

# The Mount Airy News.

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## Church Going Campaign is New The Latest Religious Effort.

By The Religious Rambler.

Stirred by the marked decline in church attendance, as recorded by a census, the British churches are undertaking a campaign for church going. Their principal instrument for effecting a reform is in the use of tracts, which will be circulated by the million. The religious press of Great Britain is discussing the matter in leading articles, and church meetings are debating it.

In America there is really under way a similar campaign, already assuming national proportions, which promises to sweep the country before the winter is over. On this side of the Atlantic the means chosen to stem the tide away from the church is characteristically different from the British method—namely, newspaper publicity. A dozen cities have already begun the publication of paid display advertisements of the churches, with results that are tangible.

### What the Figures Show.

Once a decade, since 1881, a church census has been taken in the city of Liverpool. Until within a decade the results have gratified religious leaders, since they showed a steady increase in church attendance; but this latest census has revealed a decrease of more than 18,000 persons present in the Liverpool churches on a given Sunday. On the face of the returns, which, however, have been challenged by some authorities as being excessive, the non-conformist churches had suffered a decline of more than 14,000 in attendance. Nobody questions that there has been a net decrease.

In contrast with the Protestant showing, the Roman Catholic churches have an increase of about 3,000 to report for the decade. The local archbishop attributes this showing to two papal decrees, one requiring more frequent partaking of communion on the part of church members, and the other lowering the age at which children may be admitted to communion. Were it not for these opportune decrees, the Roman Catholic church would have showed the unfavorable showing of the Protestants. So the subject is one of common interest.

### Advertising for Worshippers.

The old way was to leave the question of church-attendance to the habit of conscience of the individual. While many congregations put in special musical attractions, stereopticons and devices to attract the people to church there were purely local efforts. No broad, general and comprehensive scheme for confronting the entire public with the common clarion of all the churches was devised, until the Men and Religion Congress, a year ago.

That gathering boldly proposed—after a scientific survey of the situation—display newspaper advertising as the best way of reaching the un-churched. The argument ran that the only medium read by everybody is the daily newspaper; paid advertisements would be a prima facie evidence of the church's sincerity and solicitude; display advertisements would be inescapable, thundering the challenge and the invitation of the church into everybody's eyes. Besides their direct appeal, these big advertisements would create general comment; and the church's cause is half won when she acts people to talking.

Incidentally, it was argued, general advertising would react upon the churches themselves, stimulating them to show greater hospitality to the stranger, and to bring their wares up to the specifications of the advertising.

### Philadelphia Leads the Way.

To write a plan in a book is one thing; to put it into operation is quite another. The first city to take hold of the subject practically was Philadelphia, where the men and religion leaders, with Mr. Bonsall at their head, prepared a series of display ads, and presented them to the churches. The idea was so radically new that the churches were slow in taking it up, and before it was put into actual operation in Philadelphia, the idea

was borrowed by Baltimore, a member of the Philadelphia committee having addressed a meeting in that city, and having shown proofs of the advertisements which subsequently appeared in the Philadelphia North American.

Thus early in the experiment a line of divergence appeared, for the Baltimore half page advertisements were devoted to general articles upon religious themes, with special stress upon social service; whereas, ever since the first one appeared, early in the present year, the Philadelphia advertisements have adhered to the one theme of church attendance. They advertise the church, leaving the preaching to be done by the preachers. Not general homilies, but sound arguments for church-going fill the space bought by the Philadelphia committee. This body, by the way, of which Chas. E. Beury, Esq., Real Estate Trust Building, is secretary, has reproduced many of its advertisements in a booklet for distribution among the churches. Definite results from the campaign are also recorded.

### Many Other Cities in Line.

So radical a scheme as this was bound to attract the attention of the country. Quite generally it was hailed as the likeliest method in sight for increasing church attendance. Already a dozen cities, little and big, have either entered upon the advertising feature, or else are planning for it this winter.

The churches of the Bronx, in New York City, have begun a concentrated publicity campaign through display advertising. Des Moines, Seattle, Colorado Springs, Omaha, Buffalo, Victoria, Cincinnati, Ogden, Wichita, Winston-Salem, Toledo and Rochester are other cities that have begun or projected the weekly display advertisements.

It is reported that the National Press bureau of all the churches will be opened in New York this fall, and, if so, it will greatly accentuate the publicity method for promoting church attendance. Clearly it is up to the church to make upon the public mind of today the impression that she is one of the present vital forces of society, with a claim upon all.

### Wilkes County Blackberry.

W. H. Horton in Charlotte Observer.

In all the great varieties of North Carolina's natural resources the Wild Blackberry Crop in Wilkes county is making for itself a place among the lead. This is a berry that "takes" the so-called old wornout fields, roadsides, fence corners, creek banks, etc., and thrives, defying man, beast and weather conditions, making a crop every year. The 1913 crop just gathered was cut short by the drought but in spite of the continued weeks of dry weather three North Wilkesboro dealers handled 956,000 ears worth approximately \$66,920.00. This is a net gain to the county and the quality of these berries is second to none, not even the cultivated variety surpassing it. They are good sized, sweet and of fine flavor. Next year the canners will pay \$1.50 a bushel which is 50 per cent more than was paid by the most of the dealers the past season. It would be hard to tell what an average crop would bring if they were all saved for three-fourths of these berries are never picked but allowed to dry up or rot on the briars. One man, Mr. A. Brown of Mulberry, Wilkes County, says an old field, which he thought was worn out, was abandoned a few years ago, thinking it was of no more use but blackberry briars sprang up voluntarily and now bring him in more cash than any cultivated crop he ever gathered from it while it was under cultivation, and Wilkes is well known as a first rate agricultural county.

The last Red Lambertwig apples grown in the Thermal Belt on the Brushy Mountains in 1912 were eaten August 14, 1913, and they were not kept on cold storage either. The new crop is taking on color and the growers are getting \$2.50 a box, one bushel, for their early fruit through the United Fruit Growers Association.

## E. A. HENNESSEE NOT GUILTY SAYS JURY.

Burke County Physician Acquitted of Murder German Pitts.

Morganton, Aug. 18th.—After having been out for over 36 hours the jury in the Hennessee case this mornign returned a verdict of not guilty, acquitted Dr. E. A. Hennessee of the charge of murdering Gorman Pitts at Glen Alpine January 18.

This trial was not to show the part the various parties took in the affray but the trial of Dr. Hennessee for his life was on the grounds that he premeditated and personally brought on the conflict which resulted fatally to Gorman Pitts and nearly so to several others, including himself.

This was not established and evidence tended to show that both factions were equally guilty, and both were ready to fight and did fight to a finish, Hennessee being too much for the other side.

Hennessee made no denial of being armed to the teeth and having inflicted the wound that caused the death of Gorman Pitts and of injuring others, but said that at the time he was being cut and shot to pieces by his antagonists.

The participants in the Glen Alpine fight will be tried for an affray at the next term of court.

Pitts was killed in a fight at Glen Alpine in the early evening of Saturday, January 18. Hennessee himself was so badly wounded that it was not thought he could live, and four others were at first reported to be mortally wounded. However, Gorman Pitts was the only one to die.

First accounts were meager. The whole section was too excited to think or report clearly as to what had happened. The two families were among the most prominent of western North Carolina and their connections numbered up into the hundreds of people. From days to day additional scraps of information were heard, and, although nothing can be stated as authentic, the fight appears to have occurred substantially as follows:

Trouble arose Saturday afternoon some time between some of the members of the two families adding fuel to the flames of an old grudge. Both factions probably prepared for trouble.

### Met on Streets.

The rival families met on the principal street of Glen Alpine and shooting began. Doctor Hennessee is said to have been armed with a Winchester rifle, which jammed at the second shot, thus probably saving other lives. He was then said to have gone into the fray with his physicians knife described as having a blade six inches in length, sharpened on both edges. With this weapon it is alleged Gorman Pitts was killed, although he also received a bullet just over the liver.

### Hundred Shots Fired.

One hundred shots, at least, were said to have been fired during the action. When the smoke cleared away six men were considered as good as dead. In addition to Gorman Pitts and Hennessee (the latter having four bullet wounds, any one of which was thought to have been necessarily fatal, a broken jawbone, two mutilated ears, shattered right hand and the tendons of the left hand severed, while 10 knife wounds appeared on his scalp and face) four others were in a bad plight.

Abel Pitts was less seriously wounded than at first thought, but had three knife wounds, one under his arm being especially dangerous. M. N. Hennessee, at first reported mortally wounded, sustained a broken jawbone and numerous bruises. Policeman Sam Bennett, who tried to stop the fight, was himself stopped with a load of buckshot in his stomach and for quite a while it was feared he could not recover. Erwin Pitts was stabbed in one lung shot in the body and suffered a slight fracture of the skull.

The fight continued until both sides appear to have run short of ammunition and set to with knives, clubs and hands. One hundred knife wounds were reported as found on the injured

## Hennessee's Fight for Life.

Following the fight, Dr. Hennessee and the two most seriously injured members of the Pitts faction were taken to the hospital, where some weeks later Gorman Pitts died. Hennessee was reported as dying more than once, became partially paralyzed, and seemingly hung on through sheer determination not to die. Even the attending physicians take this view of his recovery, having for weeks been of the opinion that he could not live.

When Pitts died Hennessee was brought to jail here. Trial was postponed at March court on account of his condition and it was hardly thought that he would live to be tried at all.

At this court a jury was hard to get. The Pitts family conducts a large number of lumber plants, in addition to being widely connected throughout the county. Hennessee is little less intimately associated with the life of Burke, is a prominent physician and related by blood or marriage to some of the county officials and other prominent men of the section. A special venire of 125 was finally summoned and out of this a jury drawn.

### Great Interest in Trial.

Greater interest was shown in the trial than was ever displayed in any similar event in the history of the county. The court room was overcrowded throughout every session. Everybody wanted to see the man who had gone through so much physical pain and made such a fight for life. Added to this, after the first day's hearing, was the interest caused by the death of Hennessee's child. Many men thought that the prisoner's iron nerve must finally break, but if so, they were disappointed. He was as cool as if he were attending the trial of another man.

The verdict of the jury, which was so long in coming and awaited with so much interest, seemingly surprised few.

The array of legal talent was the greatest that ever fought a criminal case in this section. The speeches of the attorneys for the State and defense held the attention of the vast audiences which heard them. The interest in the case continued unabated until the time the verdict was delivered, and little else has been talked about since then.

## Lone Bandit Robbed Pullman Passengers.

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 16.—A bandit who boarded a pullman car of the St. Louis and San Francisco passenger train known as the "Meteor," at the union station here tonight, held up four passengers on the car, soon after the train left for Oklahoma and Texas. The robber escaped by jumping from the train.

The bandit had purchased railroad and pullman tickets and entered the train as a regular passenger. The train had passed scarcely beyond the limit of this city when suddenly the man stood up and flourishing a pistol demanded that the other passengers in the car give money and valuables.

The passengers held up their hands and four men readily surrendered their pocketbooks containing \$106. The man evidently intended to rob all the passengers in the car and probably had planned to enter other coaches, but he became frightened when discovered that one of the passengers at the end of the car had disappeared while he was pocketing the money he had obtained.

Evidently believing that the train crew would rush in on him in a moment the bandit backed out of the coach and hurrying to the platform, jumped to the ground.

The bandit fired one shot in the air before he swung from the train.

### Houses and Lots for Sale.

I offer for sale at reasonable prices seven acres of land near my factory in Mt. Airy. On the land are several small houses and I will cut the land to suit the purchaser. This is valuable property and will be sold at a very reasonable price.

J. A. Tesh.

## THE CATAWBA CREAMERY.

A Co-operative Enterprise that Has Succeeded Admirably.

C. C. W., in Progressive Farmer.

There has been so much said and so much written recently about co-operative enterprises and so many theories advanced—some of them, by the way, conflicting theories—that it is a pleasure to run across a co-operative enterprise that is really and truly a success.

A few days ago while in Hickory it was my pleasure to visit the "Catawba County Creamery," and while I had heard much of this enterprise and knew in a way something of its work, I was not prepared for what I saw on my tour of inspection through the plant.

The party was in charge of the secretary of the company, Mr. W. J. Shuford, who has done so much to bring success to the concern through his tireless energy and never-failing optimism, and though we plied him with questions galore he was ever ready to respond with the desired information. We could not refrain from quoting silently over and over again the oft-repeated statement of President Barrett of the National Farmers' Union, that "It is an easy matter to make a business go if you can only secure the right kind of a man to place in charge." The Catawba County Creamery has solved the problem.

I want to give Progressive Farmer readers a few facts relative to the work of this enterprise in the hope that at least some community may "go and do likewise."

To begin with the history of this movement it not unlike that of many others in that it began in agitation resulting from a decline in prices, caused by a congested market. This agitation resulted in securing the services of J. A. Conover, then a dairy agent with the North Carolina State Department of Agriculture. This enterprise was primarily established as an experiment, but its phenomenal success has demonstrated that a co-operative creamery can be operated in this portion of the State. It has been the means of bringing to the farmers and dairymen a much higher price for their products than they had been able to get heretofore.

This company was organized three years ago, the receipts for the first year being about \$13,000. During the past year this business has grown to approximately \$52,000 or \$1,000 a week. This includes sales of eggs also, as the company is now handling these, having bought and sold in the last 12 months more than 75,000 dozen eggs. For these they have paid an average price of 21 cents per dozen. During this period approximately 100,000 pounds of butter has been made. The price paid the farmers for their butter-fat averaged last year 30 cents per pound. It is claimed that about one-sixth more butter can be made from the same amount of milk than can be produced in the ordinary way. This company has placed a separator with most of their patrons and they are now placing them on the installment plan, thus putting them within reach of every farmer who wishes to patronize the creamery. At first two or three farmers in the same community would buy one separator but it soon became plain that each patron should own his own machine, so the old plan was recently discontinued.

The company is now operating six routes, two of which extend into Caldwell county, two in Alexander, and the other two in Catawba county exclusively. These routes are established in this way: Some man is found with a horse and wagon who is willing to take a route on the commission plan (these routes usually being something like 20 or 25 miles in length) and when the patronage will justify it, this man is put on a salary. I saw one of these wagons coming in late in the afternoon loaded with eggs and cream. This man, I was told, was soon to be put on a salary. I was told that it was the intention of the company to take in chickens just as soon as arrangements for handling them

could be made.

I was shown over the new brick building which is nearing completion and which was hoped would be ready for occupancy by the first of August. This business of the creamery has grown so rapidly that it became evident a few months since that more ample quarters should be provided. This building will be equipped with all the modern conveniences, electric lights, steam heat, water, etc. A nice rest-room will be fitted up, where the farmers, their wives and daughters, when they come to town may drop in to read the morning papers, write letters, and make themselves at home generally. I was told that on some of the routes the Farmers' Union people would gather up the eggs and bring them to some point on the route where the driver could take them up without loss of time.

This enterprise has saved the people of Catawba and adjoining counties thousands of dollars and has given besides, employment to quite a number of people. Let me say, though, that the path of this enterprise has not been altogether one of pleasantness and peace. The want of the co-operative power among the average farmers had to be reckoned with and on more than one occasion the future of the enterprise looked, to say the least, very uncertain, but thanks to the indomitable courage and grim determination behind it, the clouds disappeared and today as we look back upon its history the old adage comes to our mind, "Nothing succeeds like success."

In conclusion, let me say that what this community has done, dozens, yea scores, of communities all over North Carolina and the South can do. All that is needed is "agitation, education, co-operation," a few men who have a little confidence in their kind, a little money and lots of patience, determination and a little of that saving quality called optimism.

May the day soon come when, instead of distrust among that vast army of those who "till the soil," we shall find confidence in man and a little more inclination to labor and to wait for results. Then and not till then will the farmer rightly come into his own.

### He Loved His Sheep.

Monrone Enquirer.

This is not a sheep-raising section, but one man in this county raised sheep for years and years, in spite of sheep-killing dogs and other drawbacks and when he died owned a flock of one hundred or more. The late Mr. Thos. J. Ashcraft, of Marshville township, died a little over two years ago, aged 83 years. When he was a very small boy, not over eight or nine years old, Mr. Ashcraft's grandmother gave him a lamb which had lost its mother by death. The little boy was delighted with his gift, petted it, fed it until it would eat no more and under the care of its little master, grew into a large, fine sheep. The care bestowed upon that lamb made the little owner of the pet a great lover of sheep, and from the day that the little lamb was given to him until he died he was a sheep owner, and he raised thousands of them during the three quarters of a century he was engaged in sheep-raising. And a remarkable thing about his flock was that Mr. Ashcraft was never without descendants of the little lamb given him in his boyhood, and when he died there were sheep in his flock whose pedigree could be traced back in unbroken line to the little lamb he petted in his boyhood days. In his old age, when second childhood came upon him and he bore the weight of his four score years, the old man loved his sheep and the last work of his hands was caring for them, and in the distribution of his effects he turned his sheep over to the care of his young grandsons.

### Sale of Personal Property.

On Saturday Aug. 23, at 11 a. m. I will sell at my home near Alford's mill, all my household and kitchen furniture.

Charley Willard, Aug. 12, 1913. Mt. Airy Route 6