

FIRE DAMAGES HORN BUILDING ENTAILING ESTIMATED LOSS OF \$12,000

Flames Originate in Picture Show Room on Second Floor Monday Night, Completely Gutting Upper Part of Building.

Fire, breaking out on the second floor of the Horn garage on East Main street, at 8:15 Monday night, burned fiercely for over an hour and for a while threatened other buildings near, causing an estimated damage of \$12,000 to \$14,000. By prompt and hard work the city fire department had the flames under complete control in less than an hour and by 9 o'clock the fire was practically extinguished.

The origin of the fire is undetermined, three theories being advanced by Mr. W. L. Horn. It broke out in the second story of the building, used as a colored picture show room. Mr. Horn says the fire either originated in some waste rags used for cleaning the electric piano, some one threw a lighted cigarette into some music rolls near by or the blaze was caused from the ignition of a film. Worth Bland, operator of the motion picture machine, sprang from the operating room with the first flare of the blaze, and according to Mr. Horn, advances no direct theory as to the origin of the blaze, which spread quickly. There were about 25 or 30 colored people in the audience, according to the story of one present, and they sprang pell mell for the exit, all escaping without injury. He advances the theory that the fire originated from a film becoming ignited.

The Horn garage is in two sections, with a frontage of 90 feet on East Main street. The east section, 34 feet, used as a display room, was only damaged on the second floor. The west section, used as a filling station, stock room, repair department, etc., over which the picture theatre was located, is completely gutted on the second floor. The fire warped the front of this building to such an extent that it has been condemned.

All of the automobiles were removed from the east show room, while the stock of supplies in the west section was considerably damaged from water. The loss on the second floor consisted of the picture show outfit, seats, piano, fans, etc.

The loss on the building is estimated at from \$6,000 to \$8,000, fully covered by insurance. There was no insurance on any of the stocks or fixtures, and Mr. Horn estimates his loss at from \$3,000 to \$4,000 on these lines.

Hundreds of people thronged the streets while the fire raged and the firemen fought the flames. At one time it seemed that the flames might cross to the north side of the street and many feared an explosion should the flames reach the filling station tanks just beneath the roaring furnace. Firemen working in front and rear confined the flames to the second floor.

There has been but little interruption in business, Mr. Horn being open since the fire, as there was but little damage on the first floor of the building, with the exception that the front wall over the filling station has been condemned and will be speedily repaired.

Mr. Horn, prior to the fire, had contemplated the erection of an additional building to front 60 feet on Main street, but of course this will not be attempted until after the damaged building has been repaired.

Notes of the Fire.

The people of Forest City appreciate the promptness with which the Rutherfordton fire department responded to our call for help. After the call, put in by city manager, Webb, when the flames seemed to be in danger of spreading to other buildings, the Rutherfordton boys reached this city in just six minutes after leaving their home six miles away. While our boys had the flames under complete subjection, it was quite comforting to have the neighboring fire fighters on the grounds ready for any emergency.

Among our fire fighters, who did such galant work, were Chief John

REPUBLICANS NAME COUNTY OFFICERS

The Republican Executive Committee and representatives from the various precincts of Rutherford county met at Rutherfordton, Wednesday, May 19, and named the following ticket for the fall election:

- For County Commissioners: D. W. Crawford, Guilford Nanney, Sidney F. Wall.
- For County Board of Education: L. Purgason, R. K. Hollifield, J. P. Carpenter.
- For House of Representatives: J. S. Bockery.
- For Sheriff: A. A. McFarland.
- Clerk of Superior Court: H. R. Camnitz.
- Register of Deeds: L. M. Carroll.
- County Treasurer: L. Gordon Scoggins.
- Recorder: R. S. Eaves.
- Solicitor of Recorder's Office: McKinley Harrill.
- Coroner: Ira Phillips.

DOKKIES HOLD BIG CELEBRATION IN THIS CITY

Nearly 300 Asheville Dokies, or members of the Dramatic Order of Knights of Khorassan journeyed to Forest City, Tuesday to attend the Spring Ceremonial of the Order.

The Asheville delegation was led by Dion A. Roberts, grand vizier, and George H. Bramlett, secretary, backed by the Bagdad Band. A class of 60 candidates from cities all over the western part of North Carolina were led across the hot sands of the desert to become members.

This is the most important ceremonial held by the organization during each year. There were about 1,000 Dokies attending from the lodges west of Greensboro.

Of the large class initiated, the greater number were residents of Forest City.

CHICKEN WITH FOUR LEGS

Mr. J. M. Smart, of route 2, Ellenboro, was exhibiting a young chicken at this office Monday which had four legs and three feet. The chick was hatched last Saturday and is quite lively and seems to show every evidence of living to maturity.

The Camnitz Realty Co has some good offerings in a large ad in this issue. Read the ad and act now, if you are interested in real estate or want a home of your own.

Farmers Hardware Co., is doing a nice plumbing job for Chimney Rock Mountains, this week.

Poole, Assistant Chief Broad Green, Colan Lowrance, Quinn Kendrick, Martin Greene, Thurman Toney and many other valiant volunteers. Chief of Police McGraw was also active and efficient at the fire.

The first man to reach the fire truck was F. F. Black, who drove to the fire in short order.

Forest City has been fortunate in the matter of fires. According to older residents, this is the first fire of any consequence to occur here since the burning of the old Mabray Hotel on September 22, 1918.

Thanks are due to Mr. F. C. Dorsey, superintendent of the water plant, who, immediately upon hearing the fire alarm, in company with Mr. Fay Webb, hurried to the pumping station where they turned on the direct pressure pump which has a capacity of 1,000 gallons per minute.

The first section of the Horn garage was erected about 18 months ago. Some few months later the addition was built, giving them a front footage of 90 feet.

RUTHERFORDTON MINISTER'S SON IS DROWNED

James O. Ervin, Aged 12, Meets Death While Swimming in Broad River.

James Osborne Ervin, Jr., the 12 year old son of Rev. and Mrs. J. O. Ervin, pastor of the Methodist church, of Rutherfordton was drowned Friday afternoon in Broad River, six miles west of that place.

He had gone out with two other young companions to camp for the night and to fish with some Boy Scouts. They decided to go in swimming and wading when young Ervin stepped in water over his head and went under. His companions brought him up and it is supposed that he took cramp, due to the cold water and fell back into the water and disappeared. His body was found at 7:30 o'clock, about one and one-quarter miles below where he went under, after staying under water for three hours and fifteen minutes.

A large party of men formed a line and searched the river until they found his body.

Young Ervin is survived by his parents, five brothers, and two sisters. Two brothers, Messrs. Paul and Lamonte Ervin are students at Duke University, while the eldest brother, Rev. Clifton Ervin, is a student at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn. All were home for the funeral which was conducted at the Methodist church, Rutherfordton, Sunday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock and interment was in the Rutherfordton cemetery. Rev. J. Frank Armstrong, of Charlotte, was in charge of the funeral services, assisted by a number of other ministers, among whom were Rev. E. O. Cole, Marion; Rev. J. P. Hornbuckle, Henrietta; Dr. W. R. Ware, Forest City; Rev. Jordan, Asheville. Other ministers present were, Rev. M. A. Adams, Rutherfordton; Rev. O. L. Simpson, Spindale; Rev. J. B. Tabor, Gilkey; Rev. M. W. Heckard, Cliffside; and Rev. Coggans, of Rutherfordton.

CHAUTAUQUA OPENS HERE SATURDAY

The big chautauqua tent will arrive in Forest City, Thursday and will be located on King street.

Mr. Bart Preston, advance manager, tells us they have one of the best programs they have ever had, and also seats for every one this year.

Buy your season tickets and see all of the programs for 18 cents each. By buying a season ticket you help the guarantors out and when you buy single admission at the tent that money goes to the Redpath Chautauqua. So be sure and buy your season tickets and not single admissions.

OLD FIDDLERS CONTEST PROVED VERY INTERESTING

Quite a large crowd gathered at the high school auditorium last Friday evening, being brought together to enjoy the old fiddler's convention staged there that evening. The contest proved most enjoyable throughout and the crowd went away well pleased with the evening's entertainment.

The prize winners were: McKinney's orchestra, first; Brooks orchestra, second. Jack McCurry, dancing. M. M. Brooks, first; Mr. Ross, second, violin. Smith Hammitt, first; Rex Brooks second, banjo. Mr. Fite, first; Mr. McKinney, second, guitar.

It is hoped that the two orchestras will get together and visit this city again some time in the future. With the same talent exhibited here Friday night, and with the addition of a vaudeville skit or two, the combination would draw a large crowd.

Don't forget that Farmer's Hardware Co. will save you money on your cultivator and plow parts.

HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT BEGINS FRIDAY

Interesting Three Day Program—Closing Successful Term.

It is regretted that the Chautauqua and High School Commencement will come at the same time this year. However, plans have been worked out by the superintendent of schools and the advance man of the chautauqua whereby there will not be any conflicts with the various performances of the chautauqua and commencement.

The schools have given way for all the performances of the chautauqua with the exception of Monday night, May 31. The chautauqua people were kind enough to move up the evening performance to the afternoon. This will make it possible for the chautauqua to give all their numbers and will leave the way clear for all the patrons of the schools to attend the graduating exercises.

The following is a program of commencement:

Cool Springs High School Commencement Program May 28, 30, 31

Friday Evening, 8 P. M.
Class Day Exercises.
Awarding Bible Study Cup—Mr. J. T. Fesperman.

Sunday Evening 8 P. M.
Music Glee Club and Church Choirs—Mr. J. W. Webb, Director.
Scripture Reading—Rev. Geo. R. Gillespie.

Prayer—Dr. W. R. Ware.
Introduction of Speaker—Supt. J. W. Eaks.
Commencement Sermon—Dr. Zeno Wall.

Monday Morning, 11 A. M.
Recitation and Declaration Contest.

Monday Evening, 8 P. M.
Graduating Exercises.
Introduction of Speaker—Clyde Ervin.

Address to Graduates—Hon. Clyde R. Hoey.
Awarding of Medals—Supt. B. L. Smith.

Awarding of Diplomas—Supt. J. W. Eaks.

Monday Morning Reading Contest

A lover of Music—Ema Mae Lyda.

Aunt Elvora's Hero—Alice Washburn.

The Death Disc—Gladys Dalton.
Selection from "Seventeen"—Jane Stainback.

Declaration Contest
The Spirit of Abraham Lincoln—Emerson Lynch.

Fear God and Take Your Own Part—Yates Holland.

The Prince of Peace—William Ayers.
The Wandering Jew—Edward Moody.

The following letter was sent to the parents or guardians of pupils living outside of the Cool Springs district schools. The letter is self-explanatory:

"The school board of Cool Springs township decided to charge tuition for pupils who live outside the school district. This is due to the fact that citizens living in the township are paying 45 to 60 cents on the \$100 as a special school tax. It is nothing but fair that people outside the district who do not have to pay this tax pay tuition for the three extra months which the county does not pay. The tuition is eight dollars a month for three months, making a total of \$24."

This year's seniors living outside the district will have to pay the tuition before diplomas will be granted. Pupils in the other grades who live outside the district will not be admitted next year unless this year's tuition is paid. Before this year Forest City has been paying a total cost of instruction for all pupils whether they resided within the boundary of the district or not. It is nothing but fair that patrons living outside the district bear their portion of cost for the schools. Pupils living outside the district who have attended the grammar grade

FARMERS BANK AND TRUST CO. AND NATIONAL BANK TO CONSOLIDATE

Will Have Capital and Surplus of \$500,000 and Resources of Approximately \$3,500,000.

ADVANCE SALE RESIDENCE LOTS

B. B. Doggett Property to Be Developed—Lots For Sale.

Doggett and Champion and N. J. James have purchased the B. B. Doggett home and 30 acres of land, lying in one of the most beautiful locations in Forest City. They have spent considerable money in developing this property, making 60 foot streets through it, and have cut it into residential lots with frontage of 100 feet by 150 to 200 feet deep.

They are now ready to offer these lots for sale, giving attractive terms. Buyers will be eager to purchase home sites in this beautiful residential section.

They have contracted with city aldermen to install water and sewer systems, while the electric lighting and paving will be in keeping with a modern development. Work is to start at once.

Early buyers will get choice of the most desirable residential lots in this entire section. See N. J. James or Doggett and Champion at once and buy a lot now for that new home.

STRUCK BY CAR CHILD DIES LATER

Charles Lloyd, Jr., Suffers Fatal Injuries at Henrietta.

Henrietta, May 25.—A most distressing accident occurred here Saturday night about 8 o'clock when little Charles Lloyd, Jr., the six year old son of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. McMahan, of Shelby, was struck by a car driven by Mr. Robert Neal. The child was rushed to the Rutherford Hospital, where he died Monday morning at 10 o'clock without having regained consciousness.

Little Charles was walking down the street with his mother and his aunt, Mrs. W. S. Moore, when obeying some sudden childish impulse, he started to cross the street directly in front of the approaching car. Eye witnesses say the accident was unavoidable and no blame is attached to Mr. Neal, although he is heartbroken over the sad occurrence.

Nothing that has happened here in recent months has so stirred the sympathy of the people as has the tragic death of this little child. His parents formerly lived here and Charles was a favorite with old and young alike.

The body was brought from the hospital to the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Moore, where the funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock and the burial was in the Henrietta-Caroleen cemetery. The flower bearers, 30 boys and girls from the Sunbeams and Junior missionary society, made a lane through which the little casket was borne from the house to the waiting hearse. The services were conducted by Rev. R. N. Childress, Rev. J. P. Hornbuckle and the pastor of the South Shelby Baptist church.

Ralph Covington, Lewis Doggett, Cy Bradley and Howard West were active pall bearers. The honorary pall bearers were J. B. Jones, G. O. Wall, W. S. Moss, J. D. Mauney, Robert Neal, J. F. Daniel.

A large crowd attended the funeral and the grave was covered with a profusion of beautiful flowers.

Keep your lawn wet with our garden hose. The long life kind. Weathers.

school will have to pay tuition next year provided their property is not transferred to this district by the beginning of next session.

At a meeting of the directors of the Farmers Bank and Trust Co., and the National Bank of Forest City held May 24 the directors of both banks voted unanimously on a resolution to consolidate, which resolution will be voted on by the stockholders of both banks at a meeting to be held June 25. If the stockholders of the two banks approve of the merger the consolidated bank will occupy the handsome new building now owned by the National Bank, and the merger will go into effect on or about June 30.

The bank will have a capital and surplus of \$500,000; deposits of \$2,500,000 and resources of approximately \$3,500,000. It will be the strongest country bank in the tenth congressional district. The two banks today have approximately 250 stockholders which represent the best citizens of this section of the state.

The consolidated bank will be in position to extend its patrons a larger and better service and will mean a closer co-operation of the business men of the county. The merger will mean practically no change in personnel of the two institutions. Mr. A. B. Price, who is vice president of the National Bank, and Mr. M. W. Harris, cashier, will be vice presidents of the consolidated bank, and Mr. P. B. Price and Mr. J. E. Furr will also be retained. The entire board of directors of the consolidated bank, directors of the consolidate bank.

The National Bank of Forest City was organized by Mr. J. D. Ledbetter and Mr. M. W. Harris, and was opened for business on November 15, 1923. Mr. Ledbetter was president and Mr. Harris was cashier, in which positions they both served with remarkable ability. They opened with a capital of \$65,000, which was increased on December 1st, 1925, to \$100,000, and they have resources of over \$400,000. About the first of August 1925, the National Bank started work on a handsome new home, moving into it March of this year. The new building is one of the handsomest in the state and a credit to Forest City and the county.

It is a three story fire proof building with electric elevator service and handsomely and adequately equipped throughout. The present directors are, A. B. Price, M. W. Harris, W. L. Horn, D. C. Horn, P. T. Reinhardt, F. E. Webb.

The Farmers Bank and Trust Company was opened for business on February 3rd, 1915 with a paid in capital of \$10,000, which was increased to \$75,000 in the same year, at which time it was consolidated with the First National Bank. In January 1919, the capital was increased to \$100,000, and at that time the surplus had reached \$100,000. On October first, 1925, the capital was increased to \$200,000 and the surplus to \$200,000. The present officers of the Farmers Bank and Trust Co., are, B. B. Doggett, chairman of the board of directors; J. H. Thomas, president; K. S. Tanner, L. V. Lee, G. P. Reid, T. B. Lovelace and R. W. Minish, vice presidents; J. A. Dennis, cashier; R. E. Biggerstaff, assistant cashier, and W. L. Hicks is cashier of the Caroleen branch. The directors are B. B. Doggett, T. R. Padgett, G. P. Reid, J. R. Moore, W. R. Harrill, C. C. Moore, J. H. Thomas, G. F. Bradley, J. W. Smith, A. V. Hamrick, T. B. Lovelace, K. S. Tanner, Hugh F. Little, L. V. Lee, C. M. Young, H. M. Johnson, J. H. Steedman.

MAREE BOSTIC DEAD

Maree Bostic, aged 16 years, daughter of Mr. Milson Bostic, died at the home of her sister, Mrs. Inez Lawson, May 19, of a complication of diseases. She had been ill about four months. Her death is deeply deplored by a large circle. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Harrill at Bethany church, the following day.

Large stock fresh lime and cement at Farmer's Hardware Co.