

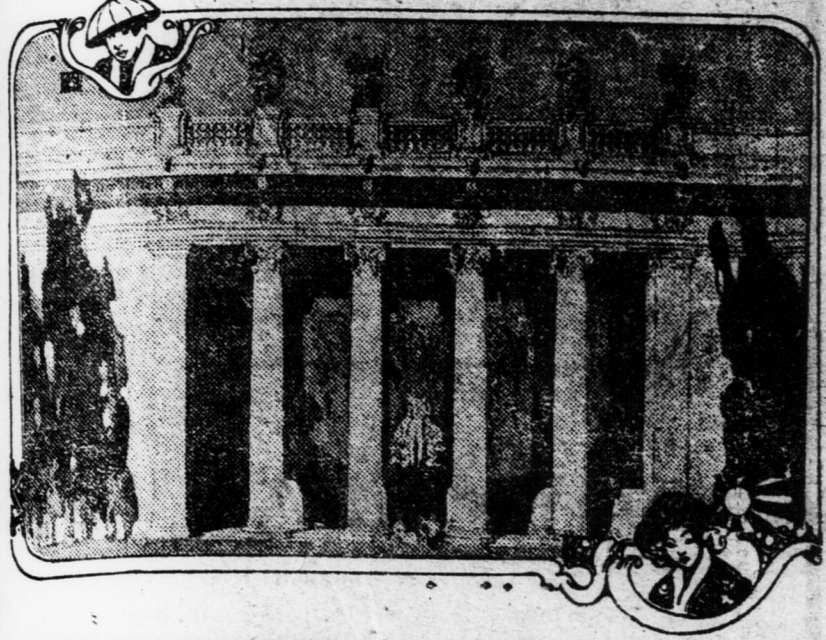
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THE HICKORY DEMOCRAT

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STUDY OF THE COURT OF THE FOUR SEASONS, PANAMA-PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION.

To the west of the great Court of Honor at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition will come the Court of Four Seasons, one of the most elaborate and beautiful of the great interior courts that will lie between the huge exhibit palaces of the main group. The walls of the court will be partly formed by the palaces of Liberal Arts and of Education and by the two great wings of the Palace of Agriculture and partly by the classic colonnades and peristyles that will connect these buildings. The Court of Four Seasons, in classic Italian architecture, is designed by Mr. Henry Bacon of New York, designer of the Lincoln Memorial. In harmony with the title of the court there will, in each of its four corners, be set groups of statuary symbolical of the seasons—Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. The sculpture will be set in niches screened by colonnades. Mural paintings, also suggestive of the seasons, will form the background for the setting. Mr. Jules Guerin, the noted artist, has charge of the color plan. The Court of Four Seasons will be 340 feet square.

Conference for Education in the South.

Two and a half billions of dollars a year. A stupendous pile isn't it? That is the value of the farm products of the South. Five billion dollars a year is what the consumer pays for these products. A wide discrepancy. The farmers of the South lose annually six billion dollars through poor farming methods, credit systems, interest, etc. This great sum could as easily be saved to the farmers of the South by a correct system of farming, buying, selling and borrowing.

Plans are now maturing (which will be thoroughly discussed at the conference to be held in Richmond, Va. April 16-18) to remedy this discrepancy. It is hoped to formulate a plan that will at once give to the farmer a larger share of the money paid by the consumer and at the same time reduce the price paid by the consumer. At this conference the Southern farmer will unite in his deliberations with the editor, educator, minister and business man.

The chief remedy to be proposed is co-operation—co-operation in buying, co-operation in selling, co-operation in borrowing. This plan, it is contended, can harm no one while the possibilities are that it will benefit all classes. By adding to the farmers income he will be enabled to spend more on the luxuries as well as the necessities of life. He will be able to build better roads, better schools and better churches.

This, in turn, would have the effect of checking the exodus from the country to the town, causing a corresponding increase in the amount of food products raised thus lowering very considerably the cost of living. If the farmer produces more and spends more, the railroads will handle a larger tonnage producing a larger income both gross and net, the merchant will do a larger volume of business; the banker will carry larger deposits from the farmer; the manufacturer will increase his output because the farmer will produce a greater amount of raw material and, in return, will demand more of the finished product.

Experts in every department of farm life will be called upon to tell of the work which has been accomplished in their own sections. J. C. Caldwell will tell how the farmers around Lakefield, Minn., successfully conduct a co-operative store, creamery, grainery etc. Our own Watt Shuford will tell of the wonderful success of the Catawba Creamery. Other men who have done things will be on hand to tell how others may do the same thing.

And the beauty of this conference will be the fact that long-winded oratory will not be allowed. Everything is to be informal, only men who know their business will have a voice in this meeting. Every address will be short and extremely practical. Ways, means and results are the phases to be stressed.

Another splendid feature of this conference will be the move-

ment for the Country Church.

Questions that are vital to the rural church will be discussed by men who have met and solved these problems. How to bring the church to the country people and make it reach the vital spot is the question that will be answered. The country pastor will find here much to help him in his work, and the country church will do a wise thing in paying the expenses of its pastor while attending this conference.

The conference will be entirely free. No fees charges or collections. Every one is entitled to attend, and it is hoped that the conference will add impetus to the rapid growth of the South.

Declamation Contest at Lenoir College.

The first annual inter-high school declamation contest at Lenoir College was pulled off last week and was a howling success. This contest covers all the high schools of North Carolina west of the Yadkin River, including Davidson county. Fourteen entered the preliminary contest from which eight declaimers were selected for the finals. The following is a list of the declaimers and the subjects:

"Regulus to the Roman Senate"; Arnold Kimball, Concord; "Wilson's Inaugural Address"; Eugene Presson, Monroe; "Popular Education"; Henry Koonts, Mount Ulla; "The Great Destroyer"; Robert Ridenhour, Concord; "Universal Education"; John Wacaster, Waco; "My Mother, My Country, My God"; C. R. Brown, Crouse; "America's Duty to Resist"; John B. Ballard, Lincoln; "The New South"; "Otis Evans, Granite Falls"; "The Hand that Rules the World"; Wade Furchees, Farmington; "Our Country—Past and Present"; Robert Poole, Glen Alpine; Regulus to the Carthaginians"; Harold Whitcomb, Hickory; "The Curse of Regulus"; Jesse W. Dickens, Littleton; "The Unknown Speaker"; Herman Baity, Harmony; "Regulus to the Carthaginians"; Homer Bollinger, Newton.

The judges, Rev. J. D. Harte, Hon. M. H. Yount, Rev. J. H. Wannamaker; Rev. Dr. J. L. Murphy and Prof. W. H. Little rendered the decision in favor of Mr. John B. Ballard of Lincoln, giving special mention to Messrs. C. R. Whitcomb of this city and C. R. Brown of Crouse. Mr. Yount in an eloquent manner presented Mr. Ballard with the medal offered by the college.

The contestants were pleasantly entertained by the college during their stay here and at the close of the contest an informal reception was held for the declaimers. The Oakview Orchestra added much pleasure to the occasion by the splendid music furnished.

This is a splendid innovation in school work in this section and it is hoped that the work will continue and that a larger number of the high school students of the section will enter from year to year.

FRIENDS OF NEW CHARTER.

Hold Enthusiastic Meeting—Short Speeches From Many Prominent Citizens—Important Resolutions Passed Unanimously.

Friends of the new Charter had an enthusiastic meeting at Blackwelder Hall last Saturday night. The chief subject of discussion was the necessity of having this new charter tried out the first year at the hands of its friends. Short addresses were made by many prominent citizens, and it was the unanimous opinion of all present that no man or set of men could produce the best results in any business, public or private, in managing a system of business that they had denounced as "unscientific, dangerous and rotten."

The purity of the ballot and city employees in local politics were freely discussed, following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, we pledge our united support to C. H. Geitner for mayor of the city of Hickory; C. C. Bost for Alderman of 1st ward; J. L. Ciley for Alderman of 2nd ward; J. L. Abernethy for Alderman of 3rd ward and J. W. Shuford for Alderman of 4th ward; and, Whereas the efficiency of a city government is decreased by the activity of its employees in municipal politics; and, Whereas, the only way such a condition can be prevented will be through a city ordinance preventing such political activity on the part of the city employees; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the friends of the new Charter pledge themselves to use their utmost endeavor to have enacted a law, through city ordinance, preventing city employees from taking an active part in municipal politics; and be it further

Resolved, that the friends and supporters of the new charter do hereby pledge themselves not only to the observance of the letter and spirit of Sections 23 and 24, Article II of the new Charter, now in force and operation, but that they will individually and collectively do all in their power to see that the provisions of these sections are enforced.

Sections 23 and 24 of the new charter referred to above read as follows: Sec. 23. Any person who shall agree to perform any services in the interest of any candidate for any office provided for in this charter, in consideration of any money or other valuable thing, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding three hundred dollars or be imprisoned in the county jail not exceeding six months.

Sec. 24. Any person offering to give a bribe, either in money or other consideration to any voter for the purpose of influencing his vote at any primary, general or special municipal election provided for in this charter, or any elector entitled to vote at any such election receiving and accepting such bribe or consideration shall be fined a sum not less than one hundred dollars, nor more than five hundred, or be imprisoned in the county jail not less than four months nor more than twelve months.

Woman Charged with Murder of Her Child.

By Associated Press. Asheville, April 4.—Following the finding of her 3-year old granddaughter's body in a mountain cave, Nancy Hannah, an aged resident of Haywood county, was arrested yesterday charged with the murder of the child. It is charged that the prisoner left her daughter's home a month ago with the child on the pretense of taking it to the county home. Developments are said to have shown, however, that the child had not been taken to that place and searching parties were organized.

The child is said to have disappeared a month ago. It was the daughter of Lizzie Hannah Putman, a daughter of the prisoner and the former's husband, Will Putman, is being held as a witness.

Pushing Work on New Road.

Rev. J. H. Shuford informs us that the new railroad from Wilkesboro to Boone, is now completed and trains are running to within three miles of Granden City, Caldwell county. The engineering corps have been moved to Cooks Gaps near Boone. Work will be rapidly pushed to completion.

COMMENT

That is a commendable act on the part of Secretary of State Bryan to teach a Bible class of young men each Sunday. It is something of which any nation should be proud to have in high places men who are consecrated Christians and are anxious to help spread the glad tidings.

In the death of editor Boylitt of Wadesboro, North Carolina loses another of her gifted sons, and the North Carolina Press Association another eminent officer. Mr. Boylitt, was editor of The Messenger and Intelligencer and was doing splendid work in his chosen field.

Secretary Daniels at Bottom Of a River.

Norfolk, Va., April 3.—Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels spent eight minutes on the bottom of the Elizabeth River, on board submarine torpedo boat D-1 to-day. Congressman E. E. Holland of Virginia, Rear-Admiral Doyle, Commandant of the Norfolk Navy Yard, and two other naval officials also took the dive.

It was Secretary Daniels' first experience on a submarine, and he declared he would never forget it. The little boat took the plunge in thirty-five feet of water and remained submerged for eight minutes. She went down in the eastern branch of the Elizabeth River, about 200 yards from the spot where the receiving ships Franklin and Richmond are moored.

Drastic Law Against Car Breaking. Federal Law Makes it Hazardous.

Washington, D. C., April 2.—Car and depot thieves will find their operations in the future more difficult than in the past and will have to face prosecution in the Federal Courts as well as before state tribunals as the result of the bill introduced by Representative C. C. Carlin, of Alexandria, Va., passed by both House of Congress, and approved by the President. This act imposes a maximum fine of \$500,000 or imprisonment for not more than ten years for any person convicted of unlawfully breaking into any railway car containing interstate or foreign shipments of freight or express, or of stealing or obtaining by fraud or deception from any car, depot, platform, vessel, or wharf any freight, express or baggage which constitutes or is a part of any interstate or foreign shipment.

While the Carlin Act in no way infringes on the jurisdiction of the state courts, it puts the whole power of the Federal Department of Justice behind the detection and prosecution of persons guilty of stealing from cars or depots, since it will be practically impossible for thieves to distinguish between interstate and intrastate shipments. It is confidently expected that this law will have a powerful effect in breaking up thefts of this character which not only involve a serious loss to the railways and cause great inconvenience to shippers and travelers but are a constant menace to railway employees and the traveling public since it is notorious that car thieves do not hesitate to interfere with trains or resort to other expedients to serve their own purposes, regardless of the consequences.

Death of Henry P. Rudisill.

Mr. Henry P. Rudisill, one of Catawba's prominent citizens, died at his home in Maiden Wednesday, of heart failure. He was stricken with severe pain at his heart and died in 30 minutes. Mr. Rudisill was 70 years old and was a Confederate veteran, having lost an arm in the Civil War.

He is survived by a wife and eleven children. His sons are R. A. and George Rudisill two prominent merchants of Maiden, John T., F. Frank, Clud and Doruss. Daughters are Mrs. Deitz the wife of a Lutheran minister, Mrs. Perry Carpenter and Mrs. T. R. Barringer. The children except one or two all live in and around Maiden. Mr. Rudisill was always a leader in progressive movements and his death will be a great loss to the community.

The funeral services were held yesterday at the Lutheran church in Maiden by his pastor, Rev. J. L. Cromer, after which his body was carried to Salem for interment.

WI SON BROKE PRECEDENT.

Delivered His Message in Person to Congress.

President Wilson Tuesday broke the precedents of a century when he appeared in person in the halls of congress and delivered his views of the tariff question. This is the first time since John Adams that a president has appeared in an official capacity before congress in 1813 exactly one hundred years ago, the custom was tried to be revived when President Madison was invited to take part in the deliberations of Congress, but the president declined. Since then no president has even suggested joining in the deliberations of Congress. President Wilson made known his plans to Democratic leaders that they might prepare for the event.

Friends of the president suggested that such a procedure was fraught with embarrassment as his action would be construed as that of a dictator. But Mr. Wilson declared that congress would not misunderstand his purpose. He only wishes to get in closer touch with congress and endeavor to maintain harmony between the executive and legislative branches of the government.

North Carolina "There."

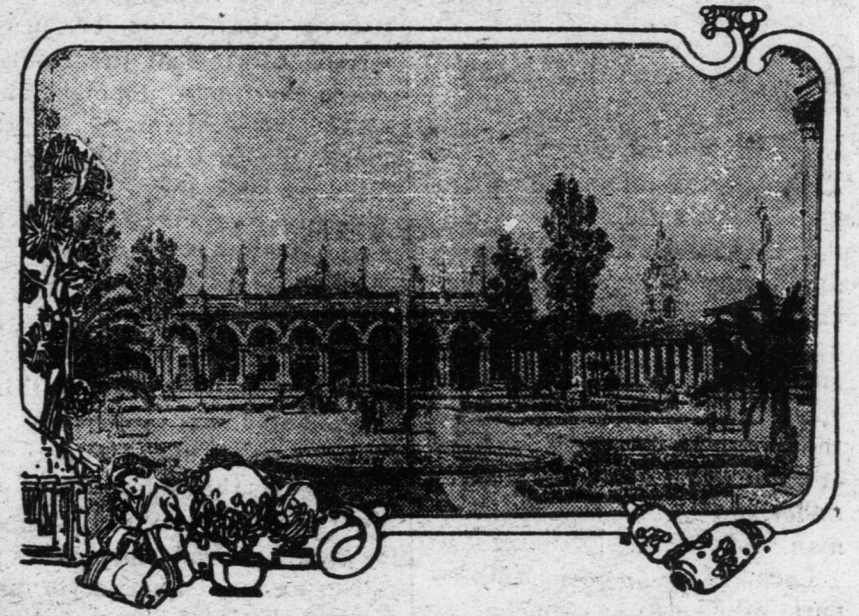
The following from the Richmond Times Dispatch will be read with interest in North Carolina:

If North Carolina continues to be "a vale of humility between two mountains of conceit, South Carolina and Virginia," to use Dr. Alderman's quaint characterization, it will not be because the Old North State lacks cause for self-esteem. No less a personage than Colonel Tankard L. Littleberry, of Powhatan County, was heard to assert with great positiveness, as he set this week under the elms of his native heath, meditating upon the future of this nation, that "if things keep on going like they are going now, Cousin Woodrow'll make this a government of North Carolinians, by North Carolinians and for North Carolinians." It does look that way, it does, indeed, Colonel Tank. The Tarheels are so busy "pointing with pride" these days to their bumper crop of high Wilson appointees that the consumption of "white lightning," has decreased 17.2 per cent, according to the figures compiled by the Secretary of the Interior of North Carolina.

It has been claimed by "certain parties" for a long time that "North Carolina is a good State to be born in," and, judging by the number of job-seekers who wish they could be born again, and born in the Old North State at that, the assertion is not without merit. Look at the Tarheels there in the front row at Washington, discerned by the Baltimore Sun. First and not least is Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, the first North Carolinian in the Cabinet since James C. Dabbin was Secretary of the Navy in 1853. Right beside him is David F. Houston, Secretary of Agriculture. Then there's Commander Victor Blue, hero of the Spanish War, who has just been made chief of the Bureau of Navigation, and Dr. Rupert Blue, whom President Taft appointed surgeon-general. There's Walter H. Page, just appointed ambassador to England. They all were born in the "strip of land south of Virginia," George Gordon Battle, Senator O'Gorman's law partner, is said to be slated for the United States district attorneyship for New York, just vacated by Henry A. Wise, of Virginia, and another Tarheel, Captain W. H. Osborn, seems to have clinched the United States commission of international revenue. Some of the prominent "Down Homers" who have gone out of power with the Republican party are "Uncle Joe" Cannon and Ex-Senator "Joe" Dixon, the Bull Moose manager in the last campaign.

"We don't begrudge North Carolina one bit of it. They are sturdy Americans, these North Carolinians, making good citizens wherever they settle. We know, for we have thousands of them in Baltimore," avers the Sun paper, Amen! say we, Amen! To cop a slang phrase, the North Carolinians are "there." We have millions of them in Richmond, and we'll take as many more as we can get. Why not? Isn't Richmond the capital of North Carolina?

Farm demonstration plots have been started at the Startown and Rockett school houses. The land for the Startown plot has been donated by Mr. G. W. Wilson and for the Rockett school by Mr. George Sigmon. The citizens of these sections are to be congratulated on the progressive spirit shown by these gentlemen. Mr. Foster the county commissioner of agriculture is a tireless worker and is doing great things for Catawba county. This demonstration work for the betterment of the schools means a new era for Education in the county.—Catawba County News.



SERVICE BUILDING, FIRST STRUCTURE TO BE ERECTED BY THE PANAMA-PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION.

BIDS have been let for the Service Building, the first structure to be erected upon the Panama-Pacific International Exposition site. The structure will be three stories in height and will be occupied by the exposition force during the building of the great fair. It will be 150 feet square with an interior court of 58 by 104 feet. The surrounding grounds will be picturesque with fountains, statues and statuary. The first floor will be occupied by the auditor, treasurer, railroad exhibits, admissions and concessions, police, information, telegraph and emergency hospital departments; the second floor will be occupied by the architectural, mechanical, electrical and civil engineering departments; the third floor will be used for blue printing, photograph and color studios. It is expected that the building will be completed by the first of the year.

HEALTHFUL BREAD.

Hickory Milling Company Putting Out an Excellent Flour.

At the risk of considerable free advertising, we are going to tell our readers something of the excellent flour now produced by the Hickory Milling Co. Mr. Caldwell stated to a representative of this paper Monday, that he is now buying his wheat altogether from Pennsylvania where he is enabled to get only the very best—each bushel weighs 62 pounds. Before being ground into flour this wheat is subjected to a process that removes every particle of chaff, every broken and unsound grain and every thing in anyway foreign to the soundest of wheat. The grain is ground under absolutely sanitary conditions by the test and most approved roller process. No talc, chalk or other foreign substances is allowed in the flour. It goes to the buyer as pure as flour can possibly be made.

Mr. Caldwell stated to the writer that he is standing by every sack put out, and any person who does not find the product entirely satisfactory will have the purchase price cheerfully refunded.

We are writing this because we would like to see this enterprising firm enjoy a more liberal patronage from our own home people. We believe in buying everything possible at home and when such an excellent product is to be had there is no excuse for buying elsewhere.

Hickory Graded School Notes.

In the three primary grades of the Hickory schools there are enrolled 292 pupils; in the four grammar grades, 241; and in the four high school grades, 130. Of the pupils in the first seven grades, 91 live in Ward 1; 192 in Ward 2; 99 in Ward 3; and 151 in Ward 4.

It is very likely that next year the high school grades will be moved back to the North building. Six teachers in the new South building could care for the primary and grammar grade pupils living south of the railroad, and six teachers could care for these grades on the north side. In this way the smaller children on the way to and from school would not have to cross the railroad tracks.

For several months the teachers have been making a careful study of how best to apply the principles of psychology and pedagogy to the work in the different grades. They are striving to arrange the work of each grade in conformity to the natural laws of mental development and growth, and in accord with the knowledge gained by experience in the school room.

Some changes in the work in the high school are being worked out. In the high school grades the pupils will be given a choice in the subjects they study. Those who expect to go to college will choose those subjects which will prepare for the University and the colleges of the state. Those who cannot go to college may select other subjects that are of more direct practical value. The purpose of the school is to render the greatest service to the greatest number.

PLANS COUNTY CARAVAN.

Farm Demonstrator Working on New Idea in Catawba.

Newton, April 4.—The farm demonstration commissioner for Catawba has an idea in mind that, if put into practice, as he is planning to do this fall, will mean much for the farmers of the county. His idea now is to start a farm caravan through the county conducted on the same manner as agricultural cars carried over the country on the railroad. A number of prominent speakers will accompany the outfit, which will consist of all the different farm products grown in the county, several of the best breeds of live stock, the different kinds of soils and anything that can be used as an illustration towards better farming. The best ways of breeding and caring for stock, selecting of seeds and preparing land for their reception, and studying the different soils will all be discussed in meetings held at the public school houses.

Catawba farmers have never been awakened as they have been during the past year. The institution of this new office has done wonders.

South Fork Items.

There seems to be no important news from this section just now. Every one seems to be keeping the eleventh commandment by attending strictly to their own business and leaving others alone.

The people are busily engaged in farm work preparing their lands for planting. Much of the land has to be disced owing to the heavy rains of late. I noticed on my way to church Sunday a field planted to corn, the earliest perhaps in the county.

What is growing nicely and the indications are that there will be a bumper crop. Oats also are growing splendidly; the peach crop will be cut short perhaps 80 per cent on account of the recent cold snap.

There are a great many sweet potatoes yet in the county to be marketed, but the farmers are rapidly placing them on the market. Mr. Enloe Yoder has on hand still about 250 bushels. A large congregation was present Sunday at Grace church to hear a splendid sermon by Rev. L. L. Lohr. Communion service will be conducted by Mr. Lohr at this church on the third Sunday in April.

Mr. Enloe Yoder, our popular county surveyor is kept busy all the time. We must congratulate the editor on getting out such a newsy paper. It should find a welcome place in every home in the county, especially where there are children as it will teach them to be good readers. It will be worth a three months schooling to those children as it will be new every week and will interest the children in current history and keep them posted on the important happenings of the country.

Lee Ramsour has moved into his remodeled house. Lee Yoder is putting in an extension of the telephone line from the original South Fork line to his home.

F. A. Yoder is out with his pea threshing machine threshing the peas of all the farmers of this section.

Mrs. J. A. Yount visited her father; G. M. Yoder last Sunday.

Mr. Hidebran has put up a sawmill near the Yoder school house on N. A. Whitener's land.

The general health of this community is good at present. Col