

THE HICKORY DEMOCRAT.

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W. E. MOLBROOK, EDITOR AND PROP

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Thursday, Feb. 25, 1909.

Disregard For Law. The Cause

There is a lamentable disregard for law now prevalent throughout the country. Crime is raging on every hand. The papers are loaded down with news of crime the most horrible. Murder, robbery and the nameless crime are the order of the day. No state seems to be left untouched by outlawry.

And this applies not alone to bold and open crime. Those high in official life are being detected and their crooked methods are being exposed.

In short, there is a dangerous disregard for all law. No man can feel that his life or his property is absolutely safe.

And there is a cause.

When Harry K. Thaw was tried for the murder of Stanford White and set up the plea of insanity, a dangerous precedent was established in our courts. Since that time "American dementia" has been the plea of every man who has been placed on trial for the murder of his fellowman.

When the Hains were on trial for the murder of Annis, practically the same plea was made.

In Charlotte a few days ago, the life of J. G. Hood had scarcely ebbed away when his murderer, W. S. Biggers, began raving like a maniac. And when Biggers is brought before the courts to answer to this charge, the insanity plea will be forth coming.

And, unfortunately, this plea is usually accepted by the courts and the criminal goes free.

In fact, it is practically impossible to punish for murder.

The lesser crimes are punished with great dispatch, and the would-be offender will stop to think before committing a minor offence. But the man whose mind is filled with malice and hatred does not hesitate to take the life of the object of his hate.

Thus one cause for the prevalent disregard for law is the ease with which criminals secure their release.

The death penalty, we believe, has much to do with the tardiness of the courts in administering justice. The jury that tries a man for a capital crime takes that man's life in its hands. This very often causes a mistrial or a mis carriage of justice.

We believe the death penalty should be abolished except, perhaps in extreme cases. A jury would not be so reluctant to find men guilty of serious crimes were the punishment other than death.

White Men Commit Nameless Crime

News dispatches received here are to the effect that a young man named Loudermilk of Mineral Bluff, Ga., deceived the step daughter of Robt. Roberson, of Culberson, N. C., by a fake marriage license and after leading her away from home compelled her to submit to his outrage. He then called in other men and compelled her to submit to further outrages at their hands. She was kept away from home over a day, and when she returned she was almost prostrated.

Loudermilk who is the son of D. Loudermilk, a prominent mar of Mineral Bluff, Ga., was placed in jail and rumor has it that the other three men were lynched.

All parties are white men and much excitement prevails.

The Return of the Fleet.

After an absence of fourteen months the American Battleship Fleet is now resting in home waters. This, in many respects, has been the most remarkable cruise in the history of the world. This is the first time that a great war fleet has ever circumnavigated the globe. They steamed through all the oceans and touched on the shores of all the continents. And, most remarkable of all, they returned from the long cruise in better shape than when they set sail. Not a single accident of any importance happened to any of the ships. The men are much better drilled in their art than when they went away.

And best of all the officers and men have proved themselves worthy ambassadors at every port where they have landed. They have acted in a way to make every American feel proud of his country, and especially of its country's Navy.

A Masonic Hall.

It has been suggested that the Mason's build a 3 story temple on the lot now occupied by the Reformed church and that the city of Hickory use the lower floor for a reading room etc. We wish to go on record as favoring such a move. Untold benefits would accrue to the public from such a move.

A Masonic Temple for Hickory is very much needed and would add much to the popularity of the town. The benefits accruing from the reading room are obvious to all.

Evenings spent at such a place reading good literature would result in untold good to our young men. And most of our young men would avail themselves of such an opportunity. Besides the ladies would find here an ideal place at which to hold their club meetings. And all this could be accomplished at small cost.

Inauguration March 4th.

Surrounded by a magnificent assemblage of civil and military bodies W. H. Taft will be inaugurated president of the United States, March 4th.

Diplomats, Governors, Senators, Representatives, G. A. R. Veterans, Infantry, Cavalry, Marines, Artillery, Cadets, Midshipmen, Signal Corps, Bands thousands of patriotic Americans will join in the celebration of our country's greatest event.

Hickory to Washington, March 2nd round trip \$12.70, transportation both ways.

\$22.70 a five day trip including transportation both ways, Pullman both ways and to sleep in while in Washington.

\$30.00 A five day trip including both ways, Pullman both ways and to sleep in while in Washington, all meals en route and while in Washington.

For further information tickets reservations etc., call on or address Z. B. Buchanan, Hickory, N. C.

It will be President Taft after next Thursday.

"Bald-headed Dunc." is now fully convinced that a pistol ball cannot keep his name out of print.

"If our statesmen will care for the pin holes in the Constitution," remarks the Washington Herald, "mayhap the gaps will take care of themselves." All right, but who will take care of our statesmen?

Boy's Corn Club Contest.

Three cash prizes are offered by the State Board of Agriculture to the three boys making the most corn on one acre this year. First prize, \$50.00; second prize, \$30.00; third prize, \$20.00. There will probably be something added to this by local parties for Catawba boys. Full particulars next week. For more information see W. J. Shuford.

Do you take the Democrat?

Edith Items.

Correspondent to The Democrat.

We have so far, except one little snapp when the temperature registered 14 above zero had a very warm winter and its remarkable how healthy the people have been. No serious sickness except colds. Mr. J. H. Wilson has been confined to his room with a cold but is better. He is near 60 years old and of a delicate frame physically. We hope for his early recovery.

This section is very temperate. We have no extreme temperature like other sections and have no peach blossoms in the winter. Except the plum trees, buds are not swelled any yet.

The ground hog hits it here, but no stakes on his sign as the people have past the age of superstition and are watching what our law makers are doing. They are more interested in them.

Farmers are making preparations for this year's crop. They will sow their spring oats, then prepare and plant their corn crop and while that is getting ready, put out the fertilizer and plant their cotton.

We have four sawmills in this section. No one has excuse for not getting up soon, steam whistles give the alarm to get up.

At this time the Catawba Gold Company are running with a short force of hands, quite a number are cut out of a job. But they still hold for \$1.25 for a days work and idle hands are no benefit to the farmer at that price.

The farmers are not selling any thing at this county's market quotations. They can get 85 cents for corn at the crib; \$1.00 for Irish potatoes; \$1.25 for wheat; 75 for oats and \$1.50 for peas at home.

The Sunday Schools at different churches have had good attendance all winter. The percent at some are about as good as the summer months.

Wheat and oats are looking well for this time of year and rye is blooming.

It is too early to say anything about how much cotton the farmers will plant this year. If they do as they talk the acreage will be reduced, but we are waiting to see. S. W.

Fifteen Hundred Dollars for Catawba County.

The State Superintendent says he has secured from the State Board of education a loan of eighteen hundred dollars for the erection of school houses as follows: Hickory Township, Longview school \$300; Hickory Township No. 9 Dist. \$450; Hickory Township No. 16 Dist. \$400, and Newton No. 5 Dist. \$150. This means \$3600 spent in these districts as the State lends not more than one half of the cost of any building.

There will be spent in the State this year more than one hundred thousand dollars for school buildings.

Scott's Emulsion

of Cod Liver Oil is the means of life and enjoyment of life to thousands: men, women and children.

When appetite fails, it restores it. When food is a burden, it lifts the burden.

When you lose flesh, it brings the plumpness of health.

When work is hard and duty is heavy, it makes life bright.

It is the thin edge of the wedge; the thick end is food. But what is the use of food when you hate it and can't digest it?

Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil is the food that makes you forget your stomach.

Send this advertisement, together with name of paper in which it appears, your address and four cents to cover postage, and we will send you a "Complete Handy Atlas of the World."
SCOTT & BOWNE, 409 Pearl St., New York

AMUSEMENT

Manager Abernethy guarantees a good play at the Opera House Friday night.

The Blackwelder-Martin Opera Company will play at Brookford this week.

Mr. C. H. Lutz went to Charlotte Saturday to see the Clansman.

Don't forget the play at the opera house Friday night, M'or. Abernethy guarantees this play and will refund money if not pleased.

The Gem hall is under repairs, a stage will be erected in this hall sufficient for opera plays. Vaudivilles, etc. Mr. C. T. Morrison the manager tells us he is going to put everything in first class order and entertain the people royally every evening.

Arrangements have just been effected for a debate between representatives of Lenoir College, at Hickory, and of the Collegiate Institute, at Mt. Pleasant, to take place at the latter place March 5.

DeWitt's Kidney and Bladder Pills FOR BACKACHE

A. T. FRY.

BROOKFORD, N. C.

Hack Line between Brookford and Hickory,

Carriage Meet all Incoming Trains

Special attention to passengers and baggage. Carriage to any place, in or out of town.



NO MATTER

Where you are, we can move you. You can rest easy when you give us your orders, as we do your draying prompt & satisfactory.

Hickory Dray & Transfer Co

Phone 142

One Taste

of our tasty groceries calls for more. We have all kinds of delicacies that will appeal to the jaded appetite. In Staple, Fancy, or Imported Groceries

WE TAKE THE LEAD.

Every lady in Hickory finds our goods more attractive and cheaper in price than any others. Visit our store and let us convince you.

Hammond & Johnson

HICKORY, N. C.

SHOES! SHOES!!

We are daily receiving our new Spring line of Ladies' and Men's Shoes and Oxfords, Sandals, etc., which represent the finest workmanship as well as the newest models for the coming season.

IT WILL PAY YOU TO GIVE THEM A LOOK,

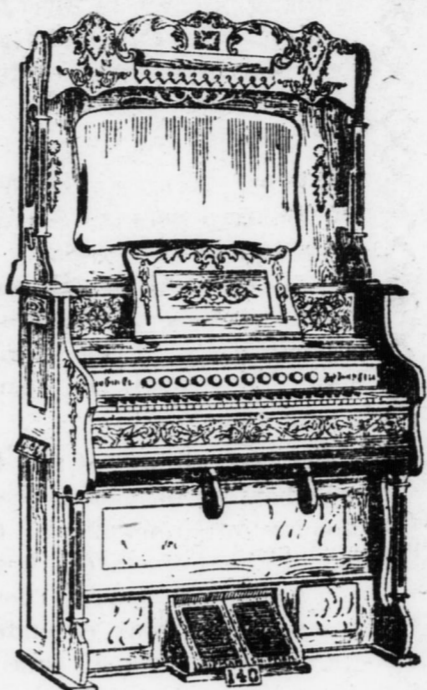
whether you buy or not, as they will enable you to intelligently select the correct things for the Spring season.

HOSIERY.

Our line of Ladies', Men's and Children's Hosiery is second to none, comprising the very best to be had. Our Children's 10c and 15c Hose are in every way satisfactory, they give good service and hold their color as well as higher priced hosiery.

Very truly,

McCoy Moretz



FREE! Absolutely Free!

Not One Cent Of Cost To You!

THIS BEAUTIFUL SHIPMAN ORGAN

Will be given away absolutely free, SATURDAY, JULY 3, 1909 AT 2 O'CLOCK P. M. at our store in Hickory.

This is a strictly high grade instrument embodying all the latest improvements in tone and workmanship. It is built of mahogany, beautifully designed, has a mirror 18 x 30 inches, and its tone is perfect. This organ was awarded first prize at the Yadkin Valley Fair at S. Lisbury and the Bronze Medal at the Jamestown Exposition. For beauty, workmanship, and quality of tone, this organ is unexcelled.

And this instrument is yours without one cent of cost. Read our wonderful offer. To the person sending us the largest number of names of people who have neither an organ or piano in their home, we offer this organ as a premium. The terms of the contest are that all names must be in our office by six o'clock of Saturday, June 19. No one person's name will be credited to more than one contestant. Should any one who enters this contest send us the name of a person which has already been sent, we will return the name at once. The name of each person must be written on a separate card which will be furnished by us to all who may wish to enter the contest. If you wish to enter the contest, call or write us and we will furnish cards upon which to write the names. The persons whose names are sent us must reside in the following counties: Catawba, Burke, Caldwell, Alexander, McDowell, Buncombe, Madison, Swain, Haywood, Ashe, Watauga, Mitchell, Yancey, Jackson, Macon, Clay, Graham, Cherokee, Transylvania, Henderson. Any person living in any of the above named counties is entitled to enter the contest.

The object of this contest is to secure the names of every person in all of these counties who have no instrument in their home. Contest opens Saturday, February 27. Try your hand in this contest. You may be the winner of a \$100.00 instrument. This organ retails everywhere for one hundred dollars. Would you not like to be the proud possessor of this high grade instrument? If so, enter the contest at once.

Hickory Piano & Organ Co.

HICKORY, N. C.

1238 9th Avenue

Phone 120.

OPERA HOUSE

Friday, February 26th

FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY!

The Celebrated Herald Square (Gomic) Opera Co.

In the Thrilling Song-Play

"A TRIP TO INDIA"

20 FUN MAKERS 20

Including Juanita Rush and Chas. Picquet, formerly of Colonial Opera Co., Jack Leslie, of "Isle of Spice" fame; Signor Martine Pache, formerly of Emma Abbott Opera Co., Ed Gilmore, formerly of Ward and Vokes and "Bizzy Izzy" companies, and several other distinguished Light Opera Stars, supported by an

Incomparable Beauty Chorus

Prices, 50c, 75c and \$1.00. Children, 25c

Reserved Seat Sale Opens Wednesday morning, Feb. 24th, at Martin's Drug Store.



BIG Bargains

Winter Suits & Overcoats

For 20 Days at the Quality Shop.

Our trade the past season has been very good and consequently our stock is low, but we do not believe in carrying over stock and are making big reductions in heavy weight clothing to close out all surplus stock. We positively can save you money on your clothing.

MORETZ-WHITENER Clothing Company

The Democrat is the best advertising medium in Catawba county as it is read in very near every State in the Union, and in every home in the county. The subscription price is only \$1.00 per year.