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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

SADDED BY MR. McNEELEY'S DEATH

Wingate People Held Him in High Esteem—Death of Esq. J. W. Thomas—News and Personals. Correspondence of The Journal.

Wingate, Jan. 6.—The sad news of the tragic death of Mr. Ney McNeelley brought sorrow and gloom and disappointment to the hearts of the Wingate people, in common with all of his friends. Few young men were ever more highly appreciated or more closely bound to hearts of our people than was this noble young lawyer. If we could have had our way the deceased would have been spared, but the Grim Reaper never consults us as to whom we would prefer that he should take on or whom he should leave. We feel, however, that there are other whom we could better afford to give up. But we are only finite human beings whose vision is too weak and short to penetrate the great and mysterious future.

The writer, in reading the account of the death of Capt. John M. Little as given by The Wadesboro Ansonian, discovered that Mr. Little was exactly of his age. Both born on the same day of the month of the same year. Both entered the Confederate service as soldiers, served the same length of time and came home safe. It would be quite interesting to this scribe to know how many more of Anson and Union county old boys can duplicate the above, especially the birthday.

Correction: I said in my last communication—let us pray and hope that better things may be written of the New Year as its demise than has been written of the old. Not little things, as I was made to say.

The Wingate school opened with a full attendance Monday with several new additions.

After spending their holiday vacation among home folks, the boys and girls all returned to their various colleges to resume their studies for the New Year. May their efforts be crowned with the best of success.

Prof. and Mrs. B. Y. Tyner, after spending the holidays with their relatives and friends about their old home, have returned to their duties in the Virginia State Normal at Fredericksburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Braswell of Rock Hill, were visitors in the home of Mrs. Braswell's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. May, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Lamb and little son, went down to Polkton Friday evening and took supper with the family of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Goodman, Mrs. Lamb's parents. Of course they went and came by rail and had a most enjoyable time.

Dr. Gale, whose sickness was mentioned in a former contribution to The Journal, has so far recovered as to be able to resume his duties in the Wingate Drug store.

A correction: In my last note I stated that Mrs. Addie Joplin's home was at Red Springs, when it should have been Greensboro—at the Normal and Industrial college. Beg pardon, my friends, mistakes will creep in occasionally.

Pastor Black went down to Cedar Grove last Wednesday to conduct the funeral services over the remains of Esq. J. W. Thomas of Diamond Hill, who died at his home Tuesday. The deceased was widely known and highly esteemed by all who knew him. "Smoker Billy," as he was familiarly called, left quite a number of relatives and friends in Union county, who will be sorry to learn of his death. Mr. Thomas was the son of the late Green Thomas of Anson county, who died in time of the Civil war. His mother was a daughter of the late William Williams, who lived and died just west of Wingate near the trustee on the Seaboard. So it will be seen that the deceased leaves scores of relatives among the Williams and Griffin families about Wingate and Monroe, especially, Esq. Thomas was a Confederate soldier, one among the bravest and most gallant; an active, consistent member of the Baptist church; a kind and devoted husband and father. In short, he was a well rounded character in every sense of the term, and one who will be greatly missed in the home and community of which he was a member. "Cousin Billy," was, we suppose, about 75 or 76 years at the time of his death. Our deepest sympathies go out to the bereaved family in this their hour of sadness and grief.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Liles and Mrs. R. L. Womble spent Wednesday afternoon with the family of Mr. and Mrs. O. P. T. It was sure a delight to have these good neighborly friends with us.

Prof. and Mrs. J. G. Carroll will leave tomorrow on a few days' visit to the home of Prof. Carroll's parents in Sampson county. Two of Prof. Carroll's sisters, the writer understands, have recently been married, and the Prof. and lady go to congratulate, celebrate and rejoice over the happy event. O. P. TIMIST.

Mr. W. P. Parsons, Wadesboro Citizen, Mentioned in The Senate. Wadesboro Dispatch, Jan. 4th.

With the advent of 1916, the political pot has begun to boil. The nomination for State Senators for this district, comprising Anson, Davidson, Stanly and Union counties, will fall to the two first named counties this year. A well defined rumor is to the effect that Mr. William P. Parsons will be asked to represent the district from Anson county. Mr. Parsons is a native of this county. He has long been identified with civic commercial and moral interests of this community and is recognized as a happy medium between the conservative and the radical factions.

NO MORE NEWS OF PERSIA

Government Is Making Every Effort to Get Information of How the Ship Was Done to Death, But Has Learned Nothing.

Washington Dispatch, Jan. 6.

Hope of obtaining from survivors conclusive proof that it was a torpedo that destroyed the liner Persia, was virtually abandoned at the State Department when Consul Garrels at Alexandria, Egypt, cabled that no new facts were contained in the affidavits he had gathered.

Secretary Lansing is hopeful that inquiries made by Ambassador Penfield at the Vienna Foreign Office may clear up the situation. A dispatch announcing the presentation of the inquiry was received by the Secretary today and information concerning a reply is expected before tomorrow night.

Various aspects of the submarine crisis probably will be discussed by President Wilson and his Cabinet tomorrow. The President is understood to have told Senators who called upon him today that as soon as the necessary information was at hand he would take action which he believed would satisfy the people of the United States.

The matter also is expected to come up before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee tomorrow when it holds its first meeting of the session. The committee discussion may extend the question of submarine warfare in general, the sinking of the Persia, the Lusitania case and other incidents of the European war in which Americans were involved. Chairman Stone said tonight he believed the committee would map out a program of procedure with regard to all pending matters including treaties awaiting ratification and resolutions regarding the European situation.

The official text of Austria's reply to the second American note on the sinking of the Ancona was made public during the day by the State Department. Except for variations in translations the official text is identical with the unofficial version cabled to United States in press dispatches from London. The note is regarded as meeting the demands made by the United States for disavowal, punishment of the submarine commander who torpedoed the vessel and reparation by payment of indemnity for the Americans killed and injured. A response to the communication will not, it was said tonight, be prepared until the facts surrounding the sinking of the Persia is known, or it is evident that to obtain them will be impossible.

One week has now passed since the Persia was sunk with a loss of at least two American lives and the American Government is still without information sufficient to shape its course.

State Department officials are most anxious to determine just where the Persia received her death blow and the manner in which she sank.

With accurate information of this character and a plan showing the bulkhead arrangements of the steamship at hand naval experts might be able to determine with some degree of certainty, whether a torpedo or a mine caused the Persia to go down. There is little disposition here, however, to credit the suggestion that a mine might have sunk the vessel. It is pointed out that the place of the disaster was nearly midway between the island of Crete and the northern coast of Africa. No mine fields are believed to be in that locality. On the other hand, Austrian submarines are known to have been active there. Naval officers think that if a mine had floated to that part of the sea from a distant field of operations, it would have automatically become ineffective while en route.

That any information that may be forthcoming from the Austro-Hungarian Government will lead to serious complications is considered improbable. Government officials would not be greatly surprised should Ambassador Penfield be informed that an Austrian submarine commander was responsible for the sinking of the Persia, but that he exceeded his instructions or failed to receive them, and that the Austro-Hungarian Government regretted the fact and stood ready to make satisfactory amends.

The State Department is represented as not expecting information from Ambassador Gerard at Berlin. No instruction to inquire for information were sent to him. However, the Ambassador might have made inquiries at the Berlin Foreign Office as has been indicated in press dispatches upon his own initiative.

Marshville Shy on Hotel Accommodations

Marshville Home. As yet no one has undertaken the management of the Marshville hotel. This fact is the source of no little inconvenience to the traveling public. At the present time a man is forced to leave our little city at night, for there is no place in which he may spend the night. We hope some one will soon see fit to open up accommodations along this line.

BAD HABITS

Those who breakfast at eight o'clock or later, lunch at twelve and have dinner at six are almost certain to be troubled with indigestion. They do not allow time for one meal to digest before taking another. Not less than five hours should elapse between meals. If you are troubled with indigestion correct your habits and take Chamberlain's Tablets, and you may reasonably hope for a quick recovery. These tablets strengthen the stomach and enable it to perform its functions naturally. Obtainable everywhere.

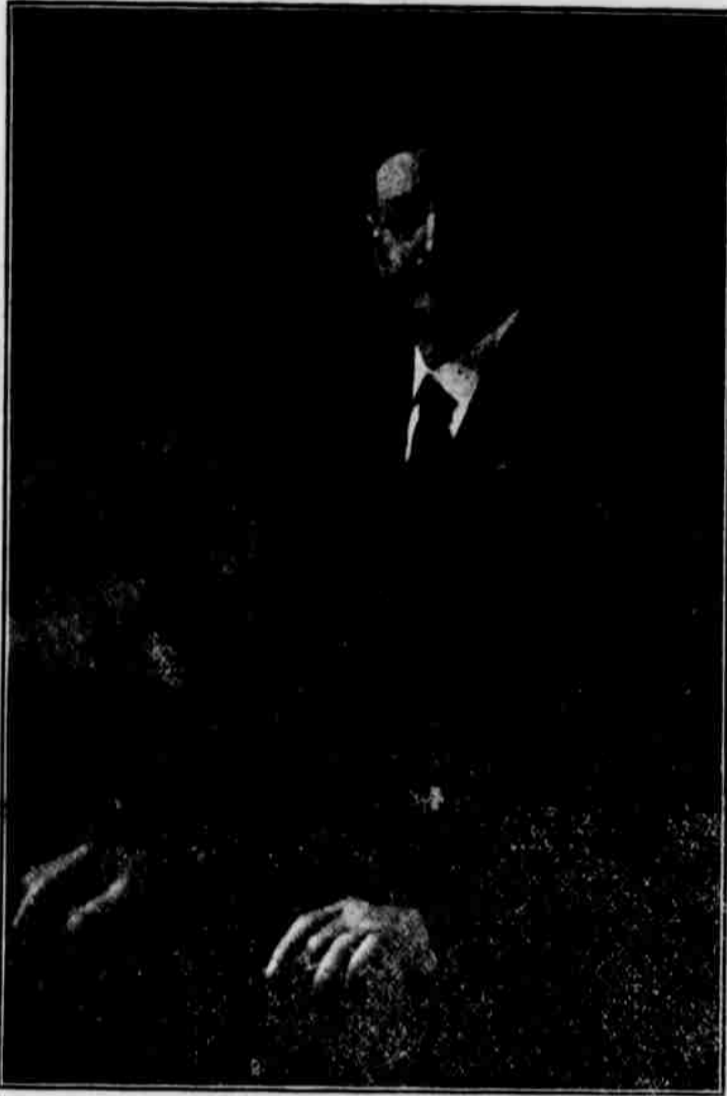
INTIMATE AND APPRECIATIVE SKETCH OF MR. W. H. BELK

(From the Charlotte Observer.)

In the mercantile world of the Carolinas no name is better known than the one which appears above. Rising by sheer force of will, native ability and untiring industry from the status of a youth without capital to the leadership of a giant enterprise which transacts each year a business totalling two and a quarter million dollars, Mr. Belk has made himself a powerful factor in the up-building of the State and the city of its adoption. In the years that are past he has grappled with problems that might well have dismayed one who was less resolute, he has confronted obstacles in the face of which many a man would have hoisted the white flag of defeat. But not he. A man of a different mould is this quiet, unassuming but determined head of a dozen departments

The plantations were sold to pay the debt, Mr. Belk's mother bought some of the land and stock, the money being advanced by her brother, Col. William W. Walkup. Not until 22 years ago did Mr. W. H. Belk and his brother, Dr. J. M. Belk, complete the payment of this money, the residue of the debt incurred on behalf of the colored family.

Mr. Belk lived in Lancaster county until about 10 years old, when he went to Monroe with his family and there he has spent much of his life thus far. He attended local schools, was taught by Messrs. Hugh Reid, Joseph Rankin and others and finished the course at the Monroe College, as it was called. He was prepared to enter the University of North Carolina and desired to do so,



stores that form a golden chain, linking his interest in a dozen Carolina towns and cities. Today, at the flood-tide of smiling fortunes, behind him the financial Armageddons where every struggling young man must wrestle with the principalities and the powers that seek to defeat his hopes, Mr. Belk is as modest as on the day he first opened a tiny store in Monroe in his own name, wondering what of good or ill the future might have in store for his youthful enterprise. He is responsive, to every opportunity to render a public service.

June 2, 1862, while the Civil War was in its height, Mr. Belk was born in Lancaster County, South Carolina. His father was the late A. N. W. Belk. His mother, before her marriage, was Miss Sarah Walkup. She was born in 1836 in what was then Mecklenburg, but is now Union county, in the Washaw neighborhood. The family has long been intimately associated with the county. One of her brothers, Dr. H. C. Walkup, practiced medicine in Mecklenburg and later removed to Florida. Another brother, Col. Samuel H. Walkup, commanded the Forty-eight North Carolina Regiment. Another brother, Col. William W. Walkup, died about 20 years ago at Waxhaw. He and his wife adopted and raised about 20 orphan children. Their home was locally known as "the Walkup Orphanage."

In 1865, when Henry Belk was only three years old, his father met a fate that was peculiarly tragic. The grandfather, Thomas M. Belk, owned much land, including the Belk Gold Mine, now known as the Dixie Gold Mine. In this he worked many slaves. At the time of Sherman's march through that section, A. N. W. Belk had taken refuge near the mine with some of his slaves. Sherman's soldiers were told that Thomas Belk had a large quantity of gold hidden in that region, and when they found Henry Belk's father they imagined that they had the possessor of the gold. They demanded that he reveal to them the hiding place of the buried treasure, and on his failure to reveal that which he did not know, they dipped him in a creek, continuing the process until he was drowned.

Mrs. Belk was thus left with two fatherless children, and to add to the perplexities of the situation the family fortune was lost, like so many fortunes of ante-bellum days, because the father had pledged it as security for a family of negroes,

but realized that it would entail too great a sacrifice on the part of his mother. The call of a business career sounded loudly in his ears, besides, so he decided to go to work and assist in the education of his younger brothers and sisters. This he did.

Mr. Belk's first business experience was gained as a clerk in the store of Mr. B. D. Heath in Monroe, the latter being associated with his brother, Mr. E. J. Heath, at that time. Henry Belk was then about 13 years old. In June 1, 1888, he determined to embark in business on his own responsibility, and he made the venture. This was the real beginning of his battle with the world. He had made up his mind that he would succeed, and discouragements served only to intensify that determination. Prof. Horace Williams, of the chair of philosophy at Chapel Hill, was accustomed to say, and probably still sometimes says, to his students, "The time will come, some day or other, when it will be necessary for you to work 18 hours a day to make your business a success." Those days were not long in coming to the ambitious Monroe young man, and he met the issue fairly and squarely. He worked by day and, when necessary, he worked by night. While others were burning their midnight oil to master the books of others, he was burning the midnight oil over his own books. Sometimes the financial future looked dark and unpromising. Sometimes he wondered how obligations could be met. Always, however, he had some true and tried friend who never failed to come to the rescue and tide him over these crises. There is an ancient saying: "He who would have friends must show himself friendly." Mr. Belk complied with this proviso and he never lacked for friends. Leading citizens of the community saw that he was one of the right sort, that his influence was for good, and they lent him their support. And gradually he began to push ahead.

In 1890, Mr. Belk's brother, Dr. J. M. Belk, who had graduated from the New York University of Medicine, and was practicing medicine at Morven, was invited to join the firm which became W. H. Belk & Bro. Already the business was branching out. From time to time new stores have been opened. One was maintained for several years at Chester, S. C. One was opened at Union S. C. with R. P. Harry of Charlotte, later merged with Captain Foster's store at the Mutual Dry Goods Store, and later discontinued. There are

now in active operation: at Greensboro the Brown-Belk Company, at Gastonia, the J. M. Belk Company, at Waxhaw, the R. J. Belk Company, at Salisbury, the Belk-Harry Company, at York, S. C., the Kirpatrick-Belk Company, at Concord, the Parks-Belk Company, at Sanford, the Williams-Belk Company, at Statesville, the Johnson-Belk Company, at Raleigh, the Hudson-Belk Company, at Wilmington, the Belk-Williams Company, at Charlotte, Belk Bros., at Monroe, W. H. Belk & Bro.

It was in September, 1895, that Mr. Belk's name first appeared in a directory of Charlotte. For exactly 20 years his business experience, judgment and aggressiveness have been enlisted in the forces working for Charlotte. In volume of business the local store has probably increased a thousand per cent since its first year. And in the meantime Charlotte has grown somewhat, too, having trebled its population.

One of Mr. Belk's first acts here was to assist in the formation of the Piedmont Fire Insurance Company, which erected the Piedmont building on South Tryon street, a notable addition to the town in that day. He was one of the prime movers in the erection of the Selwyn Hotel and also in the construction of the city's first tall building, the 12-story Realty building. The interest of Mr. D. A. Tompkins, a director in the Equitable Life Assurance Society, was enlisted in the Realty building project and his aid secured. In 1910 Belk Bros. erected the handsome commodious building they occupy on East Trade street. Mr. Belk is a stockholder in many enterprises, and has been instrumental in bringing some of the largest of them to this city. He is a director in the Piedmont Fire Insurance Company, president of the Charlotte Dye and Finishing Company. He is a director in the Cole Manufacturing Company, Charlotte National Bank, Merchant and Farmers National Bank, Independence Trust Company, the Winchester Electrical Company, the Hamilton Millinery Company, the Fidelity Cotton Mills, and in 30 or more other business concerns of this city and section.

An elder in the Monroe Presbyterian Church for years, Mr. Belk has given generously of his time and means to religious and benevolent causes. For 15 years he has been a member of the board of regents of the Barium Springs Orphanage. He is a member of the board of trustees of Davidson College, and he is a member of the Board of Home Missions of North Carolina for Mecklenburg Presbytery. For eight years he has been a member of the Board of School Commissioners of the city of Charlotte.

He was married last Spring to Miss Mary Irwin, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John R. Irwin of this city.

A unique blending of sane conservatism with hopeful enterprise, a willingness to face facts as they are rather than to find pleasure in rosy, unreal dreams and to adapt himself to the real situation, a well-grounded confidence in self, united to the ability to learn something from the other man and to rely on the special knowledge of a man in a special field—these are some of the elements that enter into the character and personality of one who has shown himself an apt student of business, a sound judge of its conditions, and an organizer of high skill. Unlike these characteristics, and the others that have been indicated, and you have a combination that spells "Success."

(Beside the above named business enterprises Belk Bros. are large stockholders in the Monroe Hardware Company and compose the advisory board of the company.—The Journal.)

More Married Than Single Men Enlisted.

London Dispatch, Jan. 4.

Lord Derby's recruiting figures for the period between October 23 and December 15 show that 1,150,000 unmarried men and 1,679,263 married men presented themselves for service.

Of the grand total of 2,829,263 married and single men, 103,000 unmarried, and 112,431 married men enlisted immediately. Eight hundred and forty thousand single men and 1,344,979 married men were attested for future service.

Of the single men 207,000 were rejected while 221,852 married men were not accepted by the recruiting officers.

The Earl of Derby's report shows that the total men of military age in England, Scotland, Wales, who were not enlisted when the canvass began were: Single men, 2,179,231 and married men 2,829,210—a total of 5,011,441.

The total of attested, enlisted and rejected men having been 2,829,263 the available men aggregating 5,011,441, shows that there are 2,182,178 men who did not offer their services.

FOUND A SURE THING

I. B. Wixon, Farmers Mills, N. Y., has used Chamberlain's Tablets for years for disorders of the stomach and liver and says, "Chamberlain's Tablets are the best I have ever used. Obtainable everywhere."

RUSSIANS STIFFENING UP.

Getting Active All Along the Line and Are Beginning to Trouble Their Foes Again.

By a majority of 298, the British Parliament has passed the first reading of Premier Asquith's conscription bill, under which the single men of military age or widowers without children dependents may be drafted into the military service. The billoting showed 403 members for and 195 against the measure.

The vote, which seems to presage the passage of the bill, came despite the antagonism shown against it by the labor congress, which by a large majority favored the withdrawal of the measure from Parliament.

The quitting of the Cabinet by the Laborite president of the Board of Education, and the withdrawal from the Government councils of two other Laborites—the Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Home Affairs and the Lord Commissioner of the Treasury—followed the vote of the Labor Congress.

Although the heavy fighting continues in eastern Galicia around the Bukovina frontier and further north across the line up into Russia in the Styria region, no accurate estimate of the situation is as yet obtainable, as both the Russians and Austrians claim successes for their armies.

Seemingly there has been a recrudescence of the fighting along the line from Riga southward to the Prigelt River. The Germans have retreated before the Russians near Jacobstadt and the Russians have captured a position near Czartorysk, while the Germans have driven the Russians from a sector in Volhynia.

On the other fronts there have been the usual artillery, bomb throwing and mine operations, in which no essential gains have been made by any of the contending forces.

While no definite information has yet been obtained as to the manner in which the Persin met her fate, the steamer owners announce that 336 persons on board have not been accounted for—119 passengers and 217 members of the crew. The French passenger steamer Kanark, arriving at Marseilles from the Mediterranean reports having been chased by an under sea boat.

Meeting of District Mail Carriers

Wadesboro Ansonian.

The Rural Letter Carriers' Association of Union, Anson, Richmond and Scotland counties, held their first meeting of the New Year in the court house here Saturday. Rev. A. R. Woodson opened the meeting with prayer after which Mr. T. V. Howell took the chair. Mr. W. K. Boggan delivered the address of welcome. He paid the carriers a very eloquent compliment in the great work they are doing on their respective routes. He showed much knowledge of the services and praised the carrier for what they are doing for good schools, and other improvements.

Mr. Howell responded and thanked Mr. Boggan for his encouragement.

Mr. W. C. Bivens made a short talk to the carriers.

Dr. J. E. Hart, chairman of the board of county commissioners spoke to the "boys" about good roads and the National Highway, urging them to do what they can to bring it through Anson. He found the carriers already in favor of this road and they passed the following resolution:

Whereas, We the Rural Letter Carriers of Union, Anson, Richmond and Scotland counties regard the Charlotte-to-Wilmington branch of the state highway as an important and very necessary piece of roadway; and,

Whereas, We feel that the very best route for this highway is through the counties of Union, Anson, Richmond and Scotland; therefore, be it resolved:

1. That we urge and petition the proper authorities to locate the said highway in the counties above named.

2. That we hereby put ourselves on record as not only favoring the said highway through the counties mentioned but that we pledge our loyal support of the same in every way in which we can assist in its construction and maintenance.

HENRY F. GIBSON,
A. J. GREENE,
GEO. E. BURNS,
Committee.

Prof. Paul J. Kiker addressed the carriers, urging them to keep up their good work.

The business of the Association was then discussed, after which the carriers and their guests, Rev. A. B. Woodson, Dr. Hart, Prof. P. J. Kiker, and W. C. Bivens were given a most excellent dinner at the Brown House.

Judge Allen Recommended to Succeed Justice Lamar.

Washington Dispatch, Jan. 5th.

W. R. Allen, member of the North Carolina Supreme Court and John W. Davis, solicitor general of the Department of Justice, have been recommended to President Wilson to fill the vacancy in the Supreme Court of the United States caused by the death of Justice Lamar.

The President has not yet given serious consideration to the question but is expected to reach a decision as quickly as possible.

CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY MOST EFFECTUAL.

"I have taken a great many bottles of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and every time it has cured me. I have found it most effectual for a hacking cough and for colds. After taking it a cough always disappears," writes J. R. Moore, Lost Valley, Ga. Obtainable everywhere.