

# The Laurinburg Exchange

VOLUME XXXII NUMBER 3

LAURINBURG, N. C. THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1914.

\$1.50 PER YEAR, IN ADVANCE

## STRANGER CHECK FLASHER CAUGHT HERE FRIDAY

Mr. Charles E. Davis, Alias R. H. Davis, Arrested Here Friday by Sheriff of Northampton County On Charge of Forgery. Had Laid Plans Here for a Big Haul When Arrested.

Buying out a business that required an expenditure of \$2,000, operating it just two days, and on the afternoon of the second day rushed to jail, charged with forgery, was the experience of Charles E. Davis, alias R. H. Davis, a stranger who came to Laurinburg Wednesday of last week and bought out the firm of Look & Perkins, who operated a bakery and cafe.

Mr. Davis first came here Sunday before these happenings, and after making the deal with Look & Perkins left Monday, as he stated, for Rocky Mount for his family. He, together with his wife and six children, returned to Laurinburg Wednesday and completed the deal for the business.

As soon as the price and terms had been determined upon Mr. Davis introduced himself at the State Bank and expressed a desire to open an account with that institution and presented checks signed by persons worth up into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. The checks bore every mark of being genuine and the wealth of the parties drafted upon satisfied the bank of their goodness. Mr. Davis received credit for the checks, amounting to \$1,771.70, and a check book, which he proceeded to use lavishly. His first act was to write Look & Perkins a check for \$1,000, it being one-half the purchase price of the business, a mortgage having been taken for the balance. No one thought of fraud or forgery until Friday about noon, when Mr. H. L. Joyner, sheriff of Northampton county, arrived in the city and caused the arrest of Mr. Davis. The sheriff was armed with a warrant for his arrest upon a charge of forgery. Upon arriving in the city Sheriff Joyner communicated with Sheriff McLaurin and told him his business and who he was after. Sheriff McLaurin visited the cafe and found Mr. Davis busily engaged in waiting upon the trade. Mr. Davis was invited by Sheriff McLaurin to accompany him to his office, which he freely did. Upon arriving at the court house he was confronted by the visiting officer, whom he knew well, and when faced with the charge as contained in the indictment, made no comment but hung his head.

The charge consisted in the forgery of a check, presumably signed by a concern in Virginia, is for \$246.80, on which he traded about \$25 and received the balance in cash from E. S. Bowers, a merchant at Jackson, N. C. This was on Dec. 31, and on Jan. 6th Mr. Bowers was notified that the check was no good. Sheriff Joyner stated to the EXCHANGE reporter that he immediately began to search for him, and in his chase of 300 miles across the State, traced him to Lasker and to Potensico, to Relford, Rocky Mount, Southern Pines, Hamlet and on here, where he found him.

The arrest of the stranger for forgery caused a quick investigation upon the part of the State Bank here, and immediately telegrams came pouring in to say, "no good," and then it was discovered that he was a check-flasher of some quality. Messrs. Look & Perkins immediately took charge of the business and Mr. Davis was placed in jail, where he remained until Saturday evening, when Sheriff Joyner carried him back to Northampton county to await trial. The visiting officer was also armed with a warrant from this county for his arrest when the courts of Northampton are finished with him.

Mr. Davis is about 45 years of

age, a carpenter by trade and a citizen of Lasker. According to a statement made by Sheriff Joyner to an EXCHANGE reporter, he does not bear a good reputation and has been in similar trouble for the past five years and has not lived with his family for more than a year. Mrs. Davis and the children, acting upon the advice of Sheriff Joyner, we understand, have gone to East Laurinburg and have employment in one of the cotton mills.

The day before Mr. Davis arrested one of his children, who was present when he was asked his initials, disputed that given by his father, and corrected him by giving his real initials instead of the fake ones he was using here for the purpose of completing his big steal.

It is the opinion of a great many that his purpose was to check out all the cash he could and then disappear, but he lingered on the job a day too long.

Messrs. Look & Perkins, who were in readiness to leave Saturday, have unpacked and will continue to operate the business as heretofore.

### Postoffice News From Washington.

Two of the postoffice squabbles in Congressman Page's district which have given him considerable uneasiness during the past few months will in all probability be settled in his favor during the next week or ten days. These contests are at Laurinburg, where Senator Simmons has held up the appointment of G. H. Russell for six months, and at Monroe where Mr. Page recommended the appointment of E. C. Winchester, and Secretary of the Navy Daniels has asked Postmaster General Burleson to appoint George Beasley.

Russell's appointment has been held up because Senator Simmons wished to have A. H. James appointed. It is understood that another position has been secured for Mr. James, possibly preferable to the postmastership and that Russell's nomination will go through shortly. Senator Simmons will arrive here next Monday and at a conference held between him and Congressman Page the whole situation is expected to be cleared up in a manner satisfactory to all concerned.

Secretary Daniels' plea made to Postmaster General Burleson in behalf of George Beasley has held up the appointment of E. C. Winchester who Mr. Page recommended for postmaster at Monroe about a month ago. As it is altogether beyond the right of the secretary of the navy to dictate appointment of postmasters, even in his home state, it is a foregone conclusion that Mr. Burleson will soon have to advise the Honorable Josephus of his inability to comply with his wishes, and forward Winchester's nomination to the senate. Mr. Daniels may be expected to hold out for Beasley as long as possible, and Mr. Burleson will also do his best to comply with the wishes of the secretary of the navy, but eventually the postmaster will be named by the proper authority—in this instance, Congressman Page.—Geo. H. Manning in Charlotte News, Jan. 10th.

### "Marcaria" Coming.

The management of the local opera house announces the coming of "Marcaria" which is booked for Thursday, January 29th. The play as well as the book depicts the story of the days of '61 and it is true "Bonnie Blue" through and through.

## CONDENSED NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

A Column of the Week's Happenings Throughout the World Told In Brief—Gathered From Our Contemporaries and Boiled Down For Our Readers.

Abe Smith, a respected negro of Cherokee county, S. C., who died a few days ago at the age of 83, had 43 children, according to a Gaffney correspondent. It is believed that Abe's showing in this line is a record-breaker.

Fifteen persons were killed while playing baseball in the United States during 1913. Twelve were killed by being hit in the head by pitched balls and foul tips were responsible for the other three deaths.

A committee on the prevention of blindness in New York says that more than half of the eye weakness of men in that city can be traced to the barbershops. It is said that bay rum and other face lotions used in some shops contain wood alcohol and inhaling these fumes or getting into the eyes cause weakness of this organ.

"Keep only well bred hens and treat them as hens like to be treated and the high cost of eggs will never trouble you." This is the advice given by C. H. Rogers of Mountain Grove, Mo., who has ten hens which laid 2,000 eggs in twelve months.

W. H. Melloney, of Hartford, Conn., was fined \$20 for fraudulent advertising the other day. Melloney advertised a sale of second-hand goods and sold a rug which he represented to have cost \$65 for \$20. It later developed that a department store was selling them for \$12.50.

If you suffer from indigestion, become a cannibal and eat human flesh. This is the remedy offered by a great physician of Paris.

Jack Binn, the wireless hero of the steamer Republic disaster in 1909 will receive \$12,500 because a moving picture concern exploited a fake portrait of him.

South Carolina chartered 650 new enterprises during 1913.

A negro meeting which was to have been held in a white church in Maryland January 1st was prevented by a ruling made by the State's attorney, who said that in view of the recently enacted segregation act, it would be a violation of the law to have the meeting in the white church.

Plans have been filed in the New York City Building Bureau for what will be if built, the tallest structure in the world. It will be 51 stories, or 984 feet high and will cost \$12,500,000.

A check for \$500,000 was handed Cardinal Gibbons the past week as a contribution for the Catholic University at Washington from the Knight of Columbia of the United States. It is proposed to found fifty scholarships for young men studying for the priesthood at the University.

A passenger line of airships between St. Petersburg and Tampa, Florida, was inaugurated January 1st. The distance is twenty-two miles across the bay and the schedule is eighteen to twenty minutes. Two ships capable of carrying four passengers beside the driver have been purchased.

Mrs. Alexander Landau of St. Louis, Mo., lost a \$10,000 diamond bracelet while on her way to the theatre New Year's night. She had been given the bracelet as a Christmas present by her husband.

An automobile factory with a capacity of 2,000 machines per year will be a new industry at Greenville, S. C.

## A COLUMN OF STATE NEWS

Short Items of North Carolina News of General Interest To Scotland County—In Condensed Form For Exchange Readers—Gathered from Contemporaries.

Biltmore will vote for a postmaster on February 10th.

A Fayetteville dealer received a shipment of garden seeds a few days ago, the amount of which summed up \$900.

The liquor consumers of Concord used 2,338 gallons during December. At least this much has been accounted for.

The one hundred and twenty-seventh annual session of the North Carolina Grand Lodge of Masons met in Raleigh Tuesday night.

Guilford county is to build a new court house. The old one was sold last week to the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Co. for \$150,000.

Paul A. Hubbell, a teacher in the school at Mars Hill, Madison county, has won the 1914 Rhodes scholarship from this State to Oxford, England.

The State is now hiring its convicts to counties at \$1.50 per day each. The State feeds, clothes and guards the prisoners and sells their labor at this price.

Mr. William Clark, of Lilesville, died in a Charlotte hospital Friday from injuries received by a belt, which flew off a wheel in a lumber plant where he was engaged.

Commissioner W. H. Osborne, of Greensboro, was the first man in the United States to make returns of income under the income tax law. The law requires the filing of this report by March 1st, but Mr. Osborne forwarded his January 5th.

B. G. Credle, New Bern, announces that he will be a candidate for Congress in the third district. Mr. Credle, who is a confederate veteran, says if elected he will give \$3,000 of his yearly salary to the Confederate veterans of the district.

Mr. J. R. Houpe, a prosperous farmer of Iredell county, has been arrested on a warrant sworn out by his wife, who alleges inhuman treatment as the cause. When arrested Houpe had on his person a large Colt's pistol. He assured the officer that he and his wife had adjusted their troubles, but was arrested.

H. B. Jeffries, a young man from Buncombe county, recently went to teach a rural school near Kinston. Three of the largest students undertook to whip Jeffries, and he laid them all out. They were sons of committeemen, however, and Jeffries lost his job. Now he is suing for his salary.

Senator Overman, Monday, introduced a bill in the Senate to prohibit improper and corrupt lobbying. Under the bill all persons or agents who appear before committees will be required to register under the bill. Another bill was to refund the South the unconstitutional cotton tax of \$65,000,000 that was levied during the civil war.

Mr. M. I. Cloer, of Lenoir, was called to the door of a cafe in that city Saturday and shot by Charlie Barnett, colored. Barnett became incensed at Mr. Cloer, who had refused to permit him to press his clothes in a pressing room in the rear of the shop. After having slight trouble with him the negro left and later returned, finding him in the cafe. The wound inflicted was slight and the negro captured and placed in jail.

## HISTORIC SKETCH OF FLORAL COLLEGE

An Interesting and Correct Historical Sketch of Floral College, One of the First Institutions of its Kind in North Carolina Written by Miss Cora John.

[The State Normal College at Greensboro has inaugurated the custom of requiring the members of its classes aspiring to a diploma to write a monograph on some subject of State history not covered by any history now extant. In this way much valuable material will be saved and some day the historian will arrive that will use it for a great history of a great State and people. We have been great on making history, but have let others get the credit for much of it.

Last year Miss Cora John, of Lumber Bridge, then a junior at the Normal, wrote a monograph on Floral College, which was published in the Robesonian, and which we are reproducing in this issue. Miss Cora will graduate at the Normal next June. She is a grand-daughter of the late Capt. James T. John, a daughter of Mr. Henry M. John.

We think the history incomplete in one particular. Col. John G. Blue, of this county, was president for a short time immediately after the civil war, if we are not mistaken. We know he lived at the college a few years before he went to Marion Court House. Col. Blue moved from what is now the R. E. Lee farm to Floral College.

In this connection we would note that our little county of Scotland had almost as much to do with the success of Floral as did Robeson, as among its trustees and faculty are many names of Scotland county people.]

Very little had been done in North Carolina for education before 1840. Before that time there were no public schools, few private schools and academies and very few colleges. Dr. Calvin H. Wiley reported as follows for 1840:

No male colleges in the State, 3; number female colleges in the State, 1; number academies and select schools, 141; number primary schools, 632.

The male colleges were the university, chartered 1789; Davidson, 1838, and Wake Forest, 1838. The female college was the Greensboro Female College (now the Greensboro College for Women), chartered in 1838, but not opened till 1847. The academies and select schools were scattered all over the State. Salem Female Academy was the best known girls' school.

Thus we see that in 1840 there was not a single woman's college in operation in North Carolina, and only one south of the Potomac river—Wesleyan Female College, at Macon, Ga., which was chartered in 1836. It is claimed that Salem College was in operation at that time, but it was not chartered as a college till 1866.

The people of the State were beginning to realize the need of higher education for women. Some of the friends of education were urging that women teachers were best for primary schools. The State did nothing, however, and the burden fell on the various denominations of the State. The Methodists were planning to meet the demand in the establishment of Greensboro Female College, but their college had not yet been built.

The Presbyterians were the next denomination to put forth any effort along this line. They could send their sons to Davidson and to the University to be

educated, but they had no place to send their daughters.

Robeson county, which had always been a promoter of education, was the first county to realize this need enough to take action. It had, at this time, the following schools within its borders: Lumberton Academy, chartered 1793; Raft Swamp Academy, 1793; Mt. Clio Academy, 1806; Zion Parnassus Academy, 1808, and Pine Grove Academy, 1833.

John Gilchrist, one of the early promoters of education in that county, wanted to establish a female college near Centre church, in one of the Presbyterian sections of the county. Mr. Gilchrist was a graduate of the University, having received the A. B. degree in 1809 and the A. M. degree in 1812. He was a lawyer by profession and one of the prime movers in the establishment of such a college as I have just mentioned.

About the year 1840 he began to secure stock for the establishment of such a college, which he named Floral College. Early in the next session of the Legislature the bill was presented and passed, January 11th, 1841, for the establishment of Floral College in Robeson county.

The laws of 1841-1842 give the charter as follows:

"An act to establish a female literary institution in the county of Robeson—

"Whereas, several persons have associated themselves together for the purpose of establishing a female literary institution, near Centre church, in the county of Robeson, and having subscribed to stock for the purpose aforesaid; therefore Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that Rev. John R. McIntosh, Dr. Angus D. McLean and others, who are for the purpose aforesaid, be and they are hereby constituted a body corporate, by the name and style of 'Floral College,' and by that name shall have perpetual succession, and a common seal, and be able and capable to sue and be sued, to plead and be impleaded either in law or equity, and to acquire, receive, hold, possess, enjoy and sell, both real and personal property.

"Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That all articles of association agreed to, and adopted by the stockholders aforesaid, are hereby incorporated into this charter as a part thereof; and if, at any time, the company should be desirous of increasing their capital for the purpose contemplated by this charter, the same may be done at any general meeting of the stockholders, provided the aggregate capital shall not exceed fifteen thousand dollars.

"Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That a president and fifteen trustees shall be annually chosen by the stockholders, to hold the appointment for one year, nine of whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the institution.

"Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That the president and fifteen of the trustees, or a majority of them, are hereby authorized and empowered to make, ordain and establish such bylaws and regulations for the government of said college, and for the preservation of order and good morals as to them may seem expedient and necessary, subject, however, to the control of the stockholders; provided, such bylaws and regulations shall in no instance be repugnant to the laws and constitution of the State, and of the United States, and that in meeting of the stockholders, a majority, at least, of the stock shall

(Continued on page 3)