimed our dear mother, Mrs. J. B. Green, who lived near Forest City. She had been in ill health for quite a while but bore her suffering well. All that loving hands could do was done to restore her to health.

Amanda Jane Green was 68 years, one month and seven days old. She was married to Rev. J. B. Green about fifty years ago, who preceded her to the grave several years ago. To this union were born ten children, of whom seven are living, as follows: Mrs. M. M. Wells, Mrs. J. E. Matheny, Mrs. R. U. Harrill, Misses Octa and Ola Green; Messrs. S. T. Green and Broadus Green. She also leaves seven children, 19 grandchildren, one sister and three brothers. She professed faith in Christ at an early age and joined the Baptist church, of which she was a member and lived a Christian life until Christ called her to her reward. Her life was a life of willing service and her influence was of far-reaching good. She had the facilities of making and retaining friends. Her circle of friends was remarkably large and she was devoted to them all.

The church has lost a faithful member, the community a kind and considerate neighbor and one who will be greatly missed by those who knew her.

The children, grandchildren, sister and brothers who are left behind have the heart-felt sympathy of the entire community in this hour of bereavement.

The funeral was held at Concord church, Saturday at 2:00 o'clock, by Rev. W. B. Jenkins and Z. D. Harrill and the body was laid to rest in the presence of a large number of relatives and friends.

Earth is richer for memory of her life and Heaven is richer for the joy of her presence.

May God's richest blessings rest on the bereaved family.

"In Memory Of Mother."

On last Friday morning an angel quietly came and claimed for their jewel our mother, Mrs. J. B. Green. "Yes, we miss you precious mother, miss your kind and loving care, but you're gone to that bright mansion where there is no pain or care." Then at twilight O! how dreary, when the evening meal is set thinking, talking of dear mother and we never can forget. One by one our chairs are emptied, one by one we go away, now the family is parted, it will be complete one day.

### COTTON BURNS ON DEPOT PLATFORM

Some 20 or 25 bales of cotton belonging to the cotton firm of J. J. McMurry & Sons were partially destroyed by fire Friday afternoon on the freight depot platform at the Southern station in Shelby. The fire is said to have originated from sparks emitting from a locomotive shifting on the yards. The loss is estimated between \$1,000 and \$1,500, it being hard to estimate exactly as portions of the bales are burned and the extent of the damage cannot be told until the cotton is torn open.

There were about 35 bales on the platform when the blaze started, 10 being pushed off before the flames spread. The fire was first noticed, it is said, by a passerby who gave the alarm and the work of the fire department in responding checked the flames in rapid order.—Shelby Star.

### EXAMINATIONS FOR ELLENBORO POSTOFFICE

At the request of the Postmaster General, the United States Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive examination to be held on January 10, 1925, to fill the position of postmaster at Ellenboro. It is expected that appointments will be made as a result of this examination unless it is found in the interest of the service to fill any vacancy by transfer or promotion. This is not an examination under the Civil Service Act and rules, but is held under an Executive order of May 10, 1921, providing for such procedure. The salary is \$1,000 per year.