

**THE HICKORY DEMOCRAT.**

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**TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.**  
One Year Cash In Advance \$1.00  
Six Months " " .50  
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**Advertising Rates.**  
Transient 20 cents an inch  
Preferred Position 15 " " "  
Yearly Contracts 10 " " "

Thursday, July 22, 1909.

The mills at Maiden are reported to have bought all the cotton in the Maiden Farmers Union warehouse at 13 cents a pound. This is certainly encouraging for the farmers, and shows the benefit of standing together. It is said that cotton can be raised at a profit at eight cents a pound. If this is so, and it has been stated authoritatively, the farmers certainly have no kick coming. It is high time that the men who put in the brains and hard work in producing cotton should get their share of the profits. There is no reason why all the money should go to speculators and manufacturers, while the man who does the work has to struggle to get enough to live on. Brighter days are coming for the farmer and he is at last getting something of what belongs to him.

It is reported that an attendant at the Lutheran church, not a member, has announced his intention of going there no more because the church has accepted \$1,000 from Andrew Carnegie for the purchase of a pipe organ. The reason assigned is that Carnegie's money is "tainted" and that he gave it for his own glory and not primarily for the benefit of the church. When one thinks of the millions of dollars which Carnegie has given away for various purposes, whether for his own glory or for other reasons, his thousand dollars to the Lutheran church looks about as big as a penny would in a handful of fifty dollar slugs. If this man is so sensitive about the acceptance of "tainted money" the proper thing would be to go out and raise the money to take its place, by subscription or otherwise, and return the thousand dollars to its donor. So far as heard from he has made no move in this direction. The best way to remove the stain from "tainted money" is to use it for a good purpose.

Judge Council, in his charge to the grand jury at the opening of court last week at Newton, hauled Catawba county over the coals for being so far behind other counties of the state in the matter of good road building. In this he will have the approval and support of every progressive citizen. With great natural advantages we ought to have as good roads as any county in the state. Instead we are ahead of none and are behind many in this important work. The judge said if a chain gang were established he could furnish a hundred good hands to work on the roads. This being so it should be done at once. Why should we send our petty criminals away to work in other counties when there is plenty of work, and work that needs to be done, for them right at home. It is to be hoped our county officials will wake up to the exigencies of the situation and do what they should for the benefit of the people. If they do not soon rise to the situation and do something in the interests of the public they will be likely to hear something drop, and drop hard, at the next election.

A report of the Sunday School Normal at Lenoir College last week is omitted from lack of space. It will appear in our next issue.

**RURAL TELEPHONE.**

**Spread of the Movements in this County.**

Everyone is familiar with the rural telephone. Almost all know that it is a comparatively recent development of life in the country and that the movement for communication among farms and for better connections between rural and city districts has increased wonderfully within the past few years. Yet to those who are ignorant of the real statistics the figures of the latest telephone census are nothing short of startling.

For instance, take the statement of the census that in the period from 1902 to 1907 the number of rural telephone stations in the entire country increased 449 per cent. People are used to calculating percentage, whether for interest or business profit purposes, at four, five or six per cent—scidom any more. A man who says he can get 449 per cent out of an investment will be regarded with suspicion. There was a man in New York City just a few years ago who advertised a speculative scheme which he guaranteed would bring in an income of 520 per cent. They called him "520-per cent-Miller," and he was sent away for swindling. But it is an actual fact that whereas in 1902 there were but 266,966 rural 'phone stations in the United States, five years later there were 1,464,773.

The census figures show that the South had a great share in this development. The increase in the South Atlantic States was 469 per cent, and in the South Central States it was 367 per cent. The actual figures, however, mean more than percentage, and show how the movement spread through each one of the states.

Below is a table showing the total number of rural telephone stations in each southern state in 1902 and on December 31st, 1907, the latest date for which figures are available.

State	1902	1907
Maryland	94	5,073
Virginia	5,599	15,155
W. Virginia	1,839	24,234
N. Carolina	1,833	8,990
S. Carolina	1,020	3,099
Georgia	648	5,816
Florida	253	1,785
Total, South Atlantic States	11,268	64,199
Kentucky	2,197	13,051
Tennessee	1,962	10,063
Alabama	291	5,419
Mississippi	641	6,973
Louisiana	132	1,260
Arkansas	159	12,403
Oklahoma	270	24,874
Texas	2,177	41,862
Total, South Central States	7,829	115,905

These figures tell very graphically the story of the activity of the southern farmers. Wherever the telephone has gone it has brought with it better living, an increase in the productiveness of the farms and money-making opportunities for the agriculturalist that were not dreamed of before. In 1902 the 'phone was not a new thing—it was used in all lines of business in the cities and on the more prosperous farms and ranches all over the country. But when one considers that in this five-year period the number of rural 'phones jumped from 94 to 5,073 in Maryland; from 270 to 24,874 in Oklahoma, and from 159 to 12,403 in Arkansas, the manner in which telephones were popularized and raised from the station of a rich man's luxury to that of an every-day necessity of all the people can be readily understood.

The census, though its results have only recently been published, does not bring the actual conditions quite up-to-date. No figures are available for the year and a half since December 31, 1907, but the increase in the number of rural 'phone stations has been even more marked than in the five-year period to which the statistics refer. The statement is made by the Western Electric Company, the largest manufacturers of telephones and 'phone equipments in this country, furnishing all the instruments and apparatus used by

the Bell system, that in the past six months 80,000 of their new rural telephones were sold.

The reason for this growth is not hard to find. Life on the farms used to be irksome—distances were so great. The telephone is the annihilator of distance. As one farmer expressed it, "I am next door to everybody I want to talk to. That telephone puts my isolated farm in the heart of things." Many times a farmer has been saved a long trip to town; has been able to get the doctor or the veterinary surgeon in a hurry, when without telephone connections he would have been helpless.

**Brookford.**

News is scarce this week, so our letter from Brookford will be short.

There were two ice cream suppers in the village Saturday night. All enjoyed them and everything went on nicely.

Mr. J. W. Ballew was a visitor in our town last Sunday.

Little Miss Vada Putman returned to her home in Denton last Thursday, after a two weeks visit to her father, Mr. O. C. Putman, night second hand in the Brookford cotton mill.

Brookford's second team cross-bats with Henry river recently. Score 17 to 5 in favor of Brookford.

The Brookford people are listening for the wedding bells to ring soon again, as there are a few secrets whispered around.

Mrs. Messick, who was reported sick of typhoid fever last week is not much improved.

We have prospects of a new Baptist church in our town as soon as the arrangements have been made and the work will commence at an early date.

Mrs. Fanny Hartsell is on the sick list this week, but we hope it is nothing serious.

**Gunpowder.**

The farmers are about done laying by corn and threshing wheat. Crops are looking very well. A lot of good hay has been made and put away. The fruit crop is nearly a failure in this settlement.

Mrs. S. E. Link, of Charlotte, came up Saturday to spend some time among her relatives and her relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Lawrence and family, of Hickory, spent Saturday and Sunday in the country with relatives.

Rev. and Mrs. M. Smathers and two children, of Swannanoa, spent part of last week visiting friends and relatives in this community. Mr. Smathers has just recovered from a very serious attack of nervous prostration. He is still in delicate health.

After months of patient suffering from that dreadful disease, tuberculosis, Mrs. Bertha Sherrill, wife of Newman Sherrill, passed peacefully to her reward in Heaven last Tuesday morning. Her mortal remains were taken to her old home on the South Fork and laid to rest in the church yard at Bethel Wednesday, there to await the resurrection. Mrs. Sherrill was a very pious woman, of a kind disposition, and was loved by all whose good fortune it was to know her. She leaves two little children, a husband and many relatives and friends, who are pained on account of her premature taking away. Death is sad, even in old age, but doubly so when one so young and starting in life with so many bright prospects ahead is called into eternity. We commend the bereaved husband and relatives to Him who doeth all things well, for comfort in this hour of sadness and grief.

"When my feet draw near the river,  
Whose dark billows madly roll,  
His rich mercy shall deliver  
And sustain my trusting soul."

The Five Sedgwick's with Baby Elileen as the star attraction, will occupy the opera house all next week with a vaudeville entertainment.



Baby Elileen, Featured With The Five Sedgwick's Vaudeville Co.

**THE FIVE SEDGWICKS AT OPERA HOUSE ALL NEXT WEEK.**

The Five Sedgwick's Vaudeville Company which makes its annual tour through the south every season will hold the boards at the Opera House all next week, beginning Monday, July 26th.

This Company featuring Baby Elileen is considered one of the best vaudeville troupes on the stage, with a repertoire of 25 vaudeville acts.

Reserved seats will be on sale Thursday at W. S. Martin & Co. Prices 15, 25 and 35c.

We offer a club rate of 3 tickets for 75c and 6 tickets for \$1.25. This offer is good until Monday evening at 7 o'clock.

**LENOIR COLLEGE**

Hickory, N. C.

Drop a Card for a Catalogue at Once.

A. B. Courses. Music (piano, violin, voice, theory), Expression, Art, and Preparatory Departments. Our Graduates admitted to post-graduate courses in N. C. University. New Dormitory for Men. Eighty-foot wing being added to Girls' Building. Steam heat, electric lights, baths, &c. Board and lodging at cost! Tuition in College, \$40.00 a year. Hickory Business College in connection with L. C. Bookkeeping course, \$20; Shortland course, \$20. Our students get and hold positions!

R. L. FRITZ, Pres.

**A GENUINE COST SALE**

We are now closing out our entire stock of merchandise, consisting of

**Clothing, Shoes, Hats and Dry Goods At Cost**

This includes 500 Men's and Boys' Suits, 5000 Pairs of Shoes, all sizes, and a Full Line of Dress Goods.

This is no fake sale. We mean business. Buying entirely for cash we can offer values never before seen in this town.

All parties owing us will please call and make PROMPT SETTLEMENT.

**Setzer & Russell**

UNION SQUARE,

HICKORY, N. C.

**For Lame Back**

Weak Kidneys, Backache, Rheumatism or Lumbago it is absolutely essential, in order to obtain satisfactory results, that you take a reliable preparation that acts directly on the Kidneys. Many persons trust to luck for a cure. No remedy will be found more satisfactory than



**Pineules**

Delays are dangerous. There is no more common complaint than Kidney complaint. Nature always gives due warning and failure to heed same may result in Diabetes, Lumbago, Bright's Disease, or some other serious affection of the Kidneys. Pineules are readily and naturally absorbed and assimilated by the stomach, driving out the poison due to disordered conditions of the Kidneys or Bladder. They purify the blood and invigorate the entire system. The first dose will convince you that Pineules will do all we claim for them. Get a bottle TO-DAY.

Pineules are put up in two sizes: \$1.00 and 50 cents. The dollar size contains 3 times as much as the 50 cent size.

INZULE MEDICINE COMPANY, Chicago, U. S. A.  
W. S. Martin & Company.

**\$5.00**

Buy a good suit this week at

"The Quality Shop."

We have about 50 suits in medium and small size left over from last season that we are closing out at \$5.00.

If you need a good every day suit it will pay you to look them over.

**Moretz=Whitener**

Clothing Company

THE QUALITY SHOP.