

THE PIANO CONTEST VOTE TO-DAY.

The voting in our Piano Contest since last issue has been brisk and sharp, and many ballots were cast. The Collegiate Institute is still ahead, but Miss McEachern made quite a good gain on it since last count.

The vote to-day stands as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Candidate Name and Votes. Includes Miss Pleasant Collegiate Institute (27,082), Miss Margie McEachern (23,205), Miss Laura Barnhardt (10,417), etc.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Partial List of Those Among Us Who Come and Go.

Mr. Tom Fetzor, Jr., of Charlotte, spent yesterday in the city. Mr. W. R. Odell spent Sunday at Bessemer City, with his sister, Mrs. S. Durham.

Services at First Presbyterian Church.

The special services conducted at the First Presbyterian Church last week by Rev. R. C. Anderson, of Gastonia, closed with the service Sunday night.

Mr. Jno. M. Craven to Leave Concord.

Mr. John M. Craven, secretary and treasurer of the Craven Bros. Furniture Co., and one of Concord's leading business men, will move to Birmingham the 1st of March to become associated in business with two of his brothers.

Story of the Insurgent West.

What is to be the effect of the Insurgent movement in the Republican party? Is it to result in breaking up that party and is there to be a new party made from the Progressives of both the present big political parties?

The Emery Club will be entertained by Mrs. J. D. Lentz this afternoon. The following ladies will be present: Mesdames J. W. Cannon, E. A. Moss, P. T. Durham, P. B. Fetzor, J. M. Craven, A. J. Yorke, M. L. Cannon, J. F. Cannon, Irving H. Eldridge, J. H. Witherspoon, D. B. Privett, D. L. Bost, and Misses Shirley Montgomery, Jenn. Coltrane and Lilly Howe.

TWELVE CASES OF SMALLPOX.

May Become Epidemic.—Vaccination the Only Preventive.

There are twelve well developed, genuine cases of smallpox in this county. The cases so far reported and examined by the health authorities are as follows: Wilson Phifer, colored, who lives on Happy Hill, this city; Adam Black and wife and eight children, who live about two miles from Flowe's store, in No. 1 township, and Wilson Garland, who lives near Mill Hill church, in No. 10 township. All are negroes.

The disease affects persons who may be exposed to it at all ages, and remarkably few people who are unvaccinated are able to resist the infection, not more than from one to five per cent. The negro race is peculiarly susceptible, and in this race the rate of mortality from the disease is usually very high.

Vaccination when properly performed, and when an active vaccine is used, may be said to be a sure preventive of smallpox for a very considerable space of time, if not for the life-time of the individual; but it is safer to be vaccinated every few years, and every year if exposed during an epidemic.

Weather Report for 1909.

Mr. L. C. Dry sends us the following weather report for the year 1909, which he kept daily: Rain fell on the following dates during the year 1909: January 4, 5, 7, 12; 13 and 14 freezing rains; 15, 16, 22, February 9, 21, 22, 23, 24, March 3 heavy hailstorm, 4 hail, 6, 8, 9, 13, 21, 24, 27, April 8, 13, 30 heavy rain storm, May 2 last frost, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, June 2, 3, 5, 8, 12, 14, July 16, 20, 26, 28, August 2, 3, 6, 7, 13, 15, 27, 30, 31, September 4, 15, 16, 17, 18, 23; first frost on the 30th, October 5, 11, 14, 21; first ice on the 31st, November 2, 8, 17, 23, December 7, 13, 18; snow 19; 25. There were 70 rains during the year 1909. Mr. M. Safrin also kept a report of the number of times that rain fell during the year, and his report is as follows: January, rained 8 times; February, 12; March, 12; April, 8; May, 13; June, 18; July, 17; August, 14; September, 11; October, 7; November, 5; December, 6. It rained 131 times in the year 1909, and I did not see the sun for two Fridays in the year.

Medals for Sunday School Attendance.

As the Sunday School of Central Methodist church yesterday the gold crosses were given out to the members of the school who had not missed a Sunday during the year of 1909. There were 21 pupils who had not missed a Sunday during the past year, their names being: Messrs. W. C. Gibson, J. M. Fisher, Earle Dayvault, R. P. Benson, Leslie Correll, Lee Crowell, Jr., Ernest Kluttz, Robert Fisher, Jethro King, Archie Gibson, William Glass, Ralph Dayvault and Ingram Harris, Misses Josie Hill, Elouise Dayvault, Grace Gibson, Helen Troy, Virginia Smoot, Nannie Lee Patterson and Mary Crowell.

Misses Maude and Grace Brown will entertain at euchre next Friday afternoon at 8 o'clock in honor of Mesdames Separk, Barkley, Bernhardt and Morris.

LOCAL PENCILINGS.

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

The Lenten season commences February 9, which is Ash Wednesday. Mr. Baxter Gillon and family have returned to the city from China Grove, and are living in the Deal house on Georgia avenue. The Christian Reid Book Club has issued engraved invitations to an "At Home" with Mrs. P. B. Fetzor on next Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Mrs. Milton S. Brown, of Salisbury, died last Friday following an illness of several weeks. She was one of Salisbury's most estimable women. Rev. Wm. T. Walker, of Red Springs, was last week elected superintendent of the Orphan's Home at Barium Springs to succeed the late Rev. John Wakefield. The next term of Cabarrus Superior Court will convene January 31, Judge Jones presiding. This will be Judge Jones' first visit to Cabarrus. The civil docket will be called February 2. The Dayvault Co. is having another big sale, which began last Friday and will continue until February 1. This firm is determined to close out the entire stock as soon as possible and offers some very low prices. We publish on page six an interesting account of the big snow of 1857, copied from the Charlotte News. If we remember correctly, the late Mr. J. W. Mehaffey, of Concord, was also on this train referred to.

Among the attractions to be given soon under the auspices of the Mt. Pleasant Collegiate Institute is an entertainment in the auditorium, February, by the noted Swedish impersonator, Karl Jansen.

Rev. J. Brice Cochran, of Gaston county, who recently received a call to the pastorate of McKinnon and Bayless Memorial Presbyterian churches, has accepted the call, and will be here to occupy his pulpit next Sunday.

Messrs. Jno. C. Correll and Chas. E. Stratford have bought the stock of merchandise of D. L. Seahorn, who recently made an assignment, and will continue the business. The sale was made by the Southern Loan & Trust Company.

Rev. E. Garver Williams, D. D., until the first of the year pastor of St. James' Reformed Church at Mt. Pleasant, moved the first of last week to Crescent, where, it is understood, he will have charge of the orphanage of the Reformed Church.

The Good Roads meeting, called by Dr. Joseph Hyde Pratt, State Geologist and Secretary of the Good Roads Association, to be held in Raleigh on January 27, should be attended by advocates of good roads from every section of the State.

Saturday's Charlotte Chronicle: "Mrs. Frank O. Rogers returned to her home in Concord yesterday morning after spending several days in the city with Mrs. J. F. Yorke. While here Mrs. Rogers was the recipient of many charming social courtesies."

Two of the children of Mr. W. F. Carter, who lives at the Young-Hartsell mill, died last week within 24 hours of each other. His son eight years of age died on Thursday night, and on Friday the one year old infant passed away. Both deaths were caused by pneumonia following the measles.

Monroe Journal: Who ever heard before of the best wells and springs being dry as a bone in January? They are that way now in many parts of this county, and it is causing a vast amount of trouble and work to farmers, many of whom are forced to haul water for both domestic use and for stock.

Raleigh correspondence Greensboro News, 22nd: "Master Luther Collins, an incorrigible 12-year-old boy, who has proven too much for his parents to manage, was last evening sentenced to the Stonewall Jackson Training School. His father, a respected carpenter of this city, told Judge Cooke that he could do nothing with the boy."

The present term of Stanly criminal Superior court adjourned Thursday. The docket, with the exception of a few cases, was cleared. Solicitor Harmer made a statement after court had adjourned that the docket was the nearest clear that it had ever been since he had been solicitor of this district. The Albemarle chain gang received several recruits.

Charlotte Observer: "Here is a Cabarrus farmer who does credit to his county. Last year he sold 945 pounds of butter, for which he received \$161.30 and 360 dozen eggs, receiving \$66.54 for them. His sales of butter in one month reached 148 pounds. That farmer's family did not live on Western bacon, you may be sure. They "lived at home" and fared well. Counting the saving in cost of living through home produced milk, chickens and eggs, the profits on the butter and eggs sold were very large. Every farmer who pursues this course not only makes money for himself but adds to the wealth of his community."

Marriage license has been issued to Mr. S. L. Holdbrooks, of Forest Hill, and Miss Nannie Alexander, of Mt. Pleasant.

Mr. O. D. Petrea has accepted a position with the Dove & Bost Co. Mr. Petrea was until recently a clerk in the grocery store of Blume Bros.

We think THE TIMES to-day is worth the money, don't you? In addition to splendid batches of local, State and general news, we publish a letter from a Chinese missionary, and an article about the Jackson Training School by Mr. Hunt, of Charlotte. Both of these will be read with interest, we know.

The Crescent Comedy Co., which was booked for a weeks engagement here at the local opera house has disbanded. Manager Biles, of the opera house, received a telegram from the manager of the company yesterday morning, saying that the company had disbanded and that they were compelled to cancel their engagement here.

An effort is being made to place the North Carolina Christian Advocate in every home in Central Methodist Church, and this end has almost been accomplished. There are about 80 families represented, and all but a very few take the Advocate. If this movement succeeds, Central Church will be the first church in Southern Methodism which has the church paper in every family.

Rowan soil gets a boost in the Southern number of Collier's as a corn producer. In an article under the heading, "The Next West," by Clarence H. Poe, appears this item: "A Rowan county boy with improved methods made ninety bushels (corn) per acre on part of a field in another part of which a tenant, using old methods, made only ten bushels per acre."

Charlotte Observer: "Mr. Bingham Deas, of Cabarrus county, who set the Concord lockup afire with a view to acquiring his own liberty thereby, may not be an exemplary citizen, but he will never rise to any bad eminence through brain power. The mental processes of men who, drunk or sober, engage in performances like this are past any human being's comprehension."

Charlotte Chronicle: "That fine comet now visible with the naked eye in the southwestern heavens after sunset is not Halley's but an as yet unidentified visitor. It was discovered in South Africa, though, needless to say, it did not originate or specially visit there. It will only remain in easy view—provided the weather permits—for a few more nights, more's the pity."

HELD UP NEAR DEPOT.

Joe Johnson Knocked Down and Robbed by Two Men Saturday Night.

Joe Johnson, a white man who lives at the Gibson mill, was held up and robbed in the big cut under the overhead bridge at the depot Saturday night about 8 o'clock. Johnson was at the depot, and John Edwards, who also lives at the Gibson mill and near Johnson, came up to him and asked him to come on and go home. Johnson hesitated for some time, but Edwards finally persuaded him to go home with him. Johnson says as they approached the overhead bridge Edwards was several feet behind him, when some one struck him from behind, knocking him down, and while he was struggling with the man he called Edwards to help him, and that Edwards, instead of helping him, caught him in the back and held him while the other man searched his pockets. They secured all the money he had in his outside pockets, \$5.35, but they did not take some money he had in his inside pocket. Johnson told the men that he was going to have them arrested, and Edwards told him if he did he would have him arrested for being drunk. Johnson came on back to the depot and reported the affair to officer Benfield. He had been drinking, and Mr. Benfield was doubtful about the truth of his statements, but on investigating the trouble he found Mr. Will Davis, an overseer at the Brown mill, who said he was standing on the embankment near the bridge and heard the men while they were scuffling together. Johnson came up town and had a warrant sworn out for Edwards and Jim Holdbrooks, who he says was the other man. Soon after the warrant was sworn out, Chief of Police Boger, who was watching for the men, saw them in front of the hotel and served the warrant.

Edwards says that he was only playing with Johnson, and that he never thought of robbing him. Holdbrooks denies positively that he was there at all, but Johnson states that he was the man who assaulted him from behind, and that he recognized him in the struggle that followed. Edwards and Holdbrooks are two of a number of tough characters who have been causing trouble around the depot for a number of years, Edwards having served a sentence on the chain gang of this county for breaking in freight cars. They will have a hearing in the Police Justice's court Saturday.

NEGRO WOMAN MURDERED.

Shot in Cold Blood in Her Own Home With Her Baby in Her Arms.—Death Follows Instantly.

A deliberate and cold-blooded murder was committed in No. 1 township Saturday night about 8 o'clock, when Myrtle Flowe, wife of Arthur Flowe, colored, was shot through the heart with a shotgun supposed to be in the hands of Pink Dry, a white man of that neighborhood, who has a long string of offenses against him, and who has served out several sentences on the chain-gang of this county, one of which was for shooting Ben Falkner, an old negro, about two years ago without the slightest provocation.

Coroner Howard Caldwell went out to the negro's home early yesterday morning and impaneled a jury, who spent most of the day in taking evidence and investigating the crime. There was only one witness to the crime, Arthur Flowe, husband of the murdered woman, who gave the following evidence:

He says that he and his wife were sitting in their home about 8 o'clock, and that she was reading when some one came to the door and said "Hello." He got up and went to the door to see who it was, and as he looked out some one fired a shotgun at him, being so close that the powder burned his face. His wife then ran to the window, holding her young baby in her arms, and raised it to look out and see who it was, and while she was looking out the window her husband asked her who it was, and she said it was Pink Dry. Just as she made this statement, a second shot was fired, the whole discharge from the shotgun striking her full in the breast. Several of the shots penetrated her heart, killing her instantly. The baby was also struck by several of the shots, but it was only slightly injured.

After his wife was shot, Flowe said he ran out of the back door of the house, and as he was running up the hill he recognized Pink Dry and Gaston Blake, both white. County physician Dr. J. W. Wallace held an autopsy over the body of the woman, and reported to the coroner's jury that she came to her death from gunshot penetrating the heart. The coroner's jury, composed of the following: R. H. Bost, D. B. Downum, W. D. Tucker, J. W. Deas and J. D. Smith, reached the following verdict:

That Myrtle Flowe came to her death by a gunshot wound through the heart. We, the jury, according to the evidence by Arthur Flowe, have reasons to believe that Pink Dry and Gaston Blake are suspects in the crime.

Dry and Flowe ordered some liquor together about Christmas, and they had some trouble over the division of the liquor, and it is alleged that Dry has threatened to kill Flowe for some time. Blake is a well known character, with a shady reputation, and from the fact that he was with Dry the night of the murder he is held as an accessory to the crime. He is almost half-witted. Dry and Blake are now in jail.

Freight Train Wreck at Glass.

Southbound freight train No. 78 was wrecked at Glass last night about 11 o'clock. The train was being run in on the side track to allow one of the passenger trains to pass, and just as the engine came on the side track one of the rails spread causing the engine to jump the track. The engine ran a short distance after jumping the track, and fell over on its side. A wrecking crew was soon at the scene of the wreck and after a delay of several hours the track was repaired and the trains allowed to pass.

Married Last October.

Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Cline, of No. 5 township, announce the marriage of their daughter, Miss Vivian, to Mr. Lloyd M. Flowe, of Derita, which occurred in Charlotte October 28, 1909. Miss Myrtle Suther, of Concord, and Mr. R. P. Gibbon, of Charlotte, were witnesses to the marriage. The young people met in Charlotte on the above date and decided to get married. After the ceremony the bride came back to the home of her parents, and the matter was kept a profound secret until a few days ago. Mrs. Flowe left last Saturday for Derita to join her husband.

Mr. James F. Hamilton died Saturday morning of tuberculosis at his home on Cedar street. He had been a resident of Concord for a number of years, being employed in one of the mills here. He was 65 years of age and a native of Montgomery county. The funeral services were held at the home yesterday and the interment made in Oakwood cemetery.

The Lenoir News says that the mill operatives in that town have organized an anti-"cussing" league, and propose to impose a penalty upon the "cusser" of five cents per "cuss."