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Nobody has ever been able to successfully imitate it, because its quality is indelibly registered in the taste of the American public.

Demand the genuine by full name.
EVERY BOTTLE STERILIZED

Coca-Cola Bottling Co.
 HICKORY, N. C.

JUDGE McCORKLE

Mr. E. L. Shuford, who has written a number of sketches of Hickory and Catawba county citizens for the Record, has furnished the Charlotte Observer with an article on the late Judge M. L. McCorkle of Newton, one of the most beloved men in this section of the state. It has been remarked of him that he always tried to prevent lawsuits, and many Catawba people can recall incidents in which he got into his carriage and sought to compromise actions before they had reached a point where compromise was impossible. He was one of the greatest men of his times and the sketch by Mr. Shuford will be of particular interest to readers of the Record:

Judge M. L. McCorkle, of Newton, was a grandson of Francis McCorkle, a gallant soldier at the battle of Ramsours Mill. He was born at Mountain Creek, Catawba county, November 17, 1817. He was educated in the free schools and a graduate from Davidson college in 1843. He read law under Chief Justice Pearson at Mocksville, and having received his license located at Newton, Catawba county, in 1846 to practice.

It might be well to look back and take a survey of Catawba county about the time Locke McCorkle began his career at Newton. The changes that have occurred are hard to realize, and must be accepted by faith, for although there are just a few of our citizens whose boyhood experiences turn them back to the 40s Hickory at that time was not on the map, and even many years afterwards, most of this township could have been bought at 25 cents per acre.

We yet have a record that the Great Western stage line leaving Salisbury at 5 a. m. one day and arriving at Asheville 8 p. m. the next, a journey of 39 hours, passing through Newton.

In the early 40s there was not a daily newspaper in the state, and not a newspaper of any kind published west of Salisbury. If you wanted to go to Washington for a trip you took a stage line. There were few conveniences, no telegraph lines. Travelers stopped at taverns. The merchants at Newton hauled their goods from Charleston, and even from Philadelphia, while not a few of our farmers would haul their products to Charleston and Wilmington which included their corn distilled or converted into bacon for which they would exchange for groceries and dry goods. Money in those days would go a long way. Beef sold for 5 cents, coffee for 10 cents, tobacco for 8 cents, corn whiskey for 35 cents gallon, eggs 5 cents per dozen.

Catawba county farmers used home made trace chains and axes and even after the civil war, the writer remembers as a boy to have sold home made iron which was afterwards made into plows, etc. One of these local forges near Henry River was operated by A. L. Shuford.

The Western North Carolina railroad supplanted the old stage line, but at first many people were afraid to ride 10 miles per hour, which was the best three engines attached to queer looking coaches could do. A fellow looked on these cars then like many of us do on airplanes at present.

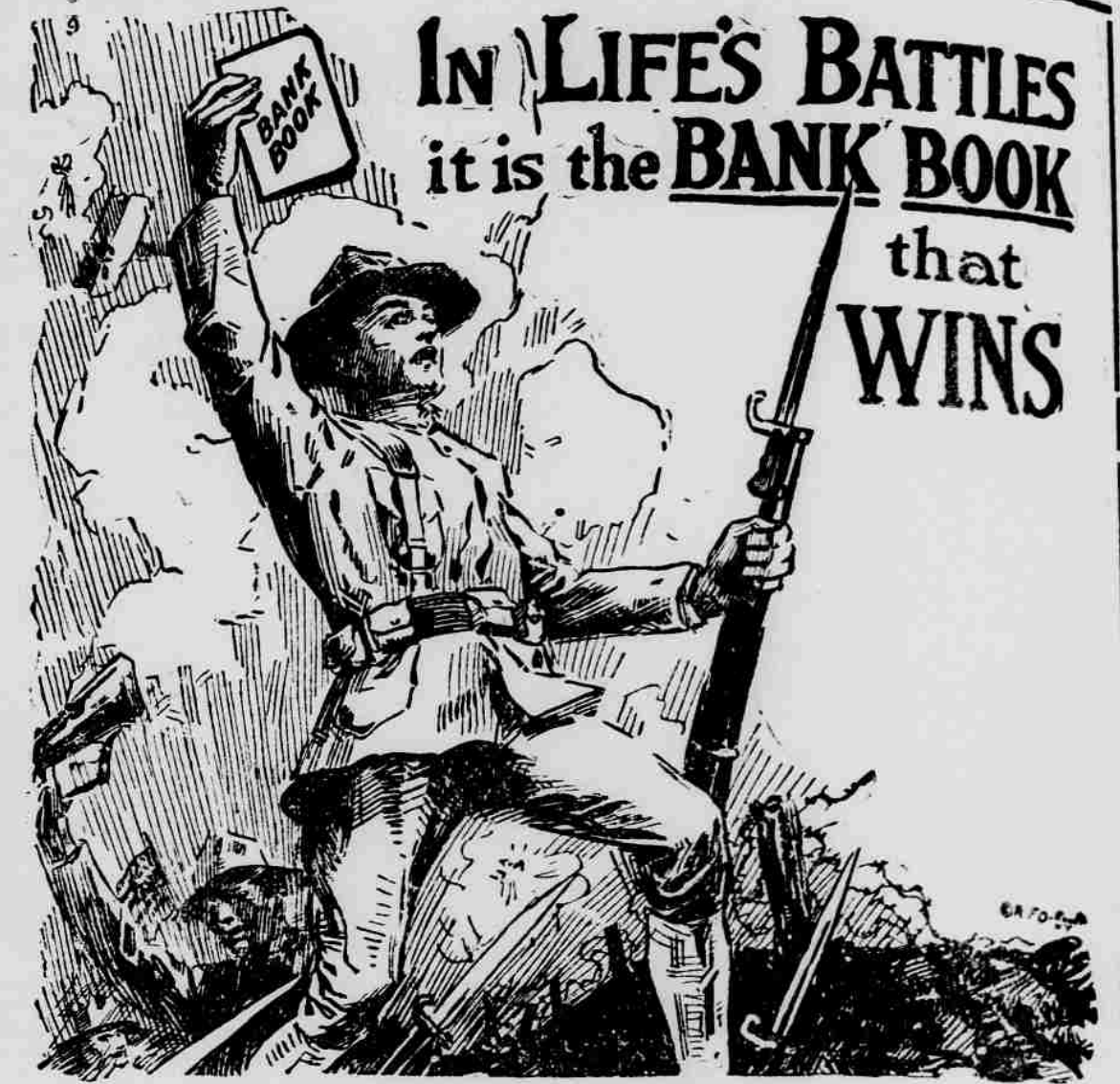
Most of our judges as well as the more prosperous citizens wore silk hats and close fitting dress boots. Colonel McCorkle in his early practice at Newton bought his silk hats from Salisbury.

There were four hat factories in Rowan county at that time, and they made silk beavers that would put to shame anything on today's market. These hats would stand rain and sunshine and were well worth the money. They were worn by dignitaries and well-to-do's of Catawba county, Burke and Happy Valley as well as Rowan and adjoining counties. This was before the civil war. The price of hats in 1860, however, may throw some light on the present range of unheard of war affected values.

The late Sam Wiltkowsky in 1862 was engaged in making hats at Statesville, and sold these hats as high as \$800 each and \$5,000 per dozen to merchants in Catawba county.

Colonel McCorkle was elected clerk of the superior court the year he obtained his license in 1846 and held this office until 1850. In that year he married Miss J. M. A. Wilfong, the only daughter of the late John Wilfong, of Hickory. Her grandfather, John Wilfong, Sr., was a brave soldier in the revolution, and presidential elector in 1836. The marriage of Colonel McCorkle was a manifold blessing, connecting him by ties with the large and influential family of Catawba Wilfongs and multiplied by sons and daughters of his own in a most delightful and representative Catawba home.

Jerome Dowd, of Mecklenburg county, now living in Oklahoma, and prominent in educational lines, married Anna, daughter of Judge McCorkle. C. Dowd was collector of internal revenue of this district and at that time the office was located at Newton, Jerome was chief clerk.



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