

THE HICKORY DEMOCRAT

Established 1899

HICKORY, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1909.

Democrat and Press, Consolidated 1905

The Cheapest and Most Popular Place in Town

IS

THE UNDERSELLING STORE

Lives up to its name every day in the week, We have no special sale, We put up no bluff, We have no green sign in front, We don't have to raise money by any specified date, We do a strictly underselling business right along, We sell strictly first class goods for a little money, To convince yourself of this you need only look at the following

List Of Prices

Which are only a few from our large and well selected stock.

50c. Undershirts for 33c. 35 or 25c. Undershirts for 18c. Men's 50c. shirts for 35 c, Men's 35c shirts for 18c. 50 and 25c. suspenders for 18c. Large lot of boys wash suits sold elsewhere from \$1.50 to \$2.00, our underselling price 50 to 75c. Ladies panama skirts sold elsewhere \$3.00 to \$3.50 our selling price \$1.75. Ladies skirts sold elsewhere for \$2.00 our underselling price 98c.

All Clothing, Shoes, Hats, Etc. will be Sold for less than by those who make special Sales

Men's 10c hose for 4c. Ladies 10c handkerchiefs for 3c. Large line of Men's Straw Hats to be sold regardless of cost. Best Line Sweet & Orr Overalls on Earth. White vests worth 3.00 to \$3.50, our selling price \$1.45.

Look For Red Flag In Front SATURDAY.

The Underselling Store

L. E. ZERDEN, - Proprietor

FOR HOME INDUSTRIES.

Why an Outside Electric Company Should Not be Brought to Hickory

This following letter was read by Col. Thornton last Friday p. m. at a meeting of the mayor and board of aldermen, when he appeared before them by invitations in regard to allowing some of the citizens to form a company and take current from the Southern Power Co. outside the city limits toward Brookford and bring the current into the city and furnish it lights, as against the Thornton Light and Power Co.

To the Mayor and Board of Aldermen: City of Hickory.

Gentlemen: We learn from outside sources that there is an outside application before your honorable body for permission from you for electric current for power and lighting, from the Southern Power Company, to be brought into and distributed in the City of Hickory. We respectfully represent to you that:

The Thornton Light and Power Company is a corporation duly organized under the laws of North Carolina and doing business in the city of Hickory under its corporate rights, and is engaged in operating an electric light plant, and is distributing electric current for lights and also for power, whenever desired under a franchise granted by the mayor and board of commissioners of the town of Hickory on Oct. 23rd 1888 to A. A. Shuford, D. W. Shuler, H. D. Abernethy and J. A. Martin for and during the period of 30 years from that date, and which right the Thornton Light & Power Co acquired title by purchase and transfer in a legal and lawful manner, and entered upon its rights in February 1903, and has so continued until now. It has complied with all the terms and requirements made and provided for in the grant or franchise as aforesaid, and has faithfully and fully furnished to the City of Hickory and to all its citizens who are desired, its electric current, and of the best efficiency.

The right was granted as an exclusive privilege for the period named. The Thornton Light & Power Co purchased it as such and after operating in peace under it acquired a vested right. It expended many thousands of dollars in developing the plant, and in nurturing the city's growth, even at a loss and personal sacrifice of the stockholders of the company.

The Thornton Light & Power Company has patiently and diligently labored, even at a loss, to foster the business in growth and development, along with the city, from a non-remunerative business up to the point where it will probably become a paying business. Thus then it would seem to present such a case as that of a father or a mother deserting a son or a daughter before the boy or girl got old enough or big enough to be able to take care of themselves. Aside from the legal rights of our company in this case there is a high toned, honorable moral obligation on the City of Hickory to protect the Thornton Light & Power Co in all its rights and privileges as originally granted, instead of allowing or authorizing any one to destroy the business which took care of the City of Hickory and nurtured it in its infancy, and at a loss. It is unreasonable, and looks so on its face, that the City of Hickory could afford to do so or would do so.

The agitation for it has the earmarks of enviousness. But that ought not to prevail. There is no logic or reason of any kind for it. There is no room on the streets and avenues for either another set of poles or another string of wires.

The Thornton Light & Power Co is furnishing electric current in Hickory to meet every de-

Trouble Makers Ousted.

When a sufferer from stomach trouble takes Dr. King's New Life Pills he's mighty glad to see his dyspepsia and indigestion fly, but more he's tickled over his new, fine appetite, strong nerves healthy vigor, all because stomach liver and kidneys now work. 25c at C. M. Shuford, W. S. Martin, and Moser and Lutz.

The Old-time Sinner.

We liked the old-time meetings—on Jordan's banks to stand And cast a wishful-eyes faroff into the promised land; The old songs of salvation—salvation full and free— That great old tune: "Amazin' grace, that saved a wretch like me!"

I recollect them old, sweet hymns that used to float so high They seemed to shake the windows in the everlastin' sky! For when we heard the preacher say: Some brother raise the tune, "Amazin' grace" was comin' mighty soon!

Somehow, this new style singin' is rathier out my line. Although they sometimes lines it out an' axes folks ter jine, I lost my voice completely, and with a kind o' sigh

Seek Jordan's stormy banks of old, where my possessions lie!

There's more than folks imagin, I tell you in a song; It's still the same old gospel, but they try to twist it wrong; Leastways, the old folks think so; but what's the use to sigh? So long as its the Gospel, we'll get there by an' by!

mand made upon it. We have tried to obtain service for a day current so that we could operate in the day as well as during the night time. We made a contract with the City of Hickory to operate all night and at the same price we were receiving for only a one half of midnight run. Although that entailed on us a loss we did so thinking, though, it seems, childishly "thinking": "There's a better day coming."

The franchise allowed a charge of 8.00 per month per arc lamp for a midnight run. But we never ask that much for even a full night run. Some of our company are expending money, laboring and hoping to make a very elaborate and quite extensive hydro-electric development at a very early date on the Catawba river at Hickory and for the benefit of Hickory. Just because some others can't do it is no reason for judging that another can't do it. The preliminary arrangements for the development are nearly all completed. It is in the hands of the contractors. It will take only seven months to construct and put it in operation. Then the Thornton Light & Power Co will have hydro-electric current of its own for both light and power. And it will also be Hickory's hydro-electric plant, and it will be primary current for every day and night in the year for all the time, and not just simply a sickly flickering secondary current for power for only 9 or 10 months in the year. We have offered, and still offer and now offer, to operate our steam plant in the day time, as well as night if we can get the service; and at a price less than the price the Southern Power Company recently quoted us for a contract to pay them for their current. We have endeavored to get sufficient power service in Hickory to enable us to operate in the day time and will do so just as soon as and whenever we can get it. We want to do it. The truth of the matter is, we constructed our steam plant it was in 1903 expecting and believing that we would do the water pumping for the city, and aided the bond issue with that understanding. We intended to dig large wells on the west end of our power house lot and furnish abundant and pure water for the city from those wells, but the city acted differently.

We endeavored to get the Southern Power Company to extend its transmission lines to Hickory and furnish us a service but they declined, rather curtly. That was a year ago and also previously, over two years ago.

The Thornton Light & Power Company has not violated its contract with the city of Hickory and has fully complied with each and every provision of its franchise, and has put itself to extra pains labor and expenditure of money to furnish the best electric lights that can be had, and there has none, anywhere, been better.

Therefore we must, and most earnestly and confidently, trusting implicitly in your honor and spirit of fair dealing, and in equity and good conscience, regardless of the legal aspects of this most solemnly protest against the granting of the application.

Yours very respectfully,
M. E. THORNTON,
President,
Thornton Light & Power Co.

HICKORY AWAKE.

Some of The Improvements in Progress and Suggested.

Mr. W. L. Gilbert, secretary of the local chamber of commerce contributes the following to a recent issue of the Washington Herald:—Until recently few people knew of Hickory as one of the chief cities of Western North Carolina, next in size to Asheville, and second to none in the matter of climate.

The awakening came during the past year. Its natural advantages, dormant power, and great possibilities were practically unrecognized, except by a few more progressive citizens, whose first step was to organize a chamber of commerce. The result came by means of advertising by newspapers, and descriptive booklets issued by the Hickory Chamber of Commerce. This induced strangers, mostly health-seekers, to settle here, while others came but were turned away on account of inadequate accommodations, which made it plain that another step must be taken, hotel accommodations must be provided, and through the efforts of the chamber of commerce, a modern hostelry is now under construction and Hotel Huffry will be open for guests by July 4.

With the advent of cheap and ample electric power, which will soon be supplied by hydro-electric development on the Catawba River, four miles distance, the city will become a manufacturing center. In fact the way was already paved, numerous manufacturing plants such as cotton mills, furniture, wagon and pump factories being operated profitably even by steam power. The proposed plant will supply, when fully developed, 10,000 horsepower, and is to be in operation January 1, 1910. The city is arranging to expend \$35,000 in the improvement of its streets and sidewalks, also to appropriate \$15,000 for increased public school facilities.

Not only will we have good streets, but the work of building good roads will be taken up by Hickory township and extend in all directions. Farmers, recognizing the advantages of better roads, have taken a step forward in developing their farms: farming is being conducted along scientific lines, especially in matters of truck-farming and diversified crops.

A large number of families, fleeing from the bitter cold of Michigan, found in Hickory last winter a pleasant refuge. So well pleased were they that they expect to return next winter and bring other friends.

Summer visitors are arriving. Catawba Springs Hotel, eight miles distant, opened May 15 and many guests are expected. The Cliffs, a meal station on the C. & N. W. Railroad, four miles away on the Catawba River, will be made attractive as a pleasure and picnic ground. The Cliffs Investment Company propose to build a nice hotel with pavilions and places of amusement on the summit of the Cliffs, and to beautify the thirty acres of already picturesque grounds by electrifying the C. & N. W. tracks between Hickory and the Cliffs, to accommodate the crowds which it is expected will frequent the grounds.

Hickory was the smallest city to send a representative to the Southern Commercial Congress, and the people are proud of the fact.

They feel that they have already received benefits due directly to that organization. The spirit of that congress has stimulated Hickory to greater achievements and she proudly catches up the slogan: "A greater nation through a greater South."

The one story shack formerly occupied by the Southern express company has been torn down this week to make room for the new building which is to extend over its site.

Could Not be Better.

No one has ever made a salve, ointment, lotion or balm to compare with Bucklen's Arnica Salve. Its the perfect healer of cuts, corns, oorns, eczema, salt rheum. For sore eyes, cold sores, chapped hands its supreme. Infallible for piles. Only 25c at C. M. Shuford, Moser & Lutz, and W. S. Martin

UNDER THE GREEN-WOOD TREE



On the piazza, in your garden, in your rooms even a hammock is a hot weather comfort that all who will can enjoy, especially when you can get them so cheap and so nice, cosy and comfortable as

Hatcher Furniture Co.

Complete Home Furnishers

HICKORY, N. C.

...ADVERSITY...

SAFETY.

A Lesson for all—There is a strong lesson for those who save, for, to save money for the benefit that the habit instills: to save for the children, for business prosperity, for old age when rest is necessary, and for individual comfort and for the happiness of those dependent on you; one or all of these lessons is of vital importance to you. May we not help you in this matter?

Independence.

The Hickory Banking & Trust Co.

The Tea Will

Taste Better.



if you have one of our handsome silver tea sets on the table. And if you have company think how proud you would be when they admired the handsome service. You can buy a tea set here for as little as \$8.00. Of course you can go higher if you want to. But even for that little price you can have one as nice looking as many that cost double.

MACE & RHODES

Jewelers and Opticians

Hickory, N. Carolina

YOUR SUPPLY



checks up tolerably well. Considering the hegry eaters at your table, it's a wonder you keep as well stocked as you do.

...FOR... surplus Grocers when your larder is getting empty, come here and get them.

Our finely assorted stock is sufficient, and your account is solicited.

Hammond & Johnson

HICKORY, N. C.

How to Increase the Yield of Fruit

Increased fruit crops are more often the result of good management than of good luck. Fruit trees and fruit plants need a liberal supply of

Virginia-Carolina Fertilizers

The trees absorb plant foods—that is, nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash—from the soil just the same as any other crop. Experience has shown this over and over again. This truth has become so well recognized that "return to the land what the tree removes if you would expect the best results" has become an axiom with the best growers.

Apple, pear, peach, orange and other fruit trees soon respond to careful fertilization. But be sure to use the best fertilizers.

"I made a test with other companies' fertilizers," says Mr. H. O. Lowry, of Manatee County, Fla., "and yours proved to be the best. The yield where I used Virginia-Carolina Fertilizer, was just twice as much as where the other two companies' fertilizer was used." Hundreds of users say Virginia-Carolina Fertilizers are cheapest because of their good qualities—give better satisfaction and quicker results.

Many facts of great interest and value to fruit growers are published in the new 1909 Farmers' Year Book, a copy of which will be sent free on application to any of our sales offices.

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