

The Laurinburg Exchange

VOLUME XXXIV - NUMBER 32

LAURINBURG, N. C., TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1916

\$1.50 PER YEAR, IN ADVANCE

ASSISTANT POSTMASTER CATCHES NEGRO THIEF

By Original and Ingenious Scheme Detects and Captures Young Negro in Act of Robbing Letter Box Sunday.

Assistant Postmaster Carl McLean Sunday afternoon at 1:45 caught Walter Gleaves, a negro youth of about fifteen years, in the act of robbing a letter box at the local postoffice. The plan used to foil the efforts of the perpetrator of a system of petty thieving at the local office, and which was successful in bringing to the bar of justice a negro youth suspected of being the author of a succession of thefts at the postoffice here, was clever, ingenious and effective.

Following complaint on the part of certain patrons of the local office and the missing of certain packages, letters, etc., by the postoffice department here, it was determined Sunday by Mr. McLean and others that a special effort be made to catch the mischief-maker. Accordingly Sunday morning after the "working" of the morning's mail, plans were carefully laid and put in execution which resulted in the detection and capture of the negro Walter Gleaves.

A number of packages and letters have been missing, misplaced or taken in a mysterious manner from Mr. D. T. Blue's box, and also from that of Mr. E. W. Bryant. These gentlemen were advised Sunday that a plan was laid to catch the thief or thieves and asked to open their boxes during the day. Then Mr. McLean took a copy of one of the Sunday papers and folded it, fastened inside of it with a safety pin the end of a black silk thread and put the paper with other pieces of mail in Mr. Blue's box. Then this thread was carried in roundabout way to the rear of the office to a table on which Mr. McLean stood a small bottle and fastened the thread around the neck of the bottle, keeping thread taut and free from obstruction all the way back to Mr. Blue's box.

With these arrangements completed, Mr. McLean took his seat in rural carrier's booth at the rear of the office, just inside the door that opens from the lobby of the postoffice, and also in close proximity to the magic bottle, which would and did give the first indication that a trespasser was on the premises. Here Mr. McLean held fort until 12 o'clock, when he was relieved by Mr. J. Lester Paylor. At one p. m. Mr. McLean returned from dinner and again took the vigil.

At 1:45 the thread tightened and the

box was opened. Clanking in time with a revolver which lay close at hand, with the other he opened the door and saw the negro Walter Gleaves with drawing from Mr. Blue's box, which was open and the key still in it. Significantly bringing into view the weapon, which he held in his hand, Mr. McLean indicated that the negro's presence was desired on the inside of the office. The command was obeyed and after getting the captive safely inside, Mr. McLean called Chief F. M. Hubbard over telephone, who went to the office immediately and took charge of the negro.

It was found that the key left in Mr. Blue's box was on a string with a key to Mr. Bryant's box and another key of commonplace proportions. Walter stoutly protested his innocence and stated that this was the first time he had ever opened Mr. Blue's box, and further that he had been given these keys Saturday night by Clarence Baxter, another negro. Clarence was brought to the scene and stated that he had not had the keys and did not give them to Gleaves. Both negroes were locked up Sunday and Monday Postmaster G. H. Russell before United States Commissioner H. C. Guthrie of Rockingham swore out indictments for them. Both were placed under bonds of \$500 and will be given a preliminary hearing Friday morning at 11 o'clock before Commissioner Guthrie.

Mr. Blue's key and Mr. Bryant's were taken some time ago from the postoffice and with each a bunch of keys, but nothing has been heard of the keys. The fact that both postoffice keys were on a string together indicates that they were the nucleus of a collection which was to be used in robbing letter boxes.

About July 15 a valuable package was missed from Mr. Blue's box. This package was found Sunday afternoon by Chief Hubbard and others in the bed used by Walter. It was not damaged, except the carton had been broken in one corner, perhaps for examination purposes. A small package taken from this box Saturday night, was placed in the general letter box Monday by some party, at present unknown.

Packages and letters were also missed from boxes close to Mr. Blue's and Mr. Bryant's, and it is supposed that the Gleaves boy, and may be others, would run their hands through the open box and reach into others close to it.

The thefts have been noticed for about a month and while in a way puzzling to the postoffice authorities, it was believed that some such system, as has been described here, was being worked. It is one of the peculiar tricks of nature that we will go to the postoffice and leave keys in the letter boxes. This forgetfulness gives those with criminal instincts opportunity to get into mischief and they seldom fail to take advantage of it. Such thefts have been discovered at postoffices in other towns and are nothing new to postoffice employees.

The following letter from Walter Gleaves, who is now in jail, addressed to Assistant Postmaster McLean will be of interest in this connection:

Mr. McLean:
Please do the best you can for me, please. Because I never taken a thing

TAX LEVY REDUCED IN SCOTLAND COUNTY.

Commissioners in Monthly Session Monday Made Reductions in All Townships.

A matter of unusual interest and of much importance to the citizens and voters of Scotland county was the action of the board of county commissioners Monday, when a general reduction of the tax levy, affecting all of the four townships in the county was authorized. The reduction at this time is timely and shows the county to be in good condition financially. Following the action of the State corporation commission last year, when an increase of thirty per cent in the assessment value of taxable real estate in this county was made, it was found that the old levy brought in more revenue than was needed to carry on the county's business, and hence the reduction.

The greatest reduction was made in Stewartville township and is eighteen and a half cents on the hundred dollars. The old levy was 101 2-3, and a reduction of 18 1-2 makes the new levy 83 1-6 cents on the hundred dollars.

In Williamson township a 6 1-2 cent reduction was made. The old levy in this township was 116 2-3. The new levy is 110 1-8. Laurel Hill township levied a reduction of 6 1-2 cents. The old levy here was 105. The new one is 98 1-2. Spring Hill's reduction is 14 1-2 cents on the hundred dollars. The old levy was 121 2-3. The new one is 107 1-4.

All the members of the board were present at Monday's meeting. They are Messrs. D. C. McNeill, chairman; W. G. Buie and W. F. Parker.

As an explanation of the irregularities that occur in all of the four townships, it is stated that this is due to the fact that each township has its own funds for road construction. The levy for road bonds varies in all the townships, as is evident from an understanding of the situation. This levy depends entirely upon the amount of bonds sold by the township and the amount of taxable property to produce the necessary funds. These two factors cannot be made to order and cannot be changed in any township. This is why each township has a different rate, or levy.

Stewartville township has the lowest rate, with Laurel Hill second. As an illustration of how the levy affects the different townships, it is set forth that Stewartville township has the lowest tax rate and at the same time has spent and is spending more money for roads than any of the others. The low tax rate here is made possible because of the fact that the township has a large amount of taxable property.

RIVERTON NEWS NOTES.

Editor Archibald Johnson Now Occupying the "House That Jack Built."

Special to The Exchange.
Riverton, August 7.—This morning Riverton regretted to bid farewell to Miss Enlie Watson, who is returning to her school at Boiling Springs, where she has taught the past two years; and Miss Maud Memory, who will teach again this year at Marx Hill, and Mr. Gerald Johnson of the editorial staff of the Greensboro Daily News. The best wishes for these young people for the coming year, as the "verdict" of this community, as Old Mah Allen Shaw would express it.

Editor Archibald Johnson and Mrs. Johnson of Thomasville are now here with their daughters, Misses Kate and Ella Johnson, and are occupying their cottage, "The House That Jack Built." Miss Rosalia Hamrick has returned to her home at Boiling Springs after a few days' visit here with Miss Neta McMillan and Miss Enlie Watson.

The proprietor of Riverton dairy farm, Mr. D. W. L. Smith, is greatly elated and his patrons none the less, now that his herd of sixteen cows upon official test has been pronounced free of tubercular affection.

Mrs. W. L. McNeill was successfully operated on at the Charlotte Sanitarium and is now spending a few days at the home of her father, Mr. C. E. Duncan.

Every afternoon is a picnic at the Riverton park now. There is no prettier place to come with your friends and meet new ones that are at this popular swimming hole.

Rev. S. F. Hawes Supplying First Presbyterian Church.

Rev. S. F. Hawes of Lexington, Ky., has arrived in Laurinburg and is supplying for the First Presbyterian church, preaching Sunday morning and night during the month of August in the absence of Dr. J. M. Rose, the pastor. Mr. Hawes is a gifted and cultured man and his sermons Sunday were heard with pleasure by large congregations. He is a native of Virginia and a cousin of Dr. A. J. McElwain, who served so faithfully and splendidly the First Presbyterian church at Fayetteville for a number of years. Mr. Hawes will find a warm welcome in Laurinburg and Presbyterians are delighted to have him here.

out of that box. I am telling you the truth that was the first time I had been to the postoffice sent I had that key. If you will your elders will never be forgotten. From
Walter Gleaves."

NORTHERN MILITIA DAZED BY VASTNESS OF TEXAS.

Many of Them Begun to Look for Hostilities as Soon as They Crossed Into the Lone Star State.

Hidalgo (Tex.) Dispatch.

The sending of thousands of young men from Northern and Eastern states to the rough frontier region bordering on Mexico is going to be productive of much good in more ways than one," remarked a veteran regular army officer while here on an inspection trip. "Besides the benefit to the men themselves, it will help the folks back home to a better understanding of the frontier country and the Mexico situation."

Thousands of the guardians of the northern and eastern states believed that they would run into trouble the moment they crossed the Texas boundary. They had little conception of the great area of Texas. It is related that a commissioned officer of the Guard of one of the New England States who was in charge of a troop of the country. Farn work was going on. The 125 miles to Dallas was a trip of without an unbroken land. The journey continued southward—still southward. The town of Waco, 100 miles from Dallas was reached; then came Austin, 200 miles from Dallas and 325 miles from the point on the Red River where the crossing into Texas was made.

The bigness of Texas was beginning to grate upon the nerves of both officers and privates. Another thing that many of them could not understand was the peacefulness of the country. In the cities and towns the people were going about their business as though such a thing as war had never been thought of. "How much further is it to Mexico?" a chorus of voices asked—one train stopped at Austin for orders. "To what point on the border are you going?"

The officer in command of the train replied that they were destined to points in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

They were then informed that they had about 304 miles more to travel to reach Brownsville. The safety orders were then relaxed.

The daily hikes that are made by the soldiers on the border are a big relief to the monotony of camp duties. Northward the high temperatures, the marches of five to ten miles each day are greatly enjoyed by both men and officers. In the lower border region the hikes often lead along dim and narrow trails through a wilderness of chaparral, where nature has many surprises for the strangers from far-off parts of the country. Burro riding is a favorite amusement among many of the young soldiers. They also catch and make pets of rattlesnakes, tarantulas, centipedes, coyotes, horned toads and a variety of other wild things of the border region. In every camp are boxes containing the captive animals.

Mexican life on this side of the Rio Grande is going on pretty much as it always has. The presence of so many American troops is an assurance that they will give no trouble. It was remarked by a ranchman of this section, who was a leading participant in the hunt for Mexican bandits in the lower valley more than a year ago, but all the Mexicans now residing on this side of the Rio Grande are "good Mexicans." During the bandit hunt the region was thoroughly combed for bad Mexicans and hundreds of them were killed, according to unofficial but reliable accounts.

J. MANNING WRIGHT.

Died Early Monday Morning at Maxton and Remains Brought Here For Burial.

Mr. J. Manning Wright, a well known citizen of Laurinburg, died Monday morning at 2 o'clock at Maxton, where he went about two weeks ago to visit relatives. The funeral was held here Monday evening at 5 o'clock. Rev. R. F. Bumpas, Rev. N. H. D. Wilson and Rev. Auman of Maxton officiating.

Mr. Wright was about 59 years of age and had been in ill health for nearly four years, suffering from paralysis. He is survived by a widow.

Reduction in Fertilizer Rates.

An announcement of a recent ruling of the Interstate Commerce Commission will be of interest locally. The ruling affects freight rates on fertilizers. The following special from Washington appeared in the daily papers recently:

The Interstate Commerce commission has authorized the establishment of rates on fertilizer and fertilizer material, carloads, from points to Lumberton, Laurinburg, Rocky Mount, Robersonville and Scotland Neck, N. C., on the basis of 60 per cent from Cincinnati to Virginia cities, plus the published rate beyond.

At White Lake.

The following party of young men from Laurinburg are spending the week at White Lake in Bladen county, camping and picnicking: John Shaw, Allen Fields, Ben. Prince, Charles Prince, Nathan Johnson and Frank John.

NEW FARM CREDIT ACT PASSED BY CONGRESS.

Provides New Credit for Farmers for Purchase and Improvement of Lands—Rate of Interest Only 6 Per Cent.

(By W. R. Camp, Superintendent of Credit Unions.)

Raleigh, N. C., July 31.—The farmers of the United States have at last reached a long-sought goal. Their edge security is no longer to go begging or perhaps be sacrificed to the local money lender. The government of the United States is to say that his note and mortgage are gilt edged in a way that all shall know it. The savings of orphans and widows of Maine to California may safely be invested in the farmer's mortgage. Though he may be thousands of miles away, and no thought need be given as to quality of the land or the character of the owner.

The government is to maintain a system to take all of this burden off from lenders and give them the kind of security they wish for permanent investment. The farmer's note is to be truly as good as his bond. The savings deposited in the banks of the United States are said to amount to \$1,000,000,000, and those of New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut alone to \$2,500,000,000. These funds may now more and more reach farmers through their own organizations under government regulation.

Many laws have been passed which have directly helped in the development of industry and trade, but there never has been legislation more important to the development of agriculture than the Federal Farm Loan Act. More than any part of the United States the South is awaiting development upon obtaining new capital. A few may lose by the operation of this Act, but only temporarily. All are bound to share sooner or later in the new prosperity which plenty of reasonable priced capital will bring to farmers. Lands will be drained, farms will be cleared, farms, new and old, will prosper through interest rate reduced to at least six per cent, and the value of farming land will rise generally.

How a Farmer May Borrow Under the New Law.

The great question farmers will ask will be: How are we to make use of the privileges granted by the new Rural Credit Act just passed by Congress and what are to be our first steps? Are the advantages offered by the new law open to all alike? No, only to the farmers who now cultivate the land which they

Easy Payments.

When a farmer borrows a thousand dollars, will he have to pay it back at the end of one, two or three years, as now? No, he is allowed to pay it in such small amounts that he will not feel it. Foreclosure as a fearful possibility will not haunt him night and day. If the borrower of a thousand dollars pays \$80.24 each year he would have his interest and principal all paid in twenty years. He would then be paying six per cent interest and the amount paid on his debt and the interest together would not be more than he frequently has paid in interest alone under the old system, and his debt has remained as big as ever. This repayment of the loan in small yearly dues is one of the best features of the new law.

Organization for Cheap Credit.

Will a loan be made to an individual farmer by one person or agency as now? No, the law provides that the borrower make application for a loan to a National Farm Loan Association, of which he must become a member, along with all the others in his neighborhood who may wish to borrow in this way. This association of borrowers, who know each other from living in the same neighborhood, will in the first instance approve of the loan and improvements which the applicant offers as security for a loan. When the application will be passed on to the Federal Land Bank of that district for final approval.

If the farmer's note is approved by the Federal Land Bank, does some one lend money to this farmer? No, the Land Bank takes his mortgage note along with similar notes from other farmers, which all together may amount to thousands of dollars, and safely keeps them as security for bonds. These bonds the Land Bank sells to the investors who wish to lend money on the very best security. The money thus received is given over by the Land Bank to the National Farm Loan Association, which, in turn, hands out the funds to their borrowers.

The Borrower a Stockholder in His Own Credit Society.

But why must a farmer who wishes to borrow become a member of a National Farm Loan Association? This society, to approve his loan and insure his note, must be financially responsible. The borrower, to become a member, must take one share of stock of five dollars for every hundred dollars he borrows. Then his society takes the five dollar debt interest is another share of stock in the Federal Land Bank of his district. The farmer's investment in stock then becomes a guarantee to the Land Bank that the National Farm Loan Association will use all necessary care in approving of loans and in seeing that the money is spent for the purpose for which it was borrowed.

The farmer receives a dividend upon his stock as a return on his investment which is expected to reduce the cost of the loan. The interest charge cannot be made more than six per cent. He does not, however, have to use his own money to buy the stock; he is permitted to use some of the money he borrows for that purpose.

With Limited Liability.
Does the farmer not become liable

TO INSPECT HOTELS NEXT WEEK.

State Board of Health Starts New Feature of Health Work.

Raleigh, August 6.—Announcement was made yesterday at the offices of the State Board of Health that inspection of the hotels of the State will begin Monday, August 7. The inspectors doing the work will be Dr. W. S. Rankin, G. M. Cooper, and J. R. Gordon, all of the State health department. While their tour of inspection will not be made public, it is understood that they will visit within the next several weeks practically every hotel in the State.

While this inspection service is optional on the part of hotel managers, there seems to be a general demand from the managers themselves for this particular service. Numerous requests are being received by the Board, one of which is from one of the largest railroads of the country, asking for this inspection service for all their dining cars operating in the State and for their terminal hotels also.

Mr. Goode at Morven.

Rev. W. E. Goode, pastor of the Spring Hill Baptist church near Wagram, was in the city Thursday, returning home from Morven, where he conducted a ten days' protracted meeting at the Baptist church. The Morven Sentinel says:

"The meeting which has been in progress at the Baptist church the past ten days will close tonight. Rev. W. E. Goode who has been doing the preaching in an interesting and powerful manner, has delivered a series of splendid sermons. The interest and attendance throughout the meeting has been good."

for other people's debts by becoming a member of a National Farm Loan Association? No, in the first place every debt is simply secured by mortgage. The mortgage can only cover fifty per cent of the value of the land, and twenty per cent of the value of the insured improvements. The stock is additional security which makes the owner liable for only twice the par value of the stock; that is, for five dollars in addition to each five dollar share of stock or, all together, ten dollars for every hundred dollars borrowed. The liability of the farmer as a stockholder in a National Farm Loan Association is the same as if he were a stockholder in a national bank. Money can only be borrowed for productive purposes, such as to purchase land, to improve and equip a

farm or to secure the land which they already or will themselves cultivate. It is the duty of the National Farm Loan Association to see that all loans are expended for the purposes stated in the application for the loans.

The Work of National Farm Loan Associations Compared.

The work of a National Farm Loan Association is in no way in conflict with that of the Credit Union as incorporated under the laws of North Carolina. A National Farm Loan Association lends for not less than five years time nor more than forty, while the credit union better make its loans for about a year. They both may lend for equipment and supplies made by a National Farm Loan Association would be for starting a farm and for its operation during the first year; while a credit union would finance the operation of a farm during the first year. It would be needless for a farmer to borrow a hundred dollars from a National Farm Loan Association for five years for fertilizer or for farm machinery which he might be expected to pay for in six months or a year.

A farmer who should borrow enough to buy land and to finance the operation of the farm for the first year might be able to get along all right for that year and as long thereafter as crops should be good and prices paying. But if, in an off year, he should fall behind and should have to resort to supply store credit he might then get deeper and deeper into debt unless the credit of his National Farm Loan Association should be supplemented by that of a Credit Union.

Want to Do It Now.

Write to the Superintendent of Credit Unions, Wm. E. Camp, Division of Markets and Rural Organization, West Raleigh, N. C. If you wish to organize a National Farm Loan Association, and he will forward you application for a charter to the Federal Farm Loan Board, as soon as it is organized. The National Farm Loan Board is to be appointed by President Wilson, and when appointed will proceed at once to organize the twelve Federal Land Banks which will cover the whole of the United States. The National Farm Loan Association, as well as the Land Banks, are to be under the control of this Federal Board.

In your letter of application you had better state (1) the names and addresses of those who wish to join a National Farm Loan Association; (2) the amount of money which each desires to borrow; (3) the value of the land and insured improvements offered as security; and, (4) the amount of stock which each farmer desires to subscribe for in a National Farm Loan Association. Not less than ten farmers can form a National Farm Loan Association, and they all together have to apply to borrow not less than \$20,000. A farmer can borrow any amount from \$100 to \$10,000, provided the security be satisfactory. Those having further questions to ask may address the Superintendent of Credit Unions, and he will furnish all possible information, pending the formation of the Federal Board and the Land Bank for this district.

LAURINBURG HELPS THE FLOOD SUFFERS

Contributions Reported Wednesday Morning Amount to More Than One and Quarter Hundred Dollars.

Laurinburg has done the handsome thing and reports the sum of \$125.75 contributed up to Wednesday morning for the general relief fund, now being raised in the State for sufferers by the recent heavy floods in portions of Western North Carolina. This work was initiated here by Mayor W. D. Tucker, who had circulated in the city a petition calling for aid for this cause. This petition was in the hands of Mr. C. L. Sanford, city clerk. Below will be found a list of all contributors and the amounts given:

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| A. L. James | \$10.00 |
| Cash | 10.00 |
| W. R. Sutherland | 5.00 |
| E. S. Budd | 5.00 |
| R. L. Hammond | 5.00 |
| A. A. Leitch | 5.00 |
| Cash | 5.00 |
| J. E. Murphy | 2.50 |
| A. V. Wallace | 2.50 |
| L. D. McKinnon | 2.50 |
| Mrs. Sallie F. McNeill | 2.50 |
| H. O. Covington | 2.50 |
| Angus Fairley | 2.50 |
| Noah Fields | 2.50 |
| S. L. Penny | 1.00 |
| J. Walter Jones | 1.00 |
| D. E. Lee | 1.00 |
| Dan Shaw | 1.00 |
| E. T. McCall | 1.00 |
| E. W. Bryant | 1.00 |
| C. D. McCormick | 1.00 |
| R. D. Phillips | 1.00 |
| W. T. Deaton | 1.00 |
| M. M. Ritch | 1.00 |
| R. E. Gibson | 1.00 |
| H. O. Covington | 1.00 |
| H. A. McIntyre | 1.00 |
| Mrs. J. R. Jordan | 1.00 |
| Joe Warwick | 1.00 |
| Mrs. G. D. Everington | 1.00 |
| A. H. James | 1.00 |
| J. T. Fields | 1.00 |
| J. M. McCormick | 1.00 |
| R. F. Lane | 1.00 |
| A. F. Sims | 1.00 |
| J. L. McNeil | 1.00 |
| J. W. North | 1.00 |
| W. N. Robertson | 1.00 |
| M. F. Gilfeather | 1.00 |
| Z. V. Wright | 1.00 |
| E. H. Gibson | 1.00 |
| T. C. Everett | 1.00 |
| M. L. John | 1.00 |
| G. F. Avinger | 1.00 |
| D. B. Brown | 1.00 |
| Cash | 1.00 |

The Exchange's Fund.

The following contributions have been handed in at the office of The Exchange:

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|---------------------|----------|
| Mrs. Kate W. Thomas | \$5.00 |
| Mrs. Betty Shaw | 5.00 |
| Laurinburg Exchange | 2.50 |
| J. A. Madin | 2.50 |
| L. L. King (col.) | 2.50 |
| Total | \$12.50 |
| General fund | \$113.25 |
| Grand total | \$125.75 |

This money will be forwarded to the central committee at Raleigh at an early date. Contributions will still be received by Mr. C. L. Sanford, or at The Exchange office.

Misses Elmore and Eunice Hatten of Richmond, Va., arrived in the city Wednesday night and are the guests of Mrs. N. Hammond.

The Swiss branch of the International Union of Friends of the Young Girl, was published in all the newspapers of Switzerland a notice stating that the emigration of young girls to America is greatly increased and appears to bear directly on the responsibilities of Mormon apostles, who are carrying on an active propaganda in Switzerland. The notice warns the girls against Mormonism.

The largest sum of money yet shipped to this country by the Red Cross for payment for munitions was brought into New York City this week by the French liner Rochambeau from Bordeaux, France. This shipment consisted of \$45,000,000 gold, probably a greater amount than was ever before placed on shipment. Reports the news shipped by the Allies have ranged around \$10,000,000.