

Established 1876.

LINCOLNTON, NORTH CAROLINA, JULY 7, 1922.

Twice a Week.

Lincolnton, Growing Thriving Metropolis

Location Makes Town Ideal For Business, Health and Industries

Few Communities More Richly Blessed With Public Spirited Citizens and Business Men.

Few communities in the country are so richly blessed as Lincolnton, county seat of Lincoln County, North Carolina, a prosperous, thriving, progressive town of more than 4,000 persons.

The development of Lincolnton was held back for many years through lack of railroads and transportation facilities, but in recent decades it has moved forward and today stands out as a town with a future, unrivaled only by similar communities which can outstrip it in the personal efforts of its citizens for after all is said and done a town is what its people make it.

During the past several years Lincolnton has grown and prospered wonderfully. From a small town of frame buildings, without modern improvements, Lincolnton has made rapid strides and is now a modern city with all of the modern improvements, paved streets and sidewalks.

A water system unexcelled, sanitation, and blocks of modern brick business houses, pretty homes, handsome public buildings.

New comers are arriving almost weekly, and the building industry of the town is taxed in erecting new homes for the increased citizenship. The construction of new buildings is progressing in every section of the town. Lincolnton is situated on the lines of the Seaboard Air Line and the Carolina and North Western Railway, 869 feet above sea level, and that picturesque, fertile and rich, rolling country known as the Piedmont section, and is perpetually embraced by the life-giving winds that sweep down the Eastern slopes of the Blue Ridge Mountains. For many years it has been celebrated for its superb climate, healthful and salubrious, and for the wonderful qualities contained in its invigorating waters. The town has long enjoyed the enviable distinction of being one of the three most healthful places in the United States. The South Fork of the famous Catawba river runs by the town, giving power to the industries of the town and county, and watering one of the most universally beautiful regions in the State.

Lincolnton is making more progress at this time than any other city of like wealth and population to be found perhaps anywhere. The building program for this year runs to the Million Mark and over, with three or four \$75,000 handsome church buildings just completed or nearing completion; a handsome quarter million dollar court house is being erected here by the county of Lincoln, the equal of any in the south; the city is in the midst of a new school building program to take care of the increase in population, \$200,000 worth of graded school bonds having been issued by a vote of the people to be used in the erection of a modern fire proof high school building and additional primary school buildings. Dozens of handsome new residences and business houses have recently been completed and this work continues.

Improvements are not only confined to the city of Lincolnton the county seat of Lincoln, but extend into the county, where school districts are being consolidated, special taxes are being levied by the people themselves and modern and large brick high school buildings have been and are be-

ing erected. The city is now in the midst of a program of public improvements, bonds have been issued by the city officials, composed of Mayor J. R. Gamble, and Aldermen J. Frank Love, Fred C. Ramsaur, R. R. Reinhardt and J. F. Wentz for the purpose of extending the water and sewer system and the electric lighting, and there is also in prospect further extension of the street and sidewalk paving amounting to several miles.

The town has one of the best water supplies, for domestic, commercial,

which connects Lincolnton with the state highway leading from the mountains to the sea, another state hard-surfaced road in prospect is that from Lincolnton to Gaston county, which will give connection to the south, and with the state highway from Asheville in the Blue Ridge Mountain to Wilmington the state's principal seacoast city. Lincoln is one of the 100 counties of progressive North Carolina, which state now is engaged in a road building program extending over 5 years, 50 million dollars having been appropriated by the legislature for good roads.

Iron, gold, and monozite have all been mined in Lincoln county, and east of Lincolnton iron ores exist in great abundance. These beds were worked for more than a century, but the plants are not in operation at the present time. A fine grade of tin ore is found here, and the large tin mine South of town will some day become one of the most productive mines in the nation.

The various fraternal orders have live locals here and in the county, Masons, Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World, Odd Fellows, Junior Order, Moose, etc.

The Lincolnton hospital, operated by Dr. L. A. Crowell, a first class establishment, and a credit to the community, is well equipped and its patients come from within a radius of 50 to 100 miles around Lincolnton.

All professions are well represented

west of the Catawba river, and it was named Tryon in honor of the governor, in it were included the present counties of Lincoln, Cleveland, Rutherford, Polk, Catawba and Gaston. But the name of Tryon became odious to the patriotic people, and in 1779, the Legislature of North Carolina divided the territory of Tryon county the Eastern portion being called Lincoln, the new county getting its name from General Benjamin Lincoln, who, at that time, was in command of the Southern Military Department including the two Carolinas and Georgia. The western part of old Tryon was called Rutherford county. In 1842, Catawba county was created out of the northern portion of Lincoln, and in 1846, Gaston county was established, her territory being taken from the southern part of Lincoln county. Lincoln county is now thirty miles long, running east and west and ten miles wide, running north and south.

The court house of Lincoln county was in 1787, at Lincolnton, after having been previously located at two other places. But the court records began in 1769, in Tryon county, being the crown docket till 1777, when the State docket was instituted.

The town was settled by a thifty and sturdy German population, most of the men being mechanics, who emigrated from Pennsylvania and moved southward till they reached the land of the Catawba, in view of the mountains along the Blue Ridge. Among



East Main Street, a business section of Lincolnton, Charlotte citizens parading the street.

LINCOLNTON SCHOOLS, PAST AND PRESENT

(By Mrs. L. C. Nixon.)

Lincolnton became a chartered town in 1786 by an act of the General Assembly—since that time it has been known especially as a center of culture and refinement. In those days our school system was well known through this part of the State. How many of our grandfathers and grandmothers will fail to remember the days when the old "Male Academy" (now Memorial Hall) and the Female Academy were the center of education in this section? These two schools flourished for over a hundred years. After their day passed the building of the old Female Academy became the halls of learning and for many years and under a score of different teachers the children of Lincolnton went to "free school" for one term and "pay school" the last term of the year.

In later years the very dignified name of "Piedmont Seminary" was applied to our school, although it was still run under the old plan of half pay and half free. One of the most beloved of the teachers of those days was Miss Kate C. Shipp.

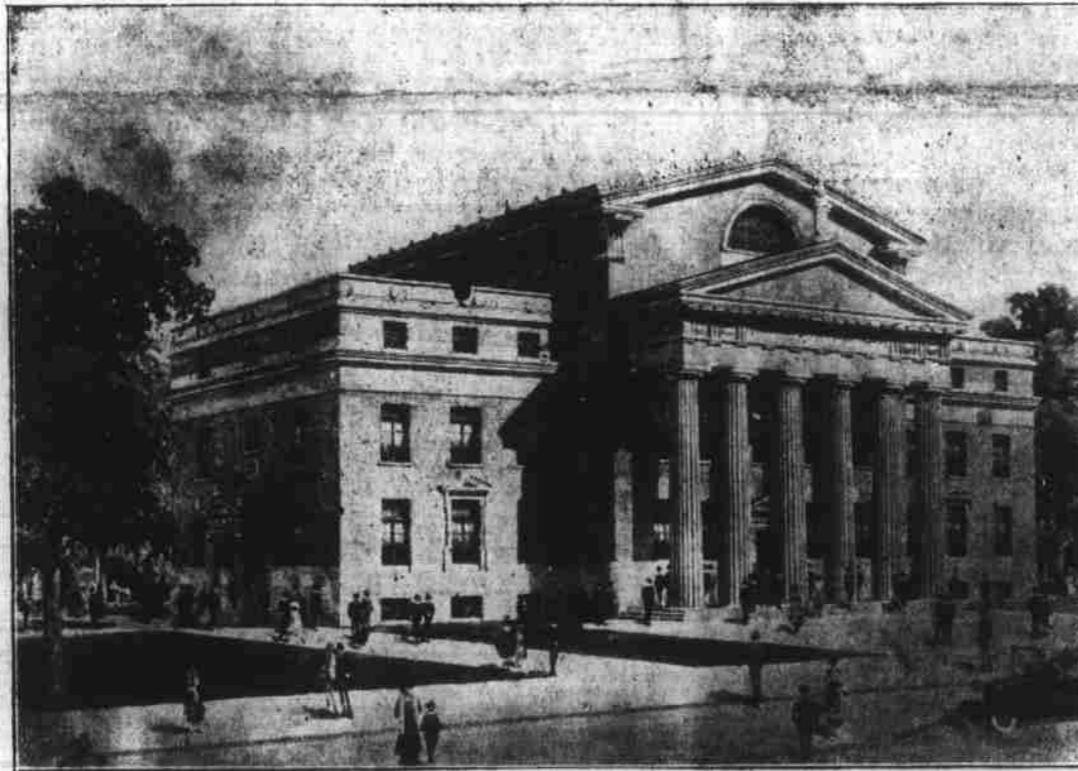
After the departure of Miss Kate Shipp for a private school of her own, the school went through several years of serious financial difficulties. At times it seemed as if the school would finally be closed but by some good fortune it escaped.

In the year 1904, Mr. B. P. Caldwell became the superintendent and for seven years managed with so much ability that the school system began to emerge from its years of lethargy and to take on new life. By dint of much hard work he succeeded in persuading the people that the time had come for Lincolnton to have a graded school. This question was finally brought to an issue by some of our most broadminded men and an election was held. The vote for a graded school carried and Lincolnton was saved from educational oblivion. After the Graded School was assured the next step was a High School for Lincolnton. This movement too was successful and the year 1908 saw the first class of 13 boys and girls graduated from the Lincolnton High School.

By this time Lincolnton had become such a growing town that our School building was entirely too cramped to accommodate the growing demands for the education of our youth. So once more the town was shocked out of its conservatism by the demand for a modern Graded School Building. After much opposition the election for school bonds was carried and in 1907 the corner stone was laid for our present school building. How many of us can remember the pessimistic grumbings of those who prophesied that the building was far too large and would never be filled. But they were destined to disappointment for very soon the accommodations were so cramped that it became necessary to build a Primary School on the opposite side of town near the site of the Old Male Academy.

Lincolnton still continues to grow and as proof of the growing educational demands another temporary

(Continued on page four.)



Jas. A. Salter, Architect, Raleigh, N. C.

Lincoln County's New Courthouse

Built of Granite and Limestone, Fire Proof Throughout, at Approximate Cost of Quarter Million Dollars.

and fire purposes, of any town its size in the State.

The town reservoir holds 408,000 gallons of water, and the stand pipe has a capacity of 75,000 gallons.

Lincolnton is destined to become a health resort section, the altitude here being particularly suited to many. Already many visit the Lithia Springs hotels here during each summer. Mineral springs abound in the vicinity of Lincolnton, and the quality of the water can nowhere be surpassed. The average temperature of the town in the summer is from 75 to 89 degrees, and the thermometer ranges from 40 to 50 in the winter. The water from Lincolnton Lithia Springs has long been famous.

A net work of sandclay roads lead to all sections, the county having issued \$200,000 in bonds for road purposes. Between 25 and 30 miles of these roads are maintained by the state road fund. The state highway commission has let contract for a hard-surfaced road leading from Lincolnton to Newton on the North,

here, as well as all other lines of business. With the foundation laid for a great city Lincoln has a future and faces the coming years with bright hopes.

HISTORY.

(Extracts from History by Mr. A. Nixon.)

The birthday of the town of Lincolnton was December 14, 1785, when an original grant was obtained by Joseph Dickson from Richard Caswell, 'governor, captain, general and commander-in-chief at New Bern,' the grant consisting of 300 acres and "being for the use of building thereon a court house and erecting a town thereon." The town did not extend its limits until 1901, when by an enactment of the General Assembly, 1,000 acres were added to the town. Joseph Dickson was a public spirited man, an active patriot, clerk of the county court at the time of the grant, and for many years a Senator from Lincoln county in the General Assembly.

In 1768, a new county was created out of that portion of Mecklenburg,

these early settlers were the Hokes, Schencks, Shufords, Hoovers, Summey's and others, many of whom have contributed to the history of the Old North State.

Among the great men Lincoln county has produced, who have left their "foot prints on the sands of time," are Michael Hoke, William Alexander Graham, Joseph Graham, David Schenck, William Marcus Shipp, William Alexander Hoke, Peter Forney, Daniel M. Forney, William Pinkney Henderson, Stephen D. Ramsaur, Robert F. Hoke, Robert D. Johnson, William Lander, Alexander Brevard, Robert Hall Morrison and many others, whose history has left a priceless heritage.

Nature has so combined the elements here as to produce industrious successful and happy farmers; manufacturers who have established industries and enterprises of which the State is proud; historians whose impartial and discriminating pens have done much to preserve a faithful record of the State; soldiers as fearless

SETTLEMENT OF STRIKE EXPECTED

Chicago, July 5.—Hope for the speedy settlement of the country-wide strike of the railway shopmen was seen tonight in statements issued by Ben W. Hooper, chairman of the United States railroad labor board, and B. M. Jewell, leader of the shop crafts who ordered the walkout.

In a reply to a letter from Mr. Hooper, which was regarded as conciliatory, Mr. Jewell declared that the strikers were willing to "consider any negotiations with any one, in authority for settlement of the strike."

We are willing to confer with anybody authorized by the railroads to bring peace proposals to us," said Mr. Jewell. "I include or exclude nobody, but if the labor board, for instance, came to us with a definite proposition, we would not hesitate to consider it."