

ESTABLISHED 1899

HICKORY, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1912

Democrat and Press Consolidated 1905

FIRST BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION OF HICKORY, N. C.

INCORPORATED
1890Total Assets July 1, 1912 **\$280,487.48**AUTHORIZED CAPITAL
\$1,500,000.00

Total Shares in Force 7,000, Representing a Matured Value of \$700,000.00

Has a Record of Over 22 Years without the Loss of a Single Penny

You can join any time by paying back to the beginning of the series. New series open at the beginning of each quarter---January, April, July, October

A Few Reasons Why We Consider Building and Loan Stock the Best Investment and the Most Practical Way to Buy, Build or Improve a Home

Our stock pays 6 per cent interest, compounded semi-annually, payable at maturity, free of all taxes.

It starts at nothing and repays you \$100.00 in cash for each share of stock at the maturity of the series.

It becomes responsible for your SMALL savings and makes LARGE ones of them.

It will loan you money when you want it and will help you build a home, should you desire it.

It refunds every penny of your paid-in dues if you should withdraw before the maturity of the series.

It is the only way that you can place your small savings in a regular systematic way and realize 6 per cent compounded semi-annually, FREE OF ALL TAXES.



Something New in the Way of Lump Sum Investment

If you have money that is not netting you (free from all taxes) five per cent, per annum, it will be well for you to investigate our new class of stock known as

Dividend-Bearing Advance Payment Stock

which nets you five per cent, per annum, payable quarterly, and is sold for \$80.00 per share.

Call on or write to the Secretary and he will be glad to give you any information concerning the working of the Association

G. H. GEITNER, President

J. D. ELLIOTT, Vice-President

G. R. WOOTTEN, Secretary and Treasurer

DIRECTORS:

J. A. Lentz

S. E. Killian
J. A. MartinC. H. Geitner
A. A. Shuford, Jr.

W. B. Menzies

BAGBY & BLACKWELDER, Attorneys

HICKORY TANNERY'S BUSINESS PROSPERING

Mr. Chas. H. Geitner a Nation
Wide Authority on Leather.

MANY TONS OF BARK ON HAND.

Mr. Geitner's Ancestors for Generations
Have Been in the Tanning Business--The Process
of Making Horse Collars Most Interesting.

Written for the Democrat by Dr. R. W. Brown.

Were we as a civilized people forced to give up some of our comforts, amongst the last to be yielded, would be those things fabricated from leather, one of the accessories. There are only three absolute life necessities, air, food and water. All else are only means to promote our comfort and ease. Skins or hides have been used for convenience or protection since the time which is probably pre-historic. Aborigine war shields and armor was made from hides and skins. Moccasins worn by the North American Indian were the first application of leather for foot wear on this continent. During Biblical times skins were removed entire, the legs and apertures tied, using the neck opening for filling and discharging fluid. These were called leather bottles. "Put not new wine in old bottles," etc. The early equipages, especially those of state, used broad bands of leather; attached to the axels, in lieu of springs. The early parchment was made out of the skin of a sheep or goat. In ancient times thongs were used to secure sandals.

The origin of tanning is obscure but probably some skins were thrown into a pool of water where bark had soaked for some time, and when the skins were removed, they were found to be changed both in color and texture. Experimentation eventu-

ally brought tanning to an art, and to where in the United States is the art of tanning carried on so scientifically and so successfully as in the Hickory Tannery, owned and manipulated under direct supervision of Mr. Chas. H. Geitner. Mr. Geitner's great-great-grandfather, great grandfather, grandfather and his father were all tanners. The cumulative experiences of his ancestors, added to his own, has made Mr. Geitner a national authority on the subject of tanning. Many times he has been asked for information, by other tanners of this country, who were unable to solve many intricacies incident to leather manufacture.

Whether the tanning process is mechanical or chemical or both we do not know, but tannic acid is absolutely necessary. Tannic acid is a very powerful styptic. It coagulates the blood and must also have the same effect on animal tissues, as all hides and skins have a certain amount of residual blood. Mangrove bark has the largest per cent of tannic acid, 25 per cent, and oak bark 11 per cent. A liquid extract is made from the bark containing 25 per cent tannin, 7 per cent solids and 68 per cent water. A cord of bark makes one barrel of liquid extract. After the hides are properly cleaned, they are put in vats. For light leather and lace leather 6 or 7 days in the vats is sufficient, but for harness and shoe leather four or five months in the liquid extract is necessary to produce the best and most durable leather. When these heavy hides are ready for use they contain enough tannin, or tannic acid, to increase their weight nearly twice as much as before tanning.

Oak and Hemlock barks are used, but the oak bark gives the best results and is used exclusively by the Hickory Tannery, which uses 500 tons of bark a year. \$1500.00 worth of tan bark or 1500 tons is kept on hand constantly. This tannery turns out 600 sides each week, employing 30 expert workmen during the

busy season, making leather especially for harness, saddles and horse collars. Leather for cotton mills gets special treatment. This plant covers 4 acres, and has 7 separate buildings for fire protection. The main building is 110 feet square, 3 floors. The main warehouse 70 by 35 feet, 2 floors. A dynamo on the premises creates all electricity used. All the liquid bark extract is made by this concern. The bark shed holds 1500 tons of oak bark and is kept filled.

Hickory is well represented in the tanning business, and maintains its superiority as long as Mr. Chas. H. Geitner owns and controls the Hickory Tannery.

It would well repay any one to visit this manufactory owned by Chas. H. Geitner and P. A. Setzer. While the building is not very large it is far from being small. Every thing is very convenient and the best machinery is used. At one end the leather is cut similar to a tailor cutting cloth for a coat. When the pieces are sewed together they have the shape of an elongated cupid's bow but very much thicker. After sewing by machine and the proper reinforcement by hand, an employee shoves a steel tube into one end, and almost before you can say Jack Robinson a machine stuffs the collars full of properly prepared rye straw, then a trip hammer gives the proper contour to the padding. Another chap puts the stuffed "cupid's bow" into a machine which gives it the shape of a horse collar with all the wrinkles ironed out.

By this time it looks like a horse collar. Other rapid workmen put on the finishing touches, color, buckles, straps, etc. Then the collar is ready for the shops and Mr. Horse.

The leather goes into the building at one end as moist leather and goes out the other end perfectly dry, a perfect horse collar.

All the machines are run by electricity, and the pressure of a

foot starts or stops a machine. While this concern is owned by Mr. Geitner and Mr. Setzer, the latter has supervision over the plant and the details of the business. The Hickory Horse Collar Manufactory is well worth visiting.

Dr. Johnson Rings Clear on Hell.
Charity and Children.

According to the Raleigh Christian Advocate, a Bible student association has decided that there is no hell and calls on ministers and newspapers to start a crusade against the doctrine. These beardless boys, whose brains are as scant as their beard, are not the only wiseacres who pitched the Bible overboard. All down through the ages these smart alecs have risen from time to time to tell the world the straight thing about eternal punishment; but the hammers wore themselves out and the anvil remained. The safe and wise sensible thing is to take the Bible as it stands and not try to read into its pages a meaning that suits the depraved natures that resent the infliction of the punishment their sins deserve. The doctrine of hell has helped to restrain the unruly and keep the world from sinking into its own corruption.

At St. Timothy's
The St. Timothy Home and Foreign Missionary Society will meet at the church Sunday at 3 p. m. There will be a special program rendered which will be interesting. The public is invited.

F. K. ROOF, Pastor.
P. L. MILLER, Pres.
Reformed Church.

Regular services next Sunday at the usual hours. At the morning service Rev. I. N. Perghel, D. D., of Pa., will preach.

The United States gives annually \$80,000.00 to support the national guard of this state. \$25,000.00 of this amount is for rifle practice. The U. S. owns the rifle range.

THE BLOWING ROCK COUNTRY POPULAR.

Hickory is the Gateway to this
Beautiful Sky Land Section.

FAMOUS ROCK OF BLOWING.

Faithful work of Dr. Savage who is
about to Leave after Ten years of
Service--Hickory People
at the Blowing Rock
Hotel.

(By Old Hurrygraph)

Green Park Hotel, Green Park, N. C., Aug. 5.--Hickory is the gateway to the most beautiful section of North Carolina. The Blowing Rock country, 4,300 feet skyward, up through the clouds, is the Switzerland of America in beauty and picturesque grandeur. It is the El Dorado of nature's health stores; the elysium of delightful breezes; invigorating air, so exhilarating that a charming and talented lady guest of the Green Park hotel says she feels as if she were "breathing champagne"; refreshing ice cold water from mountain springs.

The famous blowing rock is one of the wonders of nature. It is on the top of a precipitous mountain, near the Green Park hotel, some 300 feet or more in height, and overlooks a vast gulf of mountain tops, valleys, dales and coves; with breezes blowing in from the great and grand expanse sufficient to blow back to the rock any ordinary light thing thrown over the rock precipice. The small clearings, mountain farms and home, nestling here and there as far as the eye can reach, look like a patchwork quilt spread in a rugged manner upon the heaving bosom of nature. Before the delighted and awe-inspired beholder, in the distance, stands the majestic Grandfather mountain, towering skyward, silent and sublime; with chain after chain of mountains that link themselves in colorings from a dark green

shading into an invisible blue that melts into the azure of the sky, and looks to the imaginative eye, like a cerulean pathway beyond the clouds. At every turn in this delightful country there are natural pictures of beauty that causes the sense of admiration to revel in the glories of a "hand Divine," that has placed here such a wealth of mountain scenery, and surrounds it with such rarefied air, and pure crystal water. It is indeed an enchanting land. It must be seen to be appreciated.

THE MOUNTAIN ROADS.

The roads in the mountains are now in the best condition they have been, possibly this season. Some of them have been worked lately and are better than ever. Automobiles from Lenoir are making three trips a day easily; and it is no uncommon sight to see from five to eight surries in a line coming up the mountain, with from four to five passengers each--people coming to enjoy the delights of this beautiful and healthgiving country.

A DELIGHTFUL AFFAIR.

"The Fountain," the home of Capt. W. D. Jones, in the "Happy Valley," nine miles from Lenoir, is one of the old colonial, happy homes, so full of generous hospitality and rich historic lore, was the scene of a charming social affair last Tuesday. The gracious hostess was Miss Lily Jones, and the occasion was a birthday dinner, complimentary to her mother, Mrs. W. D. Jones, and her cousin, Miss McCampbell, of Birmingham, Ala., who is on a visit to "The Fountain." The birthdays of the two ladies fell on the same day. The event was celebrated in a delightful manner. A number of guests from Lenoir and Hickory enjoyed the hospitality of this delightful home.

GOOD PREACHING.

The people of Blowing Rock are enjoying a season of good preaching every Sunday. For

several Sundays Rev. James I. Vance, of Nashville, Tenn., who has a cottage here, has been delighting large congregations in the Presbyterian church, from the rich store house of his able and brilliant mind. His brother, Rev. Jos. A. Vance, of Detroit, Mich., is also here, and has taken part in some of the services. Both are North Carolinians who have made great reputations for ability in the service of their Master.

The Episcopalians have a devout and faithful worker in Rev. W. H. Savage, rector of the Church of the Holy Spirit, the church of such peaceful restfulness on the mountain side. Rev. H. R. Mallinckrodt, of Charlotte, preached there an able sermon last Sunday to an appreciative congregation. Mr. Savage filled an appointment at Boone. Mr. Savage has been in Blowing Rock ten years and he tells your correspondent that he contemplates going to Roanoke Island, probably this fall, to work among the life-saving stations, a field he formerly filled and where he longs to work again. He has one of the finest collections of Indian arrow heads and other Indian curios I have ever seen; together with fine specimens of minerals--most of them picked up in this Blowing Rock country. He took a special prize at the Jamestown exposition for having one of the best there.

HICKORYITES AT BLOWING ROCK HOTEL.

J. L. Biddle, Dr. Biddix, William Council, Eck Abernethy, Miss Ruth Abernethy, Miss Alice Abernethy, Mrs. J. A. Lentz, Miss Frances Lentz.

Chicken Smothers in Heart of Melon.

Kinston Special in News & Observer.
A half-grown chicken pecked its way into the heart of a watermelon in a Jones county barnyard this week and smothered to death. M. L. Jones, a well known farmer, declares that the chicken had gone so deeply into the melon that only its feet were sticking out.