

VOTE IN PIANO CONTEST TO-DAY.

Several thousand votes have been cast in our Piano contest since last issue. Miss Margie McEachern, who lost first place in last count to Mr. Pleasant Collegiate Institute, regains it to-day by a small vote, the Institute being only a few votes behind her.

All the contestants have made good gains, as will be seen by comparing the vote. The candidates are all now getting to work in good earnest, and large gains in the vote may be expected. Ask all your friends everywhere to help you. It does not cost them anything to vote, and they will be glad to render you this little service.

All of the contestants have strong supporters, and it is impossible to tell who will win. It is a question of work. Every inch of ground will be fought over, every territory of Cabarrus county will be involved by the vote hunters, while friends of the candidates will go out into adjoining counties, and send word and write to absent friends for help. Vote early and often! Your friend, though now behind, may be the leader to-morrow. Remember the race is not always to the swift, and careful planning, backed by steady and intelligent effort, will be sure to bring a candidate along to the top sooner or later. Remember, the race is not over—now is the time to work. Get in the contest and strive to be one of the winners. Your gain in votes each day will draw more votes from your friends.

The vote to-day stands as follows:

Miss Margie McEachern, Concord	15,295
Mr. Pleasant Collegiate Institute	14,712
Miss Laura Barnhardt, Concord	8,205
Rocky River High School	6,255
Company L, Concord	6,170
Miss Mary Moser Misenheimer, No. 5 Township	5,730
Mrs. C. C. Hill, Glass	2,740
Miss Grace Watkins, Concord	2,045
Miss Ola Yerton, Newell	1,580
Miss Loula Hartsell	1,012
Miss Bertha Linder, Concord	950
Miss Aylma Ridenhour	450
Kannapolis School	250
Miss Louise Means, Concord	250
Miss Lena Harris, Concord	150

Death of Mr. John McGuirt.

Mr. John McGuirt died last Saturday afternoon at 5 o'clock, at his home on Valley street, his death being due to heart disease. Mr. McGuirt was a native of Waxhaw, and came to Concord about ten years ago. He was employed in the mills here for about two years, when he moved to Spence. While he was living in Spence he married Miss Della Rogers, of this city, daughter of Mrs. M. A. Freeze. He moved back to Concord about two years ago and for some time operated a restaurant. He was later elected a member of the city police force. He served on the police force for over a year, resigned this position at the request of his physician, who advised him on account of his having a weak heart, against over exerting himself. Mr. McGuirt made a very capable and efficient officer while on the police force and was very popular. The funeral service was held yesterday at the home of his wife's mother, Mrs. M. A. Freeze, being conducted by Rev. C. W. Irwin, of the Cannonville Presbyterian Church.

Knights of Pythias Banquet.

The Concord lodge of Pythians held their regular meeting at Castle Hall last Friday night, at which time the installation of officers for the ensuing year was held. After the installation ceremonies were over the Pythians marched to the St. Cloud-Normandy Hotel, where an elegant banquet was served them by Landlord Norman. Mr. James C. Fink was toastmaster and all the Knights present were called upon for impromptu speeches, many of them responding in a most pleasing manner, which added interest and enthusiasm to the gathering. Among the well known visitors present was Rev. C. B. Miller, of the Southern Power Co., formerly pastor of St. James Lutheran Church here.

Ivey-Askins.

Mr. Charles M. Ivey left this morning for Lake City, S. C.; where he will be married to Miss Caroline Askins, to-morrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. They will have a quiet home wedding, witnessed by the relatives, and a few intimate friends of the young couple. Mr. Ivey is a prominent young business man of this city, with a bright future, being president of the Ivey Shoe Co. Miss Askins is well remembered in Concord, where she made her home for some time, being a stenographer at Cannon mill. On their return to Concord they will live at Mr. and Mrs. N. F. Yorke's.

Saw Mill Burned.

A saw mill belonging to Mr. J. L. Hartsell and Mr. P. B. Fetzer, of this city, was destroyed by fire last Thursday night. The mill was located in Anson county, twelve miles from Wadesboro. The origin of the fire is not known, as the mill had not been in operation for some time and no one lived very near it. There was a large supply of lumber stacked on the mill yard but this did not catch fire. The lumber was well insured, but the mill had no insurance. The loss is about \$300.00.

Mr. J. R. McNeill will be the new superintendent of the Brander mills.

His present home is Natchez, Miss., and he is expected here in a few days.

Our Three Splendid Prizes.

Our Piano Contest is now getting well started, and great interest is being manifested in it. The first prize is a very handsome and excellent \$400 Piano, which anyone should be proud to own. This will go to the one getting the largest number of votes. To the one getting the second largest number of votes we will give a finely polished Brass Bed, complete with the best springs and mattress. This is now on exhibition in the window of the Bell & Harris Furniture Co. Third prize—a beautiful Gold Watch, ladies' or gent's size. This watch is engine-turned, of the latest pattern and standard make. This is now on exhibition in the show window of J. C. Willford's Jewelry Store.

New Advertisements.

H. L. Parks will have a slaughter sale of ladies' coat suits Wednesday and Thursday of this week. Black & Shepard offer you an opportunity of saving from 25 to 50 per cent. on ladies long coats, sweaters and undervests. A new advertiser in THE TIMES' columns is the Davis Drug Co., successor to the Fetzer Drug Store. The young men who succeed to this business are popular with the people of Concord, and we predict a successful career for them.

Letters from Our Subscribers.

Mr. W. C. Caldwell, of Plant City, Fla., writes us: "While you are eating sausage and pig feet, and enjoying the icy flakes from mother goose, we are eating fresh tomatoes and strawberries and enjoying the weather with our coats off in South Florida. Happy New Year for Old North Carolina and THE TIMES."

LOCAL PENCILINGS.

Short Items of Local Interest in City, County and This Section.

Miss Rosa Mund has resigned as court stenographer of this county. The infant of Mr. George Widenhouse, aged four weeks, died Saturday night of pneumonia. Mr. B. C. Griffin now has a position as traveling salesman, and will take his first trip in a few days. Mrs. Mary Morrison has qualified as administratrix of the estate of her late husband, Walter W. Morrison. Mr. Jacob Barhardt, who has been very ill of pneumonia at his home on Spring street, is much better, and his early recovery is expected. We are glad indeed to note that the condition of Miss Studie Smith, who is ill of pneumonia, is greatly improved, and that she is now well on the road to recovery.

Mrs. D. B. Porter was stricken with an acute attack of indigestion at her home on Bell avenue last Friday morning. Her condition was very serious for some time. Mr. John Gordon, of Gold Hill, and Mrs. Robert Harris were married last Friday afternoon at the home of Mr. A. P. Blackwelder, Rev. S. N. Watson performing the ceremony. Sheriff Honeycutt has had a telephone put in his office for the convenience of the public. This is the only phone in the court house, and the Sheriff's action will be appreciated. Messrs. J. Lee Stone and Lacy Cochran have leased the store room recently vacated by Blume Bros., and will open a moving picture show. Workmen are now busy getting the building ready.

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Sims, of Charlotte, formerly of Concord, have gone to Salisbury to locate, and for the present are making their home with their daughter, Mrs. William Johnston, on Lafayette street.

Master Randall Harris, one of THE TIMES' carriers, who is the Concord agent for the Saturday Evening Post, was awarded a cash prize for handling the largest number of papers of any boy in North Carolina during the month of December.

Mrs. and Mrs. Nicholas J. Smith, of Lynchburg, are visiting at Mrs. M. G. Deaton's. They will leave this afternoon to visit in Iredell county. Their daughter, Miss Sallie, left last week to attend the Southern Presbyterian College at Red Springs.

Mr. Henry Smith, who had been connected with the American Tobacco Co. in Durham for some time, has resigned, and has accepted a position with Mr. B. F. Crowder, who has the agency for E. M. F. and Flanders 20 automobiles.

Who knows but what you may win the beautiful \$400.00 Piano as one of the other prizes given away by THE TIMES? You certainly stand as much show as any one else. Enter the contest to-day and start in with a winning spirit.

We learn that Dr. D. D. Johnson, who left here two years ago for Brandy, Va., has sold his fine farm there, and has moved to Richmond, where he has opened up a drug store. It is understood that Dr. Johnson sold his farm at an advance of \$2,000 over the purchase price.

The St. Cloud barber shop was opened Saturday. The room has been thoroughly renovated, handsome oak fixtures and chairs have been added, making it a most attractive place. Mr. Shirley Suther is proprietor of the shop and Mr. George Strange, of Lexington, is assisting him.

Mr. Smith Scott last week moved his barber shop into the room next to Dayvauld's beef market, and has an up-to-date shop in every respect. He has received an entirely new outfit and fixtures and opened up last Saturday ready to serve the public in the very best style.

Salisbury Post: Mr. Albert L. Carter, who left Rowan eight years ago for the west and located in Spokane, Washington, is at home on an important mission. Next Monday afternoon he is to marry Miss Sallie Cress, daughter of Mr. D. M. Cress, a substantial and well known citizen of Cabarrus county.

The management of the Southern Railway Company has decided not to operate its special Palm Limited this season for the benefit of the tourist traffic which reaches its height just about this season. Instead of this special train, No. 29 will be operated, this train having been vastly improved in accommodations and general service.

The payment of the county and State taxes at the earliest possible moment is urged by Sheriff Honeycutt, who must have the money to meet the demands on him. This is not a merely perfunctory notice, but is made from the urgency of the matter. The taxes have now been due for over four months, and payment should not be longer delayed by anybody.

Gertie Smart, a well known colored woman of Concord, died this morning.

Marriage license has been issued to Mr. Charlie Barringer and Miss Bessie Beaver.

Mr. H. J. King and family will leave to-night for Armin, Texas, where they will make their home.

Miss Jennie Maxwell, stenographer at the Young-Hartsell mill offices, has been confined to her room on account of sickness for the past week.

Master Randall Harris is now organ pumper at Central Methodist Church. This position has been filled by sons of Mrs. S. L. Klutz ever since the organ was put in the church.

The law firm of Adams, Armfield, Jerome & Maness has been changed to Jerome, Maness & Sikes, the members being Messrs. T. J. Jerome, T. D. Maness and Oscar J. Sikes.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Louis A. Brown, will be glad to know that their little son, Louis A. Jr., who has been very ill with pneumonia for the past two weeks, is improving rapidly.

The board of county commissioners of Rowan have issued a call urging the people to settle their taxes early in order that a settlement may be made with the State as early as possible. A similar call is needed in Cabarrus.

Mary, the two-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McLelland, died of gastritis yesterday morning at 6 o'clock, at their home on Franklin Avenue. The funeral services will be held this afternoon at the home.

Cotton weaver D. B. Porter has received a large pair of scales from Fairbanks Scale Co., to be used at the cotton platform. These scales are especially constructed for the purpose of weighing cotton and guaranteed to be perfectly accurate.

The reception at the Jackson Training School will be held Wednesday at 12 o'clock in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Roth. At 1 o'clock Dr. B. F. Dixon, of Raleigh, will make an address. All who are interested in the work of the Institution are cordially invited both to the reception and to the exercises.

Mr. Arthur Norman, the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. V. L. Norman, of this city, has gone to Muskogee, Oklahoma, where he has secured a position with the Muskogee Gas & Electric Plant. Mr. Norman was for several years an employe of the Southern Power Company, located at Great Falls, S. C.

A good many of the great throng of people on the streets here last Saturday afternoon about 4 o'clock had the opportunity of witnessing in front of the Citizens' Bank the first round bout between two well known citizens of the county, Mr. Lum Kizer and Mr. Wallace Abernathy. These two gentlemen had been in a controversy over the title to some land for some time and had been in a lawyer's office that afternoon and compromised the case. There must have been something that they failed to agree on in the lawyer's office, for soon after coming out on the street they both began to fight. The fight was fast and furious for a few minutes until they were parted by the spectators who gathered around them. Both of the gentlemen seemed well satisfied with the result of the fight and went down to police headquarters and submitted and paid a fine.

To the Public.

I wish to say to the public of Concord that the bad behavior at the opera house will be suppressed, and that hereafter this annoyance will not be found an objection there. I am determined that this shall be done, and the law will be invoked, if necessary, to that end. L. C. BILES, Manager Opera House.

Rowan Man First.

Mr. Tobias Goodman is said to have been the first man in Rowan county to operate a circular saw by steam; that Mr. Chas. L. Summers, of Statesville, at different times clerk of the Superior court and sheriff of Iredell, was the first man to operate a circular saw in Iredell, steam power being used; that Mr. Adam Lentz, an uncle of Mr. Jacob Lentz, was the first to operate a circular saw in Catawba county, and that Mr. Jacob Lentz operated the first circular saw in Alexander county. In the last two cases the saws were operated by water power. Before the days of circular saws saw mills were equipped with long saws, something like cross-cut saws, and went through a log by moving up and down.

The cotton crop of the year 1909 will be smallest since 1899 according to the statement of W. D. Hunter, of Dallas, Texas, expert of the department of agriculture. "It is due," he said addressing the House committee on agriculture, "to the weevil in Louisiana, portions of Arkansas and Mississippi and the extreme dry weather in Texas, where sensational conditions interfered with propagation of the parasites."

RICHARD WAGNER'S PARSIFAL.

Billed for One Performance at Concord, Friday, January 14.

This will without doubt be one of the most artistic theatrical events ever offered to our local theatre-goers. The company is the same that has played the surrounding cities for the past five years. The management carry everything for the production, adapted both to large and small theatres, using no local scenery, as the company carry all scenery, electric effects and paraphernalia complete.

Owing to the unusual length of the performance the curtain will rise for the first act promptly at 7:45 p. m. There are four acts, each one of which requires about forty minutes for its enactment. The intermissions are comparatively short and the final curtain falls at 11 o'clock. It is one of the rules of the performance, and the management gives the assurance that every one must be seated before the theatre is darkened, which means before the music starts. Late comers will not be shown to their seats until the conclusion of the act. Warning of the approach of commencement time will be given by trumpeters in the lobby entrance.

Reduced Rates to Times Subscribers.

All subscribers of THE TIMES, whether new or old, who pay in advance will have the privilege of subscribing through us for any of the papers named below at the prices named. These papers may be secured through us at any time at the reduced price. Note the following list and prices for a year's subscription: Charlotte Semi-Weekly Observer, 75 cents. Progressive Farmer, new subscriptions, 50 cents; renewals, 70 cents. New York Thrice-a-Week World, 65 cents.

Home and Farm, 25 cents. Cotton Journal, 60 cents. Atlanta Thrice-a-Week Constitution, 75 cents. Philadelphia Daily Press, \$2.00. Uncle Remus Magazine, 50 cents. Carolina Union Farmer, 50 cents. Southern Ruralist, 60 cents. Remember these low prices are open to all who pay a year in advance to THE TIMES. Don't forget that every subscriber who pays a year in advance gets free a pair of 8-inch Spring Tension Shears, that would cost 50 or 75 cents anywhere.

The Public Schools.

The collections made on North Carolina Day in the public schools of the county for the Jackson Training School, so far reported, are as follows: Howells, \$1.00; Mt. Gilead, \$1.52; Cannon school, 58 cents; Brown Mill, 61 cents; Coddle Creek, 84 cents; Barrier, No. 5, 89 cents; Barrier, No. 9, 60 cents; Wincoff, \$2.39, and White Hall, \$1.50. Measles is making its appearance in the schools of the county and causing a general decline in attendance. The following is a list of the honor roll at Mt. Gilead school: Chester Misenheimer, Ruth Earnhardt, Walter Patterson, Marvin Misenheimer, Thelma Misenheimer, Fred Neisler, Mary Neisler, Clyde Cook, Harvey Murph, Charlie Goodman, Wade Cook, Annie Margaret Misenheimer, Francis, Walter and William Long, Miss Mamie Barnes is teacher and the school has an enrollment of fifty-four.

Concord Presbytery.

There was a called meeting of Concord Presbytery in the First Presbyterian Church last Friday morning. Rev. R. D. Brown, of Iredell county, was moderator, and Rev. C. W. Ervin Clerk.

The first item of business was to act on call from Poplar Tent and Gilwood churches to Rev. J. E. Summers. The calls were found in order, and placed in the hands of Mr. Summers, who accepted. Mr. Summers will be installed as pastor of these two churches on the third Sunday, at Gilwood in the morning and at Poplar Tent in the afternoon at 3 o'clock. A call from Bethpage for the pastoral services of Rev. T. B. Anderson was read, found in order, placed in his hands and accepted. Mr. Anderson was duly examined and preached before the presbytery at 12 o'clock. In addition to a number of elders from nearby churches, Revs. C. A. Monroe, of Hickory, R. D. Brown, of Statesville, attended the meeting.

For every new subscriber you get for THE TIMES with the cash, you are entitled to 300 votes for any one wish in our Piano Contest. Any one can get two or three new subscribers and many more if a little work is done.

For the first time in the history of Yale University the Ten Eyck prize for speaking was won by a Chinese when Yum Hsiang Ts'oo of Shanghai, China, a junior, was awarded the honor. The award carries with it the income of a fund of \$2,600, established in 1888 in memory of Henry James Ten Eyck of the class of 1879. Ts'oo's subject was "America and the Far East."

PERSONAL MENTION.

A Partial List of Those Among Us Who Come and Go.

Mrs. Frank Brown is visiting friends in Durham. Mrs. Lucia Stephens is visiting her sister, Mrs. Ed. Fresson, in High Point. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lyster, of Kannapolis, are visiting at Mr. T. P. Moores. Miss Ethel Hooks, of Dunn, is visiting at the home of Mr. F. A. Archibald. Mrs. J. D. Hatchett, of Atlanta, is visiting the family of her father, Rev. T. W. Smith. Mr. J. E. Eldred, of Polk, was here last week at the bedside of his son, Mr. Ed. Eldred, who has fever. Miss Mary Sims and Grace Woodruff, of Charlotte, are visiting Miss Eva May Brown. Mrs. Catherine Goodson returned Friday night from a visit to Mrs. T. J. Fetzer in Wadesboro. Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Wall left this morning for Henrietta, where they will visit Mr. Wall's parents. Mr. B. C. Griffin has returned to his home in Statesville, after spending several days in the city. Mr. Henry Smith, who has been in Concord since the Christmas holidays, returned this morning to his home in Durham. Mrs. J. C. Foushee, who has been visiting her daughter, Miss Virginia Foushee, has returned to her home in Ninety Six, S. C. Mrs. Plato T. Durham has returned from Raleigh where she has been visiting at the home of her father, Rev. J. N. Cole, for several days.

Petrea-Ridenhour.

Mr. Delma Petrea and Miss Nora Ridenhour were married last night at 7 o'clock at the home of the bride's father, Mr. Jacob Ridenhour, in No. 8 township. The ceremony was performed by Rev. M. L. Ridenhour, a cousin of the bride. Both of these young people are very popular in this city where they have been making their home for some time. Mrs. Petrea has been a most efficient and popular saleslady in Eldred's big department store for the past year. Mr. Petrea is a young man of ability and promise, being superintendent of the Concord Steam Laundry. Mr. and Mrs. Petrea arrived in Concord this morning and will make their home at Mr. A. S. Dayvauld's on Franklin Avenue.

A Gruesome Discovery.

The head of new-born negro infant discovered in a piece of woods just at the edge of Wadesboro Saturday morning was the cause of considerable excitement. The discovery was made by James Horne, who was hunting rabbits. From an examination it appears that the head was cut from the body with a knife. A wound on top of the head was made by a blunt instrument. The coroner is making an investigation, and a young negro girl 16 years of age is under arrest. She denies all knowledge of the infant. Searching parties are looking for the decapitated body. An inquest will be held today.

With his body burned into a crisp Adam Lyster a young son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. L. Lyster, of Granite Quarry, Rowan county, died at that place Wednesday night from injuries received early in the day. While playing around a heater in the room while the mother prepared a meal the clothing of the lad ignited and burned from his body before assistance could be rendered. He lived in great agony for several hours when death resulted. The funeral was held from Christiana Lutheran church where the interment took place.

The report of the Missouri Pacific Railway Company on passenger train movement for the month of November, shows that on the main line running from Kansas City to Tribun, out of a total of 120 trains run only one was on time and the average time late per train run was four hour and twenty minutes. On the other lines of the company operating in Kansas a total of 1,530 trains were run, 925 or 60 per cent of which were on time. On the Central Branch Railroad out of a total of 118 trains run sixty-seven were on time.

After spending fifty of his seventy-one years in the Connecticut State Prison, John P. Warren, known as Convict No. 1, is to be released on pardon. The penitentiary authorities say he has been behind prison bars longer than any other convict in the country. It was in 1859 that Warren killed his 18-year-old wife in Willington by holding her head under water in a brook. He concealed the body in the woods, covering it with leaves.