

Mount Airy News.

Mount Airy, N. C., Feb. 26th, 1920.

A. E. JOHNSON & SON, Publishers.

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That Wet Plank

They tell of how Governor Edwards, of New Jersey, will make an effort to get the National Democratic Convention this year to make its platform endorse legislation in favor of a national law allowing the sale of beer and wine that contain a small per cent. of alcohol. Governor Edwards is a man who is out and out opposed to prohibition and since he cannot get a wide open country like he wants he will do his utmost to have a drink even if it contains only a small bit of alcohol. There are those who claim to see danger in the effort that he will make, for it is well known that some have no faith in being able to enforce the prohibition laws in the nation. These people contend that since strong drink has been cut out illegal manufacture has sprung up everywhere and that the last state of society is worse than when the open saloon was with us. Now they contend that the solution to the problem is to allow beer and low wines to be sold as they are in Germany, and then a man can get his drink even if it is not a strong one.

Mr. William J. Bryan sees danger ahead and is fearful that the Democrats will put up a wet plank in their platform, and if they do he will not support the party. We have talked with a few representative Democrats in this city and section and we have yet to find a man who says he will support the party if the wet plank is adopted. If the legal sentiment is any indication as to the way prohibitionists in other parts of the country feel then the Democratic party will certainly "make shipwreck" if it declares for beer and wine. Several men with whom we have talked say positively that they will not support any party that will try to bring the drink evil back on the country.

The Hatred For Wilson

This country has possibly never known a man to be hated as Mr. Wilson is hated by his political enemies. For four years he has been so popular with the rank and file of the Democrats as well as being popular with the leaders of his party that he could get almost anything he wanted in the way of a following. He has been able to dominate the policies of the party, if you do not object to the word dominate. So great has been his influence that his political enemies have worked up a hatred against him that surpasses anything the country has possibly ever known before.

It is bad enough to have him so popular here at home, but when they began to name parks and streets and public meeting places all over the old world after him—Wilson Park, Wilson Street, Wilson this and Wilson that, then the hatred here at home among his political enemies went to a white heat.

The most annoying thing to the Republican politicians is that Mr. Wilson is popular with the rank and file of the people. He gets credit for bringing about the new banking laws that made it possible to create a system of credit that would make it easy to borrow money and easy to keep off panics by taking the finances of the country out of the hands of a few very rich people. He did many things that had much to do with making the country more prosperous and happy, and himself more popular as the direct result. And in the meantime there is a host of Republican politicians who do nothing but fume and fret about Mr. Wilson. He is their one annoyance and they put in practically all their time talking and discussing him for his mistakes as they claim to see them. In the meantime Mr. Wilson keeps his grasp on his own party and on the people and is today one of the most popular men in public life, outside a bunch of professional politicians.

REPUBLICAN PROMISES

A few months ago the Republican party made an appeal to the country to turn the nation over to them so that they could straighten out the tangles and reduce the high cost of living, all of which they said had been made necessary because of the Democratic party. The country took them at their word and elected a Republican Congress. They have now been "straightening out the tangles" for many months, and to see how well they are succeeding just consult your grocery bill. You will find that sugar has advanced on you from 10c to 20c the pound and that you are now paying the neat sum of \$4. for a bushel of Irish potatoes. These are just samples of how well the Republicans are keeping their promise to reduce the high cost of living.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

Legal notices of every nature, such as Administrator's notices, trustee and commission sales, etc., when published in The Mount Airy News will be charged for at the rate of one-half cent per word, each issue the notice is run, each figure and initial to count as one word. Cash in advance will be required for this class of advertising before the notice is inserted.

Resolutions of respect, cards of thanks, personal tributes and notices of a like nature will be charged for at the rate of one cent a word, for each insertion, cash with copy. Minimum charge 50 cents.

This February 23rd, 1920.

THE PUBLISHERS.

Open Letter to J. E. Johnson.

By Rev. G. Raymond Booth.

Editor Mount Airy News: There have come to my ears recently, in fact ever since the liquor trials in the Recorder's court early in January, criticisms of your attitude toward the trials in particular and the whole liquor question in general. Needless to say I felt very much chagrined to think that possibly I was living in a town in a dry state, indeed in a dry nation in this enlightened twentieth century, where the editor of such a representative paper was a "wet" sympathizer. I set myself the task of ascertaining the truth of the whole matter. Following is what I learned.

First, the character of the men who criticized must be looked into. While not the most prominent men in town several of them are pretty well known. They are men of high moral and religious standing among their own friends. The character of none of them could be impeached. They could not be accused of falsehood.

Second, I turned to the paper itself, to its news articles. Your news articles measure up admirably to all the requirements of such. A news article should be merely a statement of fact. It should have no room in it for any personal opinions of the writer. It is no place for sermonizing. For instance, if a man is arrested for making or selling liquor and even though public opinion is fairly well assumed that the man is guilty the news article should carry no suggestion that the man likely would be proven guilty. The news article should merely state the fact of the arrest and the charge. The very fact that a man had read a partial story would be sufficient grounds to disqualify him as a juror to set on the case and you Mr. Editor would be hindering instead of speeding up the wheels of justice. An editor should never convict a man before a jury does and after a jury does there is no necessity for the editor to do so. Your news articles are true to the definition.

Third, I examined your editorials and have found them entirely satisfactory even to a rabid Prohibitionist. There has been no hint of compromise with the lawless crowd. They breathe the spirit of pure Americanism. May I refer particularly to your editorial in last week's issue dealing with the liquor question. One could hardly expect to find stronger language even in the ranks of the Anti-Saloon League itself. Those who have not read it should hunt up last week's paper and do so.

Here then is my conclusion: Many people read in a newspaper only those articles that are purely narrative and consequently never really know what the editor does think. If these people will read news articles for news and editorials for expressions of views I am sure that what criticism exists will soon disappear. In the language of the other crowd I believe you are "all right."

Laurel Bluff Cotton Mills

Under the experienced management of J. C. Arthurs, the work of overhauling, repairing and improving is going rapidly forward at Laurel Bluff Cotton Mills, two miles west of this city.

R. A. Love, of Gastonia, president and principal owner, and J. C. Arthurs general manager, intend to double the capacity of the mill and will spend \$100,000 on improvements, all old machinery will be thrown out and replaced with the most modern and up to date machinery on the market, in addition to the power already in use they have contracted with the Town of Mount Airy for 100 horse-power electric current.

The present spindle capacity of 2,500 spindles will be increased to 5,000 spindles, and the mill will run day and night employing 100 hands instead of 30 as in the past. A 12-room boarding house is nearing completion, and other houses built as rapidly as possible in order to take care of the additional workers.

Mr. Arthurs will have entire charge of the Laurel Bluff Mills and will either occupy the home of Mr. Burgess the former owner, or erect a modern bungalow for his family near the location of the Burgess home.

Card Of Thanks

We wish to thank the friends and neighbors for their kindness and help in the sickness and death of our dear son Herbert.

Mr. and Mrs. Vestal Taylor

About Your Local Credit

Mr. C. H. Van Herve, Secretary of the Merchants Association in this city is busy these days having a new rating book made for the merchants and is having the work done in this office. The new book will be ready in a few days and will show the financial standing of practically every citizen in this section.

It may be interesting to the general public to know something of this work that the merchants are doing. For many years the great drawback to the retail merchant was that a large leakage was constantly reducing his profits in the way of bad accounts. Now to cut out this leakage would enable him to sell goods with a greater degree of satisfaction and at a less profit to his good customers.

During the past few years associations of merchants have been formed in practically all the towns of any size in the country. Merchants are asked to take a form prepared especially for the purpose and give their opinion of the standing of every man who trades at their store. Now when a hundred merchants make out these reports and they are carefully gone over they often reveal many facts that astonish one. It happens not infrequently that a man has been trading at every store in town and is not paying any of them in a satisfactory way. It is often brought to light that a man is in debt everywhere and is not paying anybody.

Merchants have learned that they can protect themselves from those who are disposed to impose upon them. To do this they have this rating book made. In it a man is classed according to his standing with each individual merchant. To illustrate: John Doe's name is looked up in the book. He is put down as "A." That means that four merchants have reported that he is a good and satisfactory customer. If his rating happens to be "B" then that means that five merchants have reported him as being a customer who is slow pay and yet not an undesirable customer, but one who does not give the proper attention to his account. If he is rated a "C" or "D" then he is not a desirable customer and the merchant knows that to open an account with him is risky business.

Now we have been reading the proof of some of the pages of this new book and we are strongly impressed with the fact that many very good people are too careless about their credit. There are good people here who have so treated their retail merchant as to get a rating that is not satisfactory to their merchant and would be embarrassing to themselves if they only knew how they are rated. Often a citizen goes into a store and makes a purchase and then ignores the bill when statement is sent at the first of the month. Six months go by and the account stands unpaid. Now one day that merchant sits down and makes out a rating card for all his customers and gives that person "B", all because he is disposed to not promptly meet the bill. And the person may be the first citizen in the town in his own estimation, but in the estimation of the retail merchant he is not a desirable customer, even if he has social or business standing. There are plenty of people here in town who have a No. 1 credit who are worth almost no property, but they are honest and have a good credit and can buy anything they want anywhere. On the other hand there are people here of wealth who are put down as undesirable and that "D" after their name means to demand cash.

Mr. Van Herve is doing a work here that is worth while in the way of bringing about better business conditions. He has collected large numbers of accounts that the local merchants nor their lawyers could not touch. Here is how he is able to do it. A citizen buys a bill of goods and goes away, say to Greensboro. But that bill is not paid and he ignores statements and the lawyer can find nothing out of which to make the debt. Now Mr. Van Herve writes this citizen that unless that account is paid he will send it to the Merchants Association in Greensboro which means that the citizen will be put on the black list in that town for not paying his debts here. If a man is anybody at all he usually comes across when he sees that it is taking this turn.

The important thing to us about the rating book is more promptly meeting the debts and in that it is going to wake up the careless to the importance of more promptly meeting their debts and in this way will make better business conditions for us all.

Making Good Roads.

The much talked of Inter-County Road between Stokes and Surry is now being made, for the contractors, Mulligan, Roach & Clement, last week brought a force of road builders here and are now camped on the Westfield road east of this city near Oak Grove Methodist church. They are at work on the road near the corporate limits of the city. Soon another camp will be established near the town of W. J. York on the White Plains road.

A Useful Woman Passes

Miss Mary Nebane, elder daughter of the late Rev. B. W. Nebane D. D. of this city died at her home in Clarksville, Ga. Friday afternoon.

The remains were brought to this city Saturday night and the funeral conducted at 10 A. M. Sunday at the home of her sister and brother-in-law Dr. and Mrs. C. A. Baird on Cherry street. The Rev. Z. V. Robinson of the Presbyterian church conducting the funeral, assisted by Rev. T. H. King of the Baptist church.

The remains were laid to rest near her honored father in the family plot at Oakdale cemetery.

Miss Nebane was born in Stokes county thirty nine years ago and grew to womanhood an earnest thoughtful christian, she finished her education at Peace Institute and gladly offered herself to her church for the foreign mission work, she was sent to Japan by the Presbyterian church fifteen or sixteen years ago and after five years of faithful service she returned to America on account of ill health, after her return she did mission work in the mountains of Georgia and for sometime has been teaching at Clarksville, Ga. She seemed to have entirely regained her health. Five years ago she adopted an orphan girl who lived with her in the home she had recently built at Clarksville. The young girl was taken with influenza and before she recovered Miss Nebane was stricken with the disease, which soon developed into double pneumonia and death came after a week's illness.

Her mother of this city and Dr. Carter Nebane of Wilmington hurried to her bedside when her illness took a serious turn, and they with the adopted daughter Miss Dozier Langster and Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Carter of Aberdeen, uncle and aunt of the deceased accompanied the remains to this city.

In the passing of Miss Nebane her church loses a modest unassuming christian whose life of service enriched the lives of all who came in contact with her.

With the Sick.

Little Miss Floy Martin Matthews submitted to an operation for adenoids at Martin Hospital yesterday.

T. C. Barber, superintendent of the Mayo Mills is confined to his home this week with a vaccinated arm.

Dr. C. A. Baird, who has been suffering with erysipelas, has sufficiently recovered to be able to resume a part of his practice, though he is not able to walk much yet.

E. C. Foy is confined to his home with a mild case of influenza.

Miss Essie Brim is recovering from an attack of influenza.

Rex Tilley and family are all confined to their home with influenza.

Mrs. Sargent Duffield of North Wilkesboro arrived last week to assist in caring for her mother, Mrs. Absher, and sister, Mrs. John Foy and family, all of whom have influenza. Mrs. Duffield developed a mild case of influenza a few days ago.

Mrs. Iris Whitlock, who was spending the winter at the Brown House, has not been well for some time, and is now a patient at Martin hospital, following a severe attack last Friday. Her condition is improving.

J. M. Fulton, whose illness we have reported several times, is now able to be up and around the house.

Mrs. W. S. Dickson, formerly, Miss Helen Sparger of this city, who has been critically ill in the hospital in Greensboro is now thought to be on the road to recovery.



Put some of our lovely New Rugs on your Floors.

Mr. Homelover:—

Coming to our store and seeing our rich rugs will be like taking a trip to the Orient.

Our patterns will please you; so will our PRICES.

And when you have bought those rugs you need, look also at our FURNITURE—right up to the minute in style, and strongly made.

Carter-Martin Furniture Co.

Mount Airy, N. C.

Frank Carter, Jr.

Drew Martin

Arrested Man Wanted in Winston.

Chief Mengis and one of his officers arrested one Luther Collins of Winston-Salem in the pool room here one evening this week. Collins is one of four men wanted in Winston-Salem on a charge of breaking into and robbing a store in Pilot Mountain two or three months ago. The story goes that four men from Winston-Salem traveling in a fine car committed the theft and got back to Winston-Salem with the goods. Collins escaped and the other three were arrested and gave bond but later forfeited their bond and escaped, and have not yet been apprehended.

Card of Thanks

We wish to thank through the columns of the paper our dear neighbors and friends for the many deeds of kindness during the illness and death of our dear husband and father, S. Frank Lowry. Mrs. Ella Lowry and children.

DR. H. G. HEGE Dentist

Office over F. D. Holcomb Edw. Store MOUNT AIRY, N. C.

Catarrahal Deafness Cannot Be Cured by local applications as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure Catarrahal Deafness, and that is by a constitutional remedy. HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE acts through the blood on the Mucous Surfaces of the System. Catarrahal Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, Deafness is the result. Unless the inflammation can be reduced and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing may be lost forever. Many cases of Deafness are caused by Catarrh, which is an inflamed condition of the Mucous Surfaces of the System. CATARRHAL DEAFNESS FOR ANY CASE OF CATARRHAL DEAFNESS THAT CANNOT BE CURED BY HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE. All Druggists Sell. Circulars Free. F. J. Chesser & Co., Toledo, Ohio.

ATTENTION FARMERS!!

Those who contemplate installing an Electric Light system or Electric Light and Water system will do well to see the Fairbanks-Morse outfit in operation in my place of business in Postoffice Building, Mount Airy, N. C. It will cost you nothing to investigate and we may save you money on the job.

O. B. WEBB, Mount Airy, N. C.

Homes for Sale!

Don't Pay High Rents—Buy You a Home.

One Eight room dwelling on Spring and Pender streets.

One Five room house, with water, lights and sewerage, on Oak Street, (near Main street.)

Two Five room houses on Gallaway street, with water, lights and sewerage.

Two Seven room houses on Junction street, with water, lights and sewerage.

One Three room house on Elm street.

Two small houses near the Quarry.

If interested will be glad to show you this property.

PRICES AND TERMS REASONABLE.

W. W. BURKE