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South Fork Baptist Association Held Annual Meeting With West Hickory Baptist Church

South Fork Baptist Association met with West Hickory Baptist church at 11 o'clock last Wednesday, October 27. Rev. J. S. Connell preached the introductory sermon on the text, "O Lord, I beseech thee, send now prosperity." Psalms 118:25. It was a very practical and timely sermon. After this, it will be known as the "Annual sermon," and be preached at night, or at a time when more delegates will have arrived.

After the sermon, and the enrollment of the delegates present, the Association was organized by electing Osborne Brown, moderator; I. T. Newton, vice-moderator; J. F. Click, clerk; and J. O. Allen, treasurer. After announcements by Pastor Cook as to homes for delegates, the Association adjourned for dinner.

During the afternoon session, after miscellaneous business, recognizing visitors, appointing committees on program and other objects, the report on the Biblical Recorder was read, and was discussed by Rev. W. R. Beach, the travelling correspondent of the Recorder. Center View, a new church was received as a member of the Association. The report on Foreign Missions was read. Pending adoption, it was discussed by Rev. W. C. Barrett and Rev. J. D. Harte.

At the night session, Dr. R. T. Vann, state secretary of the Educational Board, and Dr. Livingston Johnson, secretary of the State Mission Board were welcomed to seats in the association. The report on State Missions was read, and ably discussed by Rev. J. J. Beach and Dr. Johnson.

Thursday morning, the report on the Orphanage was read. The report was discussed by Rev. M. L. Kestler, the general manager of the Orphanage, and others. The report on Education was ably and practically discussed by Rev. I. T. Newton and Dr. Vann.

At the afternoon session, the moderator appoints the following delegates: To the State Convention, J. A. Hoyle, W. F. Huggins and S. A. Stroup. To the Southern Baptist Convention, W. C.

Barrett. The reports on Sunday Schools, the Executive Committee, the B. Y. P. U., and Obituaries were read and adopted.

At the night session, the reports on Woman's Work and South Fork Institute were read, discussed and adopted. The teachers and students of South Fork Institute were present. During the discussion of the school, \$150 was raised to pay incidentals, purchased for the school.

Friday morning, the reports on Home Missions, and Aged Ministers Relief were read and discussed by J. B. Pruet, J. D. Harte, M. A. Adams and others. The committee on program for next session was appointed as follows: W. C. Barrett, I. T. Newton and J. S. Connell. The Association adjourned to meet next year with East Gastonia Church, Rev. J. D. Harte to preach the Annual sermon.

This was a harmonious session. Out of 57 churches, 54 were present with letters and delegates. There were about 160 delegates and visitors present. And Rev. W. N. Cook and his church and friends entertained them nicely.

Several letters did not have a report of their Sunday schools, yet those reporting show that there are 6395 enrolled in the schools. The letters show 608 baptisms during the year, 82 less than last year. The membership of the Association is about 7517, a gain of about 395.

For benevolent objects, the letters show the following: State Missions, \$1,491.08; Home Mission, \$881.83; Foreign Missions, \$1,953.91; Orphanage, \$1,510.22; Christian Education, \$740.86; Aged Ministers Relief, \$108.89; Total, \$6,086.79.

While this does not include Sunday School Missions, and shows a loss on Home Missions, Education and Ministers' Relief, yet the aggregate gain over last year is \$481.51.

The good citizens of Hickory were glad to have the Association with them and invite its clever moderator and its members to come again, your coming will do our city good.

News Notes.

The Serbian fortress of Pirot, described as the key to Nish, has fallen into the hands of the Bulgarians.

William M. Ham was instantly killed late Saturday night when an automobile driven by H. H. Ham turned turtle on the Goldsboro road south of Wilson.

Charles M. Walters, chief of police of Raleigh, died Sunday while serving his last day which he chose two months ago as the termination of his police duties.

Jack Hughes, a white man 30 years old, was taken from jail at Columbus, Miss., Sunday by a party of masked men and hanged to a tree a short distance outside the city limits. Hughes was under arrest in connection with the murder of Larue Holloway.

Ex Governor John M. Slaton, whose commitment of Leo Frank's sentence to life imprisonment caused such a row in Atlanta, has returned to his home in Georgia after being warned not to return. There has as yet been no demonstration against the ex-governor.

Practically doubled federal appropriation for state militia and opening of the proposed continental army to any organization of the National Guard desiring to enter and free to do so, are contemplated in the army side of administration's national defense programme.

Common Sense In Trenches.

What would happen if the war were left to the men who are fighting it, instead of to the kings and diplomats, is indicated in this story, told by an English officer.

The day before the big British attack near Loos, in Northern France, the British soldiers in the first trench saw a board shoved up by the Germans in the trench opposite. It bore the inscription—

"The English Are Fools."

Nobody took the trouble even to shoot at it. Soon the board was lowered, then raised again with this addition—

"The French Are Fools."

The English soldiers ignored that, too. But they began to wake up when the board was lowered again and hoisted with the legend—

"We Are Fools."

That drew loud and prolonged applause. The next time the board disappeared the British waited eagerly for its re-appearance, and burst into an uproar of applause when they read—

"Why Not All Go Home?"

For once, in one little segment of two thousand miles of trenches, common sense reigned. The next day they ran bayonets through each other's ribs.—*Asheville Gazette News.*

Reformation Service.

Rev. W. Hoppe, D. D., pastor of the Church of the Ascension, Savannah, Ga., preached the annual Reformation sermon, in commemoration of the three hundred and ninety-eighth anniversary of Martin Luther's refuting by God's word the erroneous teachings of the Roman Church, at Lenoir College Sunday night. He gave a practical talk on the life and teachings of Luther. A splendid song service was rendered by a selected choir. There was no service at Holy Trinity Church Sunday night, the congregation joining it the services at the college.

New Theatre.

The magnificent new motion picture theatre, recently fitted up in the old Shuford building next door to the express office, was formally opened Saturday night, showing "Coral," a splendid production by the Universal Picture Corporation. Universal pictures will be shown at this theatre and consequently a good daily programme is assured.

Cotton Report.

The bureau of the census announces the number of bales of cotton ginned in Catawba county up to October 25 to be 923, against 1,782 for the same period last year. Totals for the state are: 1915, 264,935; 1914, 301,103.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

Mrs. George Yoder has returned home from Wilmington.

Mr. S. C. Cornwell went to Charlotte Saturday.

Mrs. John Murphy and baby have returned from a visit to relatives at Henrietta.

Mrs. J. A. Sellers is visiting her daughter, Mrs. J. E. Fundenburk, at Cheraw, S. C.

Miss Julia Wheeler has returned from a trip to Washington, D. C. and Atlantic City.

Mrs. A. Bourbonnais spent last week with Mrs. W. H. Craddock at Lenoir.

Miss Mary Harte of Woodleaf, is the guest of Miss Louise Peeler.

Mrs. T. M. Johnson, Miss Adelaide Johnson and Mrs. W. J. Shuford visited Mrs. Self in Lenoir Friday.

Mrs. Will G. Kirkman, who has been visiting in Rennettsville, S. C., has joined her husband here.

Mr. James Lazos has returned from Morristown, Tenn., where he has been to look after his fruit store.

Mr. Geo. W. Ready, a contractor who has been living in Hickory for some months, has gone to Atlanta, Ga.

Mesdames J. D. Elliott, W. S. Martin, Frank Henderson, C. M. Sherrill and G. R. S. Sanders, of New York, motored to Gastonia Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Shuford and guests, Mrs. W. T. Black and Mrs. W. P. Exum, Jr., went to Charlotte Saturday to see Twin Beds.

Mrs. Geo. B. Hannah and Miss Sallie Alexander of Charlotte are the guests of their sister, Mrs. J. L. Springs, and will attend the fair while here.

Mr. Glenn H. Abernethy, returned home Friday afternoon after spending some time traveling in the New England States.

Ralph Brown and Ben Hensley were acquitted in Rutherford Superior court last week on the charge of murdering Dave Wilson.

Dr. Fred T. Ford has reported two cases of smallpox, one in a Story family and one in a Waters family. They are reported to be mild cases, but to be safe, be vaccinated.

The fine weather the past two weeks has given the farmers a splendid opportunity to finish up their fall work, the weather being unusually good for the time of year.

The Democrat is indebted to Esq. S. E. Killan for some samples of his fine apples grown in his orchard at Blowing Rock. These apples are finding ready sale here and are of unusually good quality.

The firm of Houck & Prevet, which recently went into bankruptcy, has settled the case by paying 20 cents on the dollar, and are now back in business. The liabilities of the firm were about \$2,440.

For making the highest gain in membership in the State the past year the Hickory Merchants Association received a check for \$15 as a prize, this being given by the North Carolina Merchants Association. The membership increased from 15 to 62 in one year.

The Bruce Fry Plow Company, manufacturers of a patented reversible turning plow and subsoiler, has commenced business in its factory recently completed at Twenty-first and Ninth streets. R. Bruce Fry is proprietor of the new concern and also inventor of the plow. The factory is well equipped for the business, having a foundry to make the castings and other necessary machinery together with a paint and wood-working department.

Campaign Lies and Suckers.

Lincoln County News.

Last fall about this time of year Republican spellbinders were handing out campaign dope in an attempt to get votes, and one of the campaign lies used was that the Democrats were responsible for the 6-cent cotton last year, while now since war conditions are more settled, and cotton is selling at a good price and the war is given as the cause for better prices, Republican politicians would have the people believe that low cotton was caused by Democratic legislation while high cotton prices are the result of the war. Some people actually believed what was handed out last year and failed to plant any cotton at all this year. They of course now see that Republican campaign lies of last year were misleading. The people should remember these fellows and when they come around next year less dependence should be put in what Republican spellbinders say. The Charlotte Observer along this line says:

"The Republican spellbinders last year got a good many of their constituency to believe their chatter about the Democratic party being responsible for the low price of cotton, and further, that as long as the Democrats were in power cotton would never go to six cents. This was particularly the case in Catawba County where there are some republicans who have long been in need of boring for the hollow horn. The Newton Enterprise this week tells the sequel, 'The sickest Republicans in Catawba,' says the paper, 'are those who declined to plant any cotton last spring because they still believed in the Republican claptrap of the preceding fall, that the Democratic Administration caused the low price of cotton and it would be low again this year.' A Democrat who has already ginned 10 bales, half of which is adorning his front yard and will be sold next Spring, tells The Enterprise that 'four of his Republican neighbors who usually are good cotton farmers, did not plant a row this year because they believed it would sell again at six cents.' These farmers are said to have confessed how they were imposed upon and one of them 'is free to say he will never again listen to politicians who say that politics has anything to do with the price of cotton.' This particular farmer is not meaning to make a rash statement, but that is just what he is doing, all the same. In the very next campaign the Republican stumblers will have the usual sugar-coated pill for the unsuspecting farmer, who will be made to believe that it was the war that made cotton healthy and saved the country, and that everything is going pell-mell to the bow-wows if the Republican party is not given charge again next year. The Republican campaign lie is going to be in full flower on the next go-round and it will be attended by the usual catch of suckers."

Death of Child.

Boyd, the 3-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Reese, died at the home of his parents near Foard & Whisnant's store Saturday, October 30, following an illness of short duration. The funeral and burial took place at Grace Church Sunday, services being conducted by Rev. Lohr. The bereaved parents have the sympathy of many friends.

May Open New Street.

A movement is on foot in Hickory to improve and open up a street for the use of the public on the railroad property between the passenger depot and the Huffy Hotel, the city council having been petitioned to that effect. We hope this will be done as this property in its present condition is very unsightly.

Twenty School Children Are Lost in a Fire Which Destroys School Building

Twenty children, most of them girls ranging in age from 7 to 17 years, lost their lives at Peabody, Mass., Thursday in a fire which destroyed St. John's Parochial school. Another girl has injuries regarded as probably fatal, while others were less severely hurt.

The 600 children had just entered their class rooms when the fire discovered and although a majority were guided to safety by sisters of the order of Notre Dame, who were their teachers, panic seized a large number as they neared the front door, and in their rush to escape they lost their footing and their bodies blocked the exit.

All of the sisters escaped, but Mother Superior Marie Carmelita was seriously burned. It was said that her injuries probably were not fatal, although she is prostrated by the disaster and the suffering of her charges.

How the fire started may never be known. An early theory that a boiler explosion caused it having been dismissed, state police officials were of the opinion that a store room in the basement, where a gas meter was located, was its source.

The first word of the fire is believed to have come from a tardy pupil who smelled smoke and reported it to the mother superior. The children had just finished morning prayer, when the gong sounded for fire drill.

Mother Marie hurried to tell the sisters of the actual danger, and the movements of the fire drill were quickly started. The building would have been emptied in the opinion of the Rev. Nicholas J. Murphy, pastor of St. John's Roman Catholic church, but for the falling of a child believed to be a cripple, in

the front vestibule. Over her body child after child, fearful of the flames, and pressed on by the crowd behind, stumbled and fell. The opening was choked and fire escape stopped.

The jamming of the rear door also impeded the movement of the children through the building. This exit was reopened, however, and many children escaped through it.

The classes of pupils had fled through the corridors and started down the stairs in orderly procession, notwithstanding curling plumes of smoke, until the blockade occurred at the doors. Then with cries from those below in their ears, the children in the rear of lines scattered to the rooms on all three floors of the building.

Those on the lower floor dropped safely to the ground. From the second floor most of the children, supervised by the sisters, jumped into the coats of firemen and bystanders which were held out to catch them. Many of those who went to the windows of the upper story were warned against risking the long jump, and escaped from windows below. Some of the braver and more resourceful slid down water spouts, among them a boy of 14 years old, who assisted another boy with only one leg over a shaking spout. Two girls who were dropped to the ground sustained serious injuries, one dying at a hospital.

The sister teachers controlled the situation until the mishap at the front door. Mother Superior Marie Carmelita said during the fire that she had made certain that all the children had left the upper floors before she did. No bodies were found above the first floor.

Dr. Randolph's Residence Burns

The following from Saturday's Greensboro News will be of interest to readers of The Democrat, Mrs. Randolph being a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Huffman of this city.

"S. A. Caviness, returned to Greensboro last night from Elon College, brought news to this city of a costly fire at Elon yesterday afternoon, when the handsome residence of Dr. E. E. Randolph, of the college faculty, was completely destroyed, together with all its furnishings. There was no one at home when the blaze started, and when it was discovered the flames had gained such headway that nothing could be done to check them. The fire started about 5 o'clock in the afternoon and at 7 the handsome home was a pile of glowing embers.

"With the house and its furnishings there were also destroyed the library and scientific material belonging to Dr. Randolph and his brother, Dr. E. O. Randolph. The house was valued at about \$5,000, although there is no estimate given on the value of furnishings and other valuables. It is stated that very little insurance of any kind was carried.

Presbyterian Synod Meets in Salisbury Next Year.

Gastonia, Oct. 29.—The North Carolina Presbyterian synod, in annual session here this week, adjourned today to meet next year in Salisbury. This is the last meeting of the synod as at present constituted as a considerable portion of the present synod, including all of the Asheville presbytery, has been transferred to the new Appalachian synod which will hold its first session at Bristol, Tenn., next week.

Democrat and Republican Calls for Meetings Issued

Chairmen of both the Democratic and Republican national committees have issued calls for meetings in Washington to select cities for the coming National conventions. The Democrats will meet on December 7, and the Republicans December 14.

In addition to issuing his call, Chairman Charles D. Hilles, of the Republican national committee, set forth the probable line of campaign to be followed by his party. It will include:

An attack on the Democratic tariff.

Criticism of the administration's handling of the affairs in Europe and Mexico.

Charges that Democracy has failed to keep its promise of an economical administration and has failed to keep its 1912 platform pledges, including the declaration in favor of a single term for the President.

Attacks on the administration's government ship bill and other administration measures.

H. J. Holbrook Permanent Receiver.

At a meeting of the creditors of the Brookford Mill company held here last week H. J. Holbrook was named permanent receiver by Referee Pearson, to which the minority stockholders, through their attorneys, filed exception. The minority stockholders were represented by Messrs. Bascom Blackwelder, Self & Barby and W. B. Council. The Julliard interests were represented by Mr. C. W. Tillett of Charlotte, and Messrs. K. C. Menzies and E. Lyerly, the balance of the creditors. Mr. A. A. Whitener appeared as attorney for the mill.

Aunt Jemimy Defends the President.

"Dishees sho is a worl' of lump starch en bluein'," grumbled Aunt Jemimy, bringing down her iron with a bang on the piece of broken skillet that served as a holder. "Don' keer what you does you cyarn please eve'ybody."

"I membuhs 'bout a yeah ago eve'ybody was complainin' dat de pres'dent was sich a lonely widuh-man he couldn' fix his mind steadf as on nothin'." "It are not good fuh man to live lonesome, not even in de White House," dey says. "Who is he got to 'tend to his marketin' fuh him en see e'n his coffee is hot in de mawnin', en who is gwinter tell him when to put on his wintuh flannels. Dar oughter be somebody in dat White House to look arfuh all dem things so's he could take his mind off 'uv em en put hit on de wa'n in Mexico. He ain't tendin' to his bizness de way he oughter do, kase, wid all his daughters marryin' en lecturin' as singin' en sich, he's got all de housekeepin' en preservin' en picklin' to tend to, en seein' e'n de front po'ch is sweep off reg' luh en de grass is cut in de front yard."

Catawba County Hog Club to Meet Here

The next meeting of the Catawba County Hog Club, of which John S. Hildebrand is president, and R. C. Perry, secretary, will be held in Hickory at the Catawba Creamery, Saturday, November 27.

This club is intended for the betterment of hog raisers and the community in general. There is no admission fee to pay and all persons interested are cordially invited to attend the meeting and see what the club is trying to do.

dey 'lows he dunno when he's well off, en de bacheluhs is sore kase dey didn't think uv dat rich widuh fust, en dar you is,

"I is yet to heah anybody 'low dat de pres'dent is done de right thing."

"Bekase he's pres'dent, look laik dey specs him to be diffant 'fom ev'y uthuh man on uth, jes laik you specs prachuhs to be 'betten 'n eve'ybody else. But I kin tell you dis, chile: Men is jes laik wharevuh you fin's em, don' keer whethuh hits in de pulpit or de White House. Dar ain't a speck uv diffance betwixt em. White, black, rich or po', high or low, dey is human to de ve'y backbone, en when you's said dat you's said all."—Cally Rviand.

Cotton Report.

The bureau of the census announces the number of bales of cotton ginned in Catawba county up to October 25 to be 923, against 1,782 for the same period last year. Totals for the state are: 1915, 264,935; 1914, 301,103.