

THE HICKORY DEMOCRAT

Established 1899

HICKORY, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1909.

Democrat and Press, Consolidated 1905

Old Reynard Swam The River Twice.

He Owed His Life to An Old
Woman's Fear.

SHE ROCKED THE DOGS.

The Hickory Fox Hunting
Contingent Had One of the
Most Exciting Chases in
Their History last week.

The crack pack of fox hounds owned by the Hickory Fox Club had the race of their lives Tuesday morning, the 21st. In the wee small hours of the dawn, as the first faint rays of the sun were greeting the new day, the pack jumped the wisest of all the reynard family in one of the laurel covered hills near Moore's Ferry. It was an ideal morning for a race, the ground being damp enough to hold the scent, and the music that floated back over the hills, brought gladness to the souls of Julie Abernethy, Frank Allen, Pink Campbell and a number of the good farmers of that vicinity, who awoke in time to hear it.

From the squealing yelp of the youngest puppy in the pack to the deep mouthed bay of old Drum Abec, the voices of the dogs united in the wild free song of the chase and many a fat Plymouth Rock cockerel waking from his night's sleep as the pack swept by, raised his voice in an indignant crow at such an unusual disturbance.

For an hour and a half the old fox circled the hills, making many turns and back tracks in a vain effort to throw off the pursuing dogs. But on they came, drawing a little nearer with every turn and cheered on by lusty yells from the eager listeners. At last the fox was pushed so closely that he attempted to cross the Catawba river. The river was up about 5 feet that morning and the current was running so swiftly that he was washed out one-quarter mile below where he went in on the same side of the river. But he made another circle and succeeded in crossing farther down the river.

Owing to the high water the ferryman would not take the men and dogs across, but one young fellow came over and took 5 of the dogs to the other side. These dogs struck the track where the fox had come out of the water and while the boy came across for another load they disappeared in the direction of Bowman's store. The second load of dogs also joined the others as soon as they reached the bank. The boy who had taken the dogs across would not risk another trip and so the Hickory people did not get to hear the last of the race.

But according to reports of several of the Alexander county boys who followed the dogs the race lasted until 3 o'clock that evening. Old Reynard circled the lower end of Alexander county several times and at last, late in the evening, the dogs trailed him to the foot of Barrett's mountain. A woman who lived there thought the dogs were after her sheep and succeeded in driving them off by throwing rocks at them.

But for this unlucky incident the hunters are confident that their dogs would have caught the fox. However, they are enthusiastic over the race and are planning another one after this same sly fellow in the near future.

WHISKEY EDICT OUT.

Taft Says All Potable Liquor
Must Be the Goods.

In a 4,000 word opinion, just made public, President Taft has decided the much-mooted question, "What is whiskey?" so says the Washington Herald.

Differing with Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, Lloyd W. Bowers, Solicitor General of the United States, and former Attorney General Bonaparte, the President, in effect, finds that the other interpretations of the pure food act of June 30, 1906, as applied to whiskey, have been too narrow. Mr. Taft states:

"After an examination of all the evidence, it seems to me overwhelmingly established that

for 100 years the term 'whisky' in the trade and among customers has included all potable liquor distilled from grain: that the straight whiskey is, as compared with the whiskey made by rectification or redistillation and flavoring and coloring matter, a subsequent improvement, and that therefore it is a perversion of the pure food act to attempt now to limit the meaning of the term whiskey to that which the modern manufacture and tasse have made the most desirable variety."

Both Dr. Wiley and Mr. Bonaparte found that the term whiskey could be applied only to straight whiskey or such liquor as was made by one distillation and by aging in charred barrels. Solicitor General Bowers, says the President, fell into the error of making too nice a distinction in reference to the amount of congenic substance or trace of fuel oil with regard to constituting whiskey for practical purposes.

The Baptist Bazaar.

The Ladies Aid Society of the First Baptist Church has just concluded the work in their annual bazaar. They report net proceeds of \$230.00, and for this splendid result they feel indebted to their untiring President, Mrs. J. Worth Elliott, to a host of faithful workers, and especially to a long list of firms and individuals. Special acknowledgments and thanks are due the following: Wm. Ringley, Jr., & Co., Chicago. Chewing gum; Fred B. Lindsay Co., N. Y. Case Possum Brand Coffee, one box of Buckingham cigars—all given through Patrick & Mosteller of Hickory. From Church & Dwight Co., N. Y., 1 box soda through Mr. J. L. Riddle. Newton Hosiery Mills of Newton, N. C. fine lot of hosiery. H. J. Heintz Co., Baltimore, 1 can high grade condiments. Parker-Gardner Co., Charlotte, 1 handsome Morris Chair. Talcum Puff Co., Asheville, N. C., lot talcum powder and puffs. Jas. S. Kirk & Co., Chicago, lot Jap Rose soap. Hickory Hosiery Mills, Hickory, N. C., excellent lot hosiery. Martin Furniture Co., Hickory, N. C., a very pretty sideboard. Weddington Hardware Co., Charlotte, coffee percolator. Whitener & Martin, of Hickory, coffee; Shell & Flagler, of Hickory, suzars; Peter Kern Co., of Knoxville, lot of fine candies; Colgate & Co., N. Y., Full line toilet articles; Harper's Bazaar, 25 copies, with several subscriptions. The display of fancy articles made by the ladies themselves was pronounced by competent judges to be the most beautiful ever seen in Hickory. The city press has been unusually kind in this matter, and our thanks are hereby tendered them.

Fine Record in the Graded School.

For the four months just ended the graded school has made an unusually fine record in attendance. The total enrollment during this period was 585 pupils, and the average daily attendance for the four months was 503. More than 85 per cent of all the pupils enrolled have been in actual daily attendance. This is a fine record of attendance, one that cannot be surpassed by any school in the State.

The tenth grade led the entire school with percentage for the four months of 96.3 per cent.

The Junior Order in Hickory has offered a handsome silk banner to the grade which makes the best attendance. This banner will be awarded every four months to the grade which makes the best attendance for that period. In this way an incentive will be offered to all the grades. If the tenth grade wins the prize in the next four months, the pupils will have to bestir themselves, for the pupils in the other grades mean to capture that banner.

Lake Smith Goes to Atlanta.

Lake Smith, one of the best known copy writers and illustrators in the South, has removed from Atlanta to Baltimore, where he has taken charge of the advertising department of Schloss Brothers, wholesale clothiers. He is planning several national campaigns for the firm. Mr. Smith has been an Atlanta for a number of years where his splendid work with the pen and pencil has won for him a reputation second to that of no other copy man in the Southeast.

It Snowed On December 25.

The First White Christmas in
29 Years.

IT MELTED TOO SOON.

Weather So Cold That Cream
Doesn't "Ripen" Easily—
Few Stains and Tingings
in Cotton.

Mother Goose came to the aid of Santa Claus on Christmas day. That is if Mother Goose has anything to do with the feather pullings in the winter clouds. It snowed on Christmas eve night, and for the first time in 29 years Hickory and this section had a white Christmas. To the weather-wise are saying:

It was not a deep snow. Jupiter Pluvius interfered and came along with his water-pails to wash out the white polish on the floor of the earth, so that by noon of Christmas day the snow was nearly all gone. But in this time when the seasons have changed so greatly, the snow was enough to make folks think of old times, even though there was not enough of it to build snow men or to fight a snow-ball battle or to slide down the hillside.

The holiday weather has been cold and sunshiny upon the whole, just the kind to kill germs. A gentleman was saying the other day that it was almost impossible to get the cream in the milk at his house sour enough to make butter. Jack Frost drove back the germs that sneak around in warm weather, so that his cream would not "ripen."

It is well known that the fall weather has been so fine all over the South that there are practically no stains and tingings in this year's cotton crop.

BAPTIST XMAS TREE.

Beautiful Present Given Miss
Minnie Rector.

A lovely gold locket and chain was presented to Miss Minnie Rector, who had recently resigned as the teacher of the primary class, at the First Baptist Church Christmas tree Monday evening. The presentation was made by Rev. J. D. Harte, the pastor, on behalf of Superintendent J. D. Elliott and the whole school. The pastor was happy in his words, and Miss Rector expressed her delighted appreciation in a sentence which welled over with gratitude.

The pulpit was festooned with evergreens and holiday decorations. The excellent program of songs and recitations culminated in the appearance of Santa Claus, whose voice sounded a little like that of Mr. Mace.

Superintendent Elliott was in charge of the exercises which preceded the giving of the presents, and which was as follows:

Prayer by Pastor.
Recitation by Nelson Harte.
Song, Welcome beautiful Christmas, by large girls.
Recitation, by Kate Elliott.
Stocking Brigade, by little folks.

Song—Bells, Bells, by boys.
Recitation, by Juanita Mosteller, "Little Stars."
Recitation, by Ellen Stewart Menzies.

Song, The Christmas Tree.
Recitation, by Lucy Sledge, "Worth while."
Song, by large girls, "Click, click."

Philathias, song.
Recitation, Kathrine Stevenson "Santa Claus."
Ean Drill, by eight girls.
The party, song, "Jing, jing, jing."

Santa Claus comes while children are singing the song, "The merriest time."

A Model Ideal in Journalism.

From the Raleigh News and Observer.

Mr. Howard A. Banks, who has had exceptional newspaper experience, has heard the call to the simple life and retired from daily journalism to become editor of The Hickory Democrat, a weekly. The foremost men in North Carolina journalism—Hale and Holden—never edited any but a weekly and their papers exerted State-wide influence. The most successful editors of dailies

in North Carolina had their training on weekly papers. The editor of this paper and the Charlotte Observer could never have had the all-round experience that has been their equipment if they had not devoted their earliest years to doing every sort of work on a weekly. They and others thought it promotion to go from weekly to daily journalism. The versatile Walter H. Page, when he changed the Daily State Chronicle to a weekly headed his announcement: "Change But Forward." It created some comment and a snide, but twenty years later Mr. Banks endorses Mr. Page by retiring from the Charlotte News to become editor of the Weekly Hickory Democrat. The first number of the paper under the direction of Mr. Banks is as bright as a dollar. His salutory sound as a hare's tooth. From it the following extracts are taken:

"This paper will have its convictions upon the great political and moral issues of the day, and will endeavor to present its views courageously yet at all times tolerantly, and without impugning the motives of others. In politics it will be Democratic, and hopes it may play a part in winning Catawba again to be the banner Democratic county of North Carolina. Born and reared in Buncombe, the editor of the paper grew up at one and the same time under the purple shadows of the Blue Ridge and under the inspiration of the towering name of Zeb Vance. It will stand for the democracy of Jefferson as interpreted by Vance. It will stand for the Democracy of 'Old Hickory' in the town of New Hickory."

"We remember once to have read a treatise on the field of the journalist by Col. Henry Watterson, in which, after defining his duty as a newsgatherer and as an exponent of pure Democracy he added, and finally, brethren, to preach Jesus Christ and Him crucified." As an obscure admirer and follower of the last of the old Romans of the press, we may not say less than this. It is related of Tennyson that at a favorite summer place in England he was accustomed to pass the humble cottage of a find but poor old woman. "What is the news, madam?" he asked one day. "I know only one piece of news, Sir Alford," she answered, "and that is that Jesus Christ died for all men." "That," said the great poet after a thoughtful pause, "is old news, and good news, and new news!"

"Somewhere in the paper we hope to have a corner for this old news, and good news, and new news, along with the rest of the news."

The time will never come when there will be need for a religious journal, and North Carolina is blessed with excellent ones, but there is need that the spirit of reverent faith and honest presentation of Christianity shall be a part of the very warp and woof of every newspaper, daily and weekly. The new "Laymen's Movement" stresses the responsibility of the new editor of the Democrat shows that he has the true conception of the high duty of an editor. He must be a man before he is an editor, and hold up high ideals toward which a man and editor he strives to attain. There is no open door to usefulness greater than that of the editor, and happy is that people whose paper is guided by an editor who, in an age of too much flippancy and materialism, declares that he will have "a corner for this old news, and good news" and seek to make his paper a positive exponent of the Christ. This high ideal of journalism does honor to the editor and will cheer the hearts of all who, often afar off, are seeking to follow the teachings of the Savior, whose birth is the inspiration of this happy Christmas week.

Three Holiday Marriages.

Married in Icard Township, Burke county, at the residence of H. A. Adams, on the 23d of December, Mr. Fred Roney to Miss Lillie Johnson, the pretty and accomplished daughter of Mr. David Johnson. Both are of Catawba county.

Also on the 24th inst., at the same residence, David Lail to Miss Francis Stilwell. Both of Burke county.

On the 26th inst., at the same residence, Felix Stilwell to Miss Lizzie Young. Both of Burke county.

H. A. Adams was the officiating magistrate in all the marriages.

Mrs. S. F. Watson, who has a fine school at Conover, spent the holidays in Hickory.

Limited Parcels Post Wanted.

It Will Not Hurt the Country
Stora.

EXPRESS PEOPLE KICK.

Citizens in the Country should
Urge Their Representatives
in Congress to
Give this Gift.

Written for The Democrat.

By far the majority of people living on rural routes desire a parcels post, such as the citizens of England and Germany possess. It seems, however, that the express companies and their interests will not permit us to have what we want all at once, therefore it seems wise to demand of our congressmen and senators that a "Limited Parcels Post," or a "Rural Packet Post" be established at the present session of congress. For, I ask you, are not the representatives we send to Washington, sent there to pass laws for the benefit of the common people, and chief among them, the rural inhabitants? At the opportune moment during the winter, therefore, let us get busy and write our representatives, demanding this right to which we are entitled.

Every patron of the rural routes will agree with me when I say, we frequently want some small package from town, such as medicine, a certain spool of thread, a small package from the express office, and many other things. What a great convenience it would be to send a card to town one day and receive the desired object the following day, instead of making a special trip to town for the small package. We don't object to pay for this service, but we certainly do object to paying the present regular merchandise rates. To illustrate: Suppose I order a book or a package of goods weighing two pounds, and the package is sent by express. According to the present rates of postage it would cost 32 cents additional to bring that package the last three or four miles of the journey, whereas the carrier could very easily bring it for 5 or 7 cents, and thus help to wipe out the annual postal deficit.

When the rural routes were first established, it was possible to have the carrier bring a small package from town. Of late the law has been changed, and now you cannot have a carrier deliver a small express package for love or money, unless it has the necessary stamps affixed. And you can't censure the carriers, they must obey the laws. Therefore, let us secure a change in the laws.

The old objection offered to the parcels post is that it would eliminate the country store. Do the objectors take into consideration the fact that England has operated a parcels post for at least 20 years without any such fire calamity having been visited upon the small country stores of that country? And do our objectors know that there are still small country merchants in Germany in spite of the fact that the German government is annually handling about 150,000,000 packages in the mails? If the citizens of England and Germany can enjoy the benefits of a parcels post, why cannot we citizens of these United States enjoy the same benefits, I ask you? Not one objector has successfully answered this question, to my knowledge.

The interests of the opponents of the parcels post in the small rural merchant is a selfish interest. Nobody is openly opposing the carrying of parcels in the mails because the business of the express trust would be harmed thereby. Oh, no! The objectors are too clever for that. They know that such arguments would kill their cause. So they attempt to blind the people by claiming that the rural merchant would be forced to the wall. All we need ask is: Has the parcels post forced the country merchant in England and Germany to the wall?

And finally, here is another important point. We are told that the United States has 40,000 more postoffices than express offices, so there are 40,000 places

from which a package that weighs over four pounds cannot be sent at all except by freight. Is this a fair condition for several million citizens, I ask you?

Therefore, let us have a parcels post. However, let us be satisfied with a "Rural Packet Post" in the beginning. We can secure this benefit if we rise up in our might and demand it, as we should do this winter. P. C. H.

Kindergarten Entertains.

The Kindergarten apartments of Mrs. H. D. Abernethy at her home on 13th Street was a delightful programme was given by the little folk and several of their friends.

This was followed by the distribution of gifts from the tree, which contained many things made by the children themselves, fashioned afterward in different forms by their teacher.

Parents and friends were invited and about forty availed themselves of the opportunity. Following was the program: "Merry Christmas Bells, Chorus." "Sing a song for Christmas," Ida McLaurin.

"I'd like to visit Santa Claus" Ellen Stewart Menzies.

A motion song "Come, little leaves," by Alice Cilley, Kathrine Menzies, Ellen Stewart Menzies, Ida McLaurin and Mary Menzies.

"I fought I had two Kitty Kins," Mary Stewart Menzies.

"Away in the Manger," Aggie Shuford.

Solo—"The first Christmas," Clarissa Harlowe Abernethy.

"Children can you truly tell," Chorus.

"There's a song in the air, there's a star in the sky!" Kathrine Menzies.

"In Bethlehem the story goes," Alice Cilley.

"O, Clap, Clap the Hands," Chorus.

General News.

Frederick Remington, the noted artist and writer, died at his home in Ridgefield, Conn., Sunday. Years ago he said he desired for his epitaph: "He knew the horses." He first fixed his personality on the public mind by his representations of horses, which even gave rise to a considerable controversy as to whether he used a camera or whether, on the other hand, he painted horses in impossible pictures. It remained for an improved camera to demonstrate that Remington had seen correctly and accurately.

A furious blizzard swept the east the day after Christmas. Railroad Traffic was held up from Boston to Washington, and shipping was badly damaged.

Several American colonies are to be established in the State of Sonora, Mexico, where American capitalists have purchased big tracts of land. A concession has been granted by the Mexican government, to a citizen of Hermosillo, to dam the Sonora river at a point ten miles above the city. Government engineers, who were sent to examine the situation, claim there is enough water being wasted to irrigate a stretch of land sixty miles long by twenty miles wide.

OXFORD FORD ITEMS.

Correspondence of the Democrat.

Oxford Ford, Dec. 23.—Mr. Vance Isenhour, of Durham, is spending Christmas week under the parental roof.

We are glad to note that Mrs. H. Hefner, who was low with pneumonia, is again recovering.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Isenhour, who have spent the last month with relatives and friends in Catawba county, leave for their home in Oklahoma this week.

The schools in this neighborhood are giving a week holiday.

The Children's exercises at St. Peter's Church were postponed until Sunday on account of the inclement weather at the appointed hour. "The smile that won't come off" was worn by every child that day.

Where are the Christmas weddings about which we have heard so much? Have they been put off until 1910? Or were those all false rumors we received by "wireless"? H.

Test Easy For Enumerators.

Census Director Durand Sets
February 5th.

63,000 PLACES TO FILL.

The Examination Consists
Largely in Filling Out a
Sample Schedule of
Population.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Any person of good judgment, who has received an ordinary common school education, can readily and easily pass the test to be given applicants for census enumerators' places on Saturday, Feb. 5th, the date finally set by U. S. Census Director Durand.

It was emphatically stated at the bureau that the test will be an eminently reasonable and practical one, similar to that applied to applicants at the Twelfth Census. It will consist of filling out a sample schedule of population from a description, in narrative form, of typical families; and, in the case of enumerators whose work will be in the rural districts, they will be called upon to fill out an additional sample schedule of agriculture, from information furnished by the Census Bureau.

All persons, whether women or men, who may desire to become census enumerators must be citizens of the United States; residents of the supervisor's district for which they wish to be appointed; must be not less than 18 nor more than 70 years of age; must be physically able to do the work; must be trustworthy, honest and of good habits; must have at least an ordinary education and must be able to write plainly and with reasonable rapidity.

Those who can comply with these requirements are invited to put in their applications, as there will be at least 63,000 enumerators' places to be filled by the middle of March in preparation for the enumeration beginning April 15th.

Application forms, with full instructions for filling-in, and complete information concerning the test and the method of appointment, can be secured by writing to the supervisor of census J. Yates Killian at Newton. All applications, properly filled-in must be filed with the supervisors not later than January 25th.

Christmas Visitors in Catawba

Correspondence of The Democrat.

Catawba, Dec. 23.—Dr. E. A. Drum, of Richmond, was a guest in town Sunday.

Miss Winnie Reid spent Sunday in Hickory with her sister, Mrs. L. W. Poovey.

Miss Maude Brady of New Sterling is visiting Miss Bessie Smith.

Mrs. T. F. Hudson of Spencer, and Mrs. E. H. Miller of Salisbury spent Christmas with their parents Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Pitts.

Mr. Cleveland Little, of Newton, came down Friday night to spend Christmas with his mother Mrs. Eva Little.

Mr. Zeb Reid returned to Asheville Sunday after spending his holiday vacation with his parents Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Reid.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Yount, of Newton, visited Mr. Tom Harwell from Friday until Sunday.

Miss Gertie Abernethy, who has spent the last few days here, the guest of her mother, Mrs. Sam Abernethy, returned to her work in Charlotte Monday night.

Miss Nora Lowrance, who is teaching near Newton is spending this week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lowrance.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Wilkinson spent Christmas with Mrs. Wilkinson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Q. E. Pope, in Catfish.

Miss Annie Lowrance, of Newton, is the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lowrance, during the holidays.

Mr. Hal Cooper, of Panama, who is visiting relatives in North Carolina, spent Thursday in town the guest of his aunt, Mrs. Eva Little.