The Mount Airy News.

ESTABLISHED 1880 — MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA, JANUARY 3rd, 1924. — $1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

OLD MOUNT AIRY NEWS PAPER UNEARTHED

Mt. Airy Watchman" Published in 1878 Gives News of the Dead Past; Town Had 900 Population; Corn Was Sold Then For 40c, Eggs 10c and Boots 7c

Like a funeral dirge from the dim past, an old copy of The Mount Airy Watchman published February 2, 1878 full of people and events long since dead from the memory of most living men. This faded old paper was brought to The News office by Will Hunt Howe, whose wife was a granddaughter of Jack Butterfield, whose name the label bears. At Mr. Butterfield's death the paper passed into the hands of his daughter, Mrs. Will T. Cox who kept it for 30 years and passed it on to the present owner. The Watchman, an ancestor of The Mount Airy News, but not the first, was a seven column, four-page paper. The paper was edited by Chas. C. Hutchman and the subscription price was a dollar and fifty cents a year. The front page of this old copy contains one column of ads and the columns are given over to a short love story entitled, "The Robe of Honor." There is nothing striking about the story, for it ends with these words: "Before another hunting season came around he made Juliet his wife." The ads contain a memorial appreciation of the life of Marlin Sparger. From it we clip the following: "For a number of years he (Sparger) was one of the county commissioners and as such was eminently useful. In 1878 there was not a licensed grog shop in the county." The other columns of the front page carries an article from Washington telling about the fight then on in Congress to lower the tax on tobacco and whiskey.

The editorial page carries an editorial on the unemployment situation in the North, where 10,000 men are reported to have marched to the New York city hall and demanded work or bread. It is pointed out at this time 1878 the South had recovered considerably from the ravages of the Civil War and that it was a much stronger financial situation than the North. A Washington dispatch carries the information that Congress was considering a so-called Silver Resolution, which in effect was similar to the agitation of Mr. Bryan over this time for a monetary system based on the free coinage of silver. London dispatch declaring the end the Turco-Russian war is carried. Another editorial rings a clarion note against the booze traffic. A dispatch from Bismark, Dakota Territory carries the disturbing news that Sitting Bull with 2500 warriors was preparing to again go on the warpath. It will be recalled that it was but two years previous to this time that Sitting Bull and Chief Rain-in-the-Face with a superior force had pushed General Custer and his small detachment on the Little Big Horner and annihilated them. The news therefore, that Sitting Bull was again mobilizing his forces was front page stuff in 1878.

Quite a bit of space is given in the paper to market prices of tobacco in Winston and the local price of country produce. Common lugs sold from 5c to 7c a pound, smokers from 3c to 16c per pound while wipers are quoted from 2 to 45c per pound. On the local Mount Airy mart the following prices prevailed for country produce: Corn 40c a bu., rye 50c wheat $1.00, pork 7c a pd., lard 12c, butter 15c, eggs 10c a doz, dry hides 10c a pound, tallow 8c, lye and peas 50c per bushel, best Rio coffee 22c a pound and leather 50c a pound. Sugar was 11c a pound, nails and so thru the whole list. This paper carries an amusing story reporting a tobacco grower in Patrick county upon his return from the Winston market. This man reported that his tobacco did not bring him enough money to pay the warehouse charges and a hotel bill, and he brought in splints for a fellow to the edge of town to make the fire with to settle bills.

There are many interesting items in this old paper to the advertisements. For the greater part these ads are "patent medicine" advertisements, with columns and columns of testimonials, and testimonials to settle bills.

U. S. TO AID MEXICAN GOVERNMENT IN SUPPRESSING REBELS

Will Sell Them a Million Dollars' Worth of War Supplies

Washington, Dec. 29.—The United States government has decided to intervene in the Mexican situation to the extent of selling to the Obregon government certain war supplies—rifles, ammunition, artillery, and airplanes—to the value of approximately one million dollars. The government has these stocks now on hand, surplus left over from the World war.

President Obregon early this week requested that his government be permitted to purchase from the stocks of the United States government and after careful consideration of all the factors entering into the situation President Coolidge and Secretary of State Hughes decided that his request should be granted.

The matter was made a subject of cabinet discussion on Friday and was approved by the members who attended.

The entire transaction has been surrounded with great secrecy by both governments, and it was not until Saturday night that news of it leaked out. After some delay it was confirmed by the state department, although no formal announcement was made. It was simply stated informally that the United States government had agreed to permit the sale of certain war materials to the Obregon government.

The supplies, already designated by President Obregon, will begin to go forward early next week—probably across the international boundary and down by rail to Mexico City, as the forces of Adolfo De La Hureta are in control of Vera Cruz and there is known to eb considerable disaffection in other east coast seaports. Some will probably be sent from the surplus army stocks on the Pacific coast, going down by water to West coast ports.

NEGRO PAYS FOR CRIME WITH LIFE

Lee Washington Dies in Chair For Attack on White Woman in Nash County

Raleigh, Dec. 28.—Lee Washington 20-year-old negro, today was electrocuted at state prison in payment of a death sentence imposed upon him in Nash superior court following his conviction December 1 on having attacked a white woman near Momeyer on November 9. Warden Busbee announced today that the prisoner confessed the crime to him yesterday. The husband of the woman Washington attacked witnessed the electrocution.

American Wife of Chinaman Killed

New York, Dec. 27.—Helen Chun 20-year-old American wife of Harry Chun, a Chinese restaurenteur, was found murdered Wednesday night in their Washington heights apartment, her throat cut and a bathrobe cord drawn taut about her neck.

When Chun, his day's work done, returned home, he found the body. The knife was missing, as was Roy Namkin, a Chinese boarder, for whom the police immediately instituted search. Jewelry and $20 had been taken by the murderer. Chun married the American girl in Newark in February, 1923.

FAT HOG CONTEST WAXES WARM

Sturdy Farmers Report Many Porkers Butchered Despite Warm Weather

In spite of the warm weather farmers are slaughtering their fat porkers and almost daily The News is receiving reports from those who think they have a chance to win in the fat hog contest.

The following farmers on the Mount Airy rural route No. 2, have reported the following kills:

W. A. Sutphin, one hog weighing 454 pounds; Albert Sutphin, 420, Ernest Goad, 402; Dick Featherngs, 390; Tom Shelton, two 556; and Cany Sutphin two 625.

The following unofficial report is sent in by a farmer who wishes his name withheld. We thank him just the same for the information. The hogs listed below were butchered by farmers residing on the Brim R. F. D. No. 2.

J. E. Tilley, 394; M. S. Slate, 443; C. J. Ring, 543; C. J. Ring two others, 277 and 265; H T. Jessup, 420; Martin Jessup, 518 and 532; Will Jessup 485 and 345; J. A. Nester 372 and 362.

G. W. Jackson on Ward's Gap road reports killing a porker weighing 575¾ pounds.

An unofficial report is to the effect that J. E. Atkins of White Plains killed a hog weighing 553 and another—but we prefer to keep the weight of the other a secret till some more precincts are heard from. That other hog we judge must have been crossed with an elephant or something from the weight reported.

Now, Farmers, get in the game. Report your own kills and those of your neighbors. But remember, if you are eligible for one of our subscription prizes you must observe the following conditions which we announced at the beginning of the contest. And don't fail to write us a little letter about it.

All you have to do to compete for these prizes is to write us a statement of the weight of your hog or hogs, together with a statement of some neighbor that he saw the carcass weighed and the figures are as you state them. But, remember, the carcass must be weighed, not guessed at. In your letter tell us a few facts about what you fed the animal, how you did the butchering and cured the meat, as we wish to have these facts for the news article which we will put in the paper.

THIEF STEALS Z. V. STEWART'S TRUNK FULL OF CLOTHES

Local Groom Loses Work Clothes and "Undies" When Axman Breaks Open Trunk

Zebulon Vance Stewart, with a brand new wife, had his Christmas honeymoon all marred by a thief who broke into the baggage room at Rural Hall, chopped his trunk open with an axe and appropriated several suits of clothese and his shirts and underwear.

Stewart is resident engineer with the Highway Commission and has been transferred from Wilkes county to a construction job near Danbury. He expressed his trunk containing his instrument and clothing from Wilkesboro to Mount Airy. Then he proceeded to get married and went away for a honeymoon in Winston-Salem. While the trunk was reposing over night in Rural Hall a thief broke into the depot, chopped open five trunks and made away with most of their contents. Stewart's trunk was among those looted.

The thief apparently wanted only clothing, for he left Stewart's valuable surveying instruments on the floor and proceeded to make away with three suits of clothes, two pairs of shoes, several shirts and suits of underclothing. Stewart had provided against such a calamity by having the trunk insured.

Thirty Horses Die in and Near Stuart

Stuart, Va. Dec. 26.—Following the death of about thirty horses in and around Stuart, within the last ten days a man was sent, by request, by the Government, to determine the cause of the epidemic. He reported it was due to the feeding of moldy feed. Dr. G. C. Houghton, a veterinarian from Martinsville, then came to Stuart and gave a number of horses vaccine, which is claimed to act as a preventive.

LETTER FROM JAPAN

A few days before the great earthquake of September 1 I forwarded two articles for publication in the News which appeared in print in due time. These two articles were the beginning of what was intended to be an extended series leading up to soumthing more interesting, other articles being in process of preparation. But when the first earthquake shock came my typewriter was dashed to the floor when the table was turned over and was damaged and, figuratively speaking, my pen fell from my hand and ceased to function when there were events and experiences really worth recording and transmitting. Since then every effort to write for publication has strangely ended in failure.

In my other articles I was painfully tedious in describing my journey to our summer home at Wimoeka, near the town of Gotemba, and at the base of Mount Fuji with its beautiful cone shape and streaks of perpetual snow. The second one was so personal and trival that I barely got the consent of my mind to forward it after writing it. But even the erudite Paul said, as per the American Revised Version: "Would that ye could bear with me in a little foolishness." Our idiosyncrasies float to the surface, even if we tie stones to them.

Well to make the unfinished part of the story of our journey short, we reached our destination without mishap, and had a delightful vacation, resting our weary bodies and minds and obtaining spiritual profit by associating with choice spiritual leaders and attending Sunday school and preaching conducted in English. Summer vacations in Japan, as elsewhere, are expensive; nevertheless, they are needful in this climate to keep our vitality from becoming sub-normal. What our friends at home may regard as a luxury is a necessity with most missionaries in order to maintain health to hold our positions and to do effective service during the remaining months of the year, which fact the Board of Missions duly recognizes. By appointment the previous year, I was superintendent of the Sunday school for English speaking children.

On August 1 I had the misfortune to injure a tendon in the calf of my right leg which was painful, and which kept me from taking needed exercise during the remainder of our vacation. This was mentioned in Mrs. Frank's personal letter to my sister which was published in the News, Oct. 11.

Though you have long since read the harrowing stories of devastation and death wrought by the earthquake, the first shock of which occurred one and a fraction minutes before noon, September 1, and though many of you read Mrs. Frank's letter referred to, I will, at this late date give a few details of our experiences. First of all I wish to make it clear that while we were in the wake of the earthquake on account of being at our summer home, no shock was felt at that time in and about the city of Uwajima where our fields of labor lies. No injury was wrought in the territory where our Mission operates, though the shocks were felt at some of our stations, but with the intensity diminished. Dr. S. H. Wainright and wife of our Mission lost their home from the fact that they were living in Tokyo where he is loaned to the Christian Literature Society. Some newly arrived missionaries who had intended to board with the Wainrights and attend the Japanese Language school lost their belongings which had just been stored in their house a day or two before. See next letter. Uwajima, Japan, November, 1923. — J. W. Frank.

Winner of Mammoth Cake Donates it to Salvation Army

The big cake given by a local picture house to the one guessing nearest its weight was won by Mrs. J. C. Hill who guessed the exact weight, 48½ pounds. Mrs. Hill could think of nothing that she could do with so large a hunk of sweetness so she turned it over to Captain Stanley of the Salvation Army.

Captain Stanley cut the big cake into 25 pieces and, placing a piece in each of 25 Christmas baskets, gave them out to the needy around Mount Airy. In additions to the cake these baskets contained other articles such as canned goods, roast beef, potatoes and other good things.

Christmas night the Salvation Army gave a Christmas tree at the Armory Hall. A hundred and fifty bags of candy, nuts and fruit were distributed, besides many toys.

BAILEY UNCOMPROMISING ON HIS PLATFORM

A Candidate To The Finish Unless Some Other Insurgent Of Ability Enters Race; Will Fight What he Terms The "Hereditary Ring."

(By the Raleigh Correspondent of the Greensboro Daily News.)

Raleigh, Dec. 30.—Dissolution of the Fox, Bailey and Fox tax firm, the clearing out from Bailey headquarters of such entangling alliances as any partnership must carry where one of the principals is a candidate, the ready announcements and the New Year conspire to make this a momentous week.

It is the time unofficially set for the governorship statements of both J. W. Bailey and A. W. McLean. The last doubt of Bailey's running has been removed. He has stepped up on every man who had ever exonerated himself a prophet or even a good dojester. He has put it over on every wise one who winkingly declared Bailey would not take a beating. He has nerved a thousand rather disheartened followers, who desired to see the conflict but never dared dream that Bailey would make it possible.

Mr. Bailey is going to run. He will go to the last ditch, into it, and if buried in it he will scratch himself out and continue the battle. In all the observations of Raleigh newspaper men there appears no candidacy so determined as this. Whether he wins or not appears to have been overlooked entirely. He thinks he can. But he believes that he can make a fight against the politics of the dominent element in North Carolina that will forever ruin its chances to control the state. To that fight he is dedicated and it would be as futile to ask Cyclone Mack and Billy Sunday to "lay off" dancing, card playing, and evolution, as to counsel Bailey not to shoot at anybody lest he hit the party.

That Makes it Dangerous

That makes his candidacy the most dangerous thing that the old guard ever has encountered. Of course in its arrogance it can go back to Kitchin and tell how the leader of the insurgency spent himself long before the old guard was spent. But the parallel isn't worth a cuss. Kitchin was elected governor in an overwhelming victory over the old guard and then lost his hold in the pursuit of an office which the people who had elected him did not believe he owned. Today the old guard isn't engaged in a popular enterprise. It has allowed itself to get taxed with more than it can pay. It has had to bear the odium of Watts, Norwood, Cooper, and the ever-increasing evidence of a large deficit which the party has met in the most unintelligent and unmanly possible way. To all of the suggestions that the Coopers and Norwood trailed with the other faction the answer that overwhelms is that they did not lead when with that wing of the party. They became enthroned under the leadership of Watts.

Bailey on McLean

The attack which Mr. Bailey is making is as nearly impersonal so far as Mr. McLean is concerned as it could be. The Raleigh man pays due deference to the Lumberton lawyer both as man and barrister. If there are too many suggestions of large business relations for sound public policy, the Raleigh man could see that these were acquired before the Morrison-Simmons-Watts enterprise of naming the Morrison successor. Perhaps the campaign may get so bitter, so hot, that many things will be said not highly complimentary to McLean, but Bailey isn't after the Lumberton lawyer; the Raleigh man is after the man whom Governor Morrison has chosen as the Morrison successor.

In the capitol are a few Bailey folks who are on the inside. They are free in the governor's office and hear the things that he talks about. He is, by the way, a rather free talker. They know that he has prevented the candidacy of W. N. Everett for governor. They know that he has been told how large was the popular demand for Mr. Everett as governor. They know that he has told Mr. Everett that he should not run. And they know still better that the only way the Everett demand can be finally pacified was to oust A. D. Watts from the executive opposition. He was ousted. That was the concession made the various voters who refused to serve on the executive committee so long as Mr. Watts was a member.

Not Concessions Enough

There be rather large concessions to make, but they don't satisfy Mr. Bailey. He doesn't think it is worth-some for a governor to get so interested in his successor. He cites the beloved Aycock and the wonder of harmonious campaigns of this principal at work. They did their best for Craig but the folks remained them and Bailey was with them. He was with Mr. Morrison in the 1920 race, but not with him now. Bailey has entered this campaign to fight the dynasty of which he was once the biggest bosh. He doesn't underrate its arrogant power and cynical impudence. He knows its terminology and understands all its gestures. He has no illusions as to the size of battle he must wage. But he is greatly advantaged by knowing these all and having the power both to interpret and proclaim. He is the best brain and the best tongue that the party has, and he has sworn to use both until he brings home the bacon.

He Might Take Gardner

Though he did his best to beat Max Gardner with Morrison, Bailey never has said he would not yield a point for harmony provided his enemies did the same thing. Whether he thinks well enough of Gardner to step down and fight under the Gardner flag, hasn't become a definite enought proposal to slam such a thing at him. Bailey has said he would at any moment remove himself from the contest and enlist under any flag that carried the hope of an earnest fight against the ruling elders. He may never have changed his mind about Gardner, but he is certain there is no old guard taint about him and he knows that Gardner has the affection of the party as no living man has. Likewise Gardner has its confidence. If the party should find it wise to nominate a man able to unite both wings there is no doubt of Gardner's ability to do so.

Indeed, for many weeks some effort of this kind has been going on. It found its origin among the original Gardner supporters who always felt that what the party did for Craig when defeated by Kitchin it should have done for Gardner whose defeat was even more mortifying since it involved the repudiation of the party platform on which he squarely stood. Then, Kitchin as the successful nominee was a far less troublesome man than Governor Morrison who ran shy several thousands and would have gone shy many thousands but for Gardner.

Would McLean Do Likewise

As nobody could promise that Bailey would ever quit so long as he felt that there was the slightest doubt of the old guard's broken grip, so could no promise of McLean's attitude be certain. But it is dead sure that Bailey isn't going to come down unless McLean does. He might not have withdrawn for W. N. Everett because Everett is a member of the administration; but the Everett demand originated in protest of the administration plans and that was something in Bailey's favor.

The McLean supporters at last know whether Bailey is going to run or not and they know whether they care or not. The administration also knows. It has been in position to receive the full reaction to McLean by now. If it is satisfied and stands pat, Mr. Bailey is more than pleased. He at least wishes something to fight about and he thinks he has it.

If the administration desires to avoid the conflict it at least has an intimation as to where it should turn. As for this progressive lawyer in Raleigh, he is wanting to take to the people what he has learned is a hell's orphanage from old guard politics.

Northwest Has First Big Snow of The Winter

St. Paul, Dec. 27.—The northwest is experiencing its first real snow of the season today when [illegible] Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota reported snow ranging from [illegible] to four inches in depth. Snow and a cold wave [illegible] day.