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HICKORY, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 1909.

Democrat and Press, Consolidated 1905

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The Democrat The Saturday Chronicle

How Northern Wealth is Robbing the South Without Being Checked.

(Jno. L. Mathews in Hampton Magazine) (Continued from last week.)

The water-power grabbers have not yet garnered that harvest, but they have caught one very near it, the Rockingham Power Plant, and all North Carolina can see now that they went after that very skillfully.

Rockingham is a busy little mill town in southern North Carolina on the Peedee river. Just above it is Blewett Falls, a long rapid over which the river discharges with a force capable, when gathered behind a forty-five foot dam, of generating at low water probably 35,000 horse power and of far exceeding that when the forest reserve is established. This power lies in the very center of a rich cotton manufacturing region and within reach of a dozen of the busy and prosperous cities of North Carolina and its neighboring State. years ago the firm of Hugh Mac-Wilmington, N. C., observed the successfully sued for any large cial marketing. value of this fall. and as they damages. Then they employed There are five parties now out power they decided to develop

When they had bought up the iparian lands for the dam and a big pond, and had secured a franchise from the State. they came to New York for their financial backing. They went the same old route which I have described. By a sort of easy compulsion they were led to the slaughter. Everything was made pleasant and easy for them.

Sidney Z. Mitchell, whose activities we have listed, took them in charge for the Electric Bond and Share Company. C. N. Mason helped a little. W. L. Warthe Colonial Securities Company, the Federal Construction Company, and Lockwood, Green and Company-all in one personjoined in the game which was gotten up to handle North Carolina promoters.

Lockwood, Greene and Company estimated the cost of the whole affair at \$1,980,000. This was not a wild guess. They sent men there and made a careful survey, for which they were paid, and then they calculated it on their long experience with similar plants. The figures looked reasonable, so, with his good friends Mitchell and Warner to help him, MacRae, for the Rockingham Power Company. executed a mortgage on the whole affair to the Knickerbocker Trust Company, and issued \$2,200,000 in bonds. They gave fifty per cent preferred stock with every bond and sold the two at 90 [that is, \$1,000 in a bond and \$500 in

stock for \$900.] 000 worth, in fact considerably holders be preserved—the memmore than half the issue, and sold part of them to his North their associates on the board of Carolina friends and customers. directors, and the executive com-He had already secured contracts mittee of the Rockingham Powfor power which promised inter- er Company, took prompt action. Ford road, near Rock Spring est on the bonds, and ten per A representative of the Smith school house. cent on the preferred stock from concern went to New York and the very start. Of the rest of that firm "arranged" to apply been on the sick list is improving the bonds \$300,000 worth went for a receiver for the power comto the Electric Bond and Share pany. Before the same notary he may regain his usual health Company, who sold them to their an application for a receiver by trade or held them, and \$700,000 the Smith concern, and a request worth to the Colonial Securities that it be granted by the Rock-Company. The stock control ingham Power Company were went to Hugh MacRae and Company, who held the voting stock. The voting stock, but not the without the knowledge of the votes, for Mitchell and Warner board of directors who were in soon had MacRae persuaded that, session (or at least of the Macas they were all friends together Rae members) this petition was going in on a good thing, he filed before Judge Pritchard in should let them in with him in the Federal Court at Raleigh. a voting trust until the plant was paying dividends.

STEALING WATERPOWER HOME FROM THE SCHOOL

The following shows what the surroundings of Hickory can do in the way of inspiring poetical genius:

When the twenty sixth of May came I rejoiced with the grea I was ready to leave old I. And toward home I would fle.

But when the thine came for departs My soul was filled with pain, I must leave some dear friends there, Never to see them again.

I boarded the train in good spirit, And as I stood on the rear, I saw my friends waving at me And I could not help shedding a tea

I arrived at home that evening, And greeted my mother's kiss; I thought there was no place on earth

Surrounded with more heavenly blis But lo! the time has come for working; I must soon work like a mule, Doing my hard tasks and duties

For money to go to school. I am now thinking of the pleasures I may have at Lenoir College again,

And the drudgeries of work like sin -A STUDENT

per cent profit amounted to. found out that they were adrift. miliar, began to unravel itself to lows: them, they tried to stand against

their own undoing. ed from the records. No notice Produce, by W. J. Shuford. was taken of their resolutions. They were at last completely ig-

and Mitchell had two. of the new plant. This is the Hartman, greatest turbine-making firm in

pany, in a desperate strait, ap- be present. pealed to the Supreme Court of North Carolina to break up the voting trust and restore to the stockholders the right to direct the development-representing to the court that only in that way MacRae took more than \$1,000,- could the interests of the bond bers of the voting trust, with

made out and sworn to; and the next day, November 21, 1908,

(Continued on fourth page)

FARMERS GATHER.

An Interesting and Largely Attended Meeting Held Here 300 farmers and 100

s' wives attended the rs Institute at the graded ilding on Monday, and ssed themselves as highd with what they saw

morning session T, B discussed the culture and use of legumes, J. A. Conover talked on the breeding, care and feeding of live stock, while at the women's meeting Mrs. F. L. Stevens gave a talk to mothers and Miss Josephine Evans gave a demonstration of cooking.

In the afternoon Mr. Parker gave some valuable information on corn culture, W. W. Finley discussed farm problems, Dr. For the pleasures of studying is like Stevens talked on plant diseases and the methods of controlling them and Mr. Meacham enlarged upon the troubles of the farmer.

At the evening meeting Dr. First they organized the Rock- Stevens gave an educational talk ingham Contracting Company to along agricultural lines and S. B. build the plant. That had only Shaw told of the preparation of Rae and Company, bankers, of \$500 capital, so it could not be fruit and vegetables for commer-

were already interested in water the Federal Construction Compa- on this institute work, one on ny and Lockword, Greene and the Southern road, one on the Company to do the work for the Seaboard and three on routes contracting company. They which are not reached by the were to pay them ten per cent railways. They carry two cars, of all the money spent. As War- one equipped with domestic and others concerned science appliances and one with in the project were directly con- farm implements, from each of cerned with the prosperity of which demonstrations are given the Federal Trust Company, it as opportunity serves.

> would look as if Mr. MacRae Dr. and Mrs. Stevens are reought to have taken notice right cently returned from an extenthere, for the more these compa- sive trip through Europe, during nies "spent" the more their ten which they made an exhaustive study of economie farm condi-But it was some months be- tions and the agricultural defore the Wilmington bankers velopment of countries abroad.

The program for the farmer's Then, as the plant was delayed, institute to be held at R. L. and the old story of Buckhorn Shuford's Oakwood farm on ner, of Boston, representing Shoals, with which they were fa- Monday, Aug. 9. will be as fol-

> At the morning session, which will open at 10 o'clock sharp, the It was too late. According to subject for discussion and the court records, they visited New speakers will be, Soil Improve-York, and attended meetings of ment, by Prof, C. L. Newman; the directors, only to have their Home Grown Feeds, by R. L. remarks voted down and expung- Shuford; How to Market Farm

> At the afternoon session, which will open at 1:30. Advannored. They had but one vote tages of a Live Stock Associations in the voting trust, while Warner by John W. Robinson; Care and Feeding of Farm Work Stock, by As usual, the S. Morgan Smith Dr. G. A. Roberts; Diseases of Company was building the wheels | Farm Live Stocks by Dr. J. W.

> This will be followed by open-America and is generally allied ing of the question box and apwith the monopolizing assem- pointment of committees. It is hoped that as many farmers, When at last MacRae and Com- with their wives, as possible will

Conover, Route 3.

The people of this vicinity are enjoying good health at present. There was a singing at the nome of J. M. Stine last Sunday. A very large number were present and all seemed to enjoy them selves to the utmost.

John Stine is beginning to erect a nice cottage on the Oxford

David Isenhower, who has some at present. We hope that very soon.

Crops had been looking bad for awhile, but the rain of Monday night has been very refreshing and they may catch up and make good truck after all.

St. Peters Sunday school will hold its annual pienic on Saturday before the second Sunday in August. Holy communion will be celebrated on the Sunday afterward.

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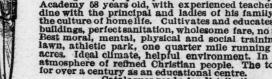
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