

Mount Airy News.

Mount Airy, N. C., May 1st, 1924.

J. E. JOHNSON & SON, Publishers.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
 One Year \$5.00
 Six Months \$3.00

Entered as second-class matter at the postoffice at Mount Airy, N. C., under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

THE CASE OF A. W. GEORGE

In the history of the county there are few cases that are more pathetic than that of A. W. George who was convicted last week in Surry court of criminal action in managing a bank in Elkin and sentenced to five years in prison.

Arthur George, as his friends called him, is not a bad man, and bad men are the ones who are supposed to be behind the bars. Arthur George was a model citizen for years and took rank with leaders in society as an educator and churchman. He was a successful school teacher and was active in every good work.

Then he became interested in banking some years ago and his downfall followed. With all the good work he did in the active years of his life before becoming a banker we can hardly believe he has intentionally played a double part. Rather we are inclined to think of him as a weak man who has too little strength of character to take care of himself in the every-day work of a business man's life.

Every one knows that no banker can meet all the calls he has for money and must turn some away. From the best information we get Mr. George was too weak a man to be able to turn men away, but listened to their appeal for money and took their advice in loans he made and the security he was given. In other words, he failed to take care of himself in a business way, and in not taking care of himself he failed to take care of the funds of people who were doing business with his bank. If he made bad loans and took unsound security it is poor excuse to say that he was induced to act as he did. The men hard up for money would break every bank in the country if their tales of woe were listened to and their advice taken.

It appears that Arthur George broke a bank and tied up the hard earned money of many people all for the reason that he was not a man of sufficient ability to run the business.

Like many another man he appears to not have had the moral courage to admit his fault and made matters even worse by failing to make a clean breast of the whole unfortunate business. He could have told the court the plain facts of his business tangle and thus have secured the sympathy of the judge in whose hands the case rested after the jury rendered a verdict of guilty. But he was not a man of such strength of character as to be able to do this. Rather, he tried to leave the impression that he had done no wrong, but was the victim of some errors that are common in every-day business life. This explanation failed to explain and made his case even worse than if he had said nothing.

We are forced to the conclusion that the case of Arthur George is that of a man who is short of moral courage and too weak in character to be mixed up in business where men of ability are supposed to serve. If he could have followed his calling as a teacher he might have gone through life without a mark against his good name. But when he assumed the responsibilities of a banker and took in trust the money of his friends and so managed the bank as to squander their money he became a criminal in the eyes of the law and must bear the consequences.

OUR RICHEST GIRL GETS MARRIED

On Tuesday at noon of this week Miss Cornelia Vanderbilt was married at her home in Asheville to an English nobleman, John P. Cecil. The wedding is a notable event in the state. For weeks preparations have been made for a wedding in keeping with the great wealth of the Vanderbilt family.

Lord Cecil comes from one of the distinguished families of England, and Miss Vanderbilt is the only child of the late George Vanderbilt and is heir to an estate of fifty million dollars. For days notable people from many nations and many of the distinguished citizens of this country including Governor Morrison and his millionaire bride have been gathering at Asheville for the marriage.

Mr. Ramsey, representing the Ham-Ramsey evangelistic party will be here May 4 and wants to meet the pastors and others who are interested at the Blue Ridge hotel at 1 o'clock p. m. to plan for services to be held here the latter part of June or early in July.

A WISE JUDGE

Two Surry families were before Judge Lyon last week and after hearing their troubles aired in open court he advised that they go home and one of the families move away to some other neighborhood. They had quarrelled and their trouble led to a fight and court proceedings. The Judge was at a loss to know just what to do with the case and appealed to the lawyers in the bar who were familiar with the facts. Some one suggested that they be required to give bond for good behavior but the Judge said that it was out of the question to think of them behaving. He knows human nature and he knows that ignorances and high temper mixed up with a sense of honor make a combination that is hard to control. One of the women on the witness stand told the court that she wanted the world to know that no one could call her a liar and not have trouble. She has a sense of honor that every one must admire.

The advice that the Judge gave for one of the families to move away seems to us to be a fine solution to the trouble. No doubt there are many cases of chronic family discord that neither time nor effort will correct and the best way out of the trouble would be to get away from it by selling out and hunting a new home. For of all the troubles that afflict the human race anger and resentment and such like mental conditions are as much calculated to destroy happiness and lead to serious trouble as any thing the race has to meet.

If the Judge was right, and we think he was, it is something to think of a character that has been developed along lines that make it out of the question to think of that person leading a normal and useful life. And no doubt there are many just such characters. Education and religious training is the way out of all such troubles.

GUARDIAN NEEDED

One day last week a citizen of South Carolina was out pleasure riding with his car and family of several children. Just for the fun of the thing he ran a race with a friend in another car along a nice stretch of road. He lost control of his car and jammed it into a tree. Next day he buried his ten-year old son and visited three other members of his family in the hospital where they must remain until their injuries permit them to leave.

We confess that we are at a loss to know just what comment should be made on such conduct. It may be just as well to make no comment, for it will do no good to comment. Such people go their way through life and seem to be beyond the reach of advice. They learn only from experience and very little that way. Some folks in this class are very good people, kind hearted and all that, but they are an unreliable set and amount to but little for good. There is no way to appoint a guardian for them.

The man who will deliberately risk the safety of his family in an automobile race should be forever debarred from the use of an automobile. There are plenty of people driving cars who are not so mentally balanced as to be able to operate a machine safely.

CHURCH LOCATION WANTED

It may be news to many people to know that an effort is on foot to build a new church in this city by the Moravians. There has never been an organization of this band of christians here though there are about sixty persons here of that faith. It is now the purpose of the leaders of the Moravian church to organize these christians into a working body and build a house of worship. Rev. Chas. Crouch is locally in charge of the work which for the present time is in the nature of a mission field. If the new house of worship is built it will be done with the aid of others who will assist the local people.

For some weeks now Mr. Crouch and his associates in the work have been securing prices on land that might be available for a church site and so far they have not been able to secure a location. The plain truth is that the prices asked by our people are so high as to appear to be out of keeping with the price asked for land that is being sold here and the way real estate is valued. So high are the property owners in their estimate of their land that it now appears that nothing will be done for the present in the way of securing a lot. The Moravians are willing to pay all land is worth, but they are not willing to be shovled off to some undesirable location for their house of worship, neither are they willing to pay prices for land that appears to be more than it is worth. They are hoping that by waiting they will be able later to secure a lot at a price that will meet the ideas of men who are putting common sense as well as money into their efforts to advance the Kingdom.

A GOVERNOR IN JAIL

Out in Indiana they have put their governor in jail, did it on Monday of this week. They proved that he had been forging other people's names on notes and then selling them to secure needed funds. He plead guilty to the charge, but claimed that he intended to do no wrong. He is in jail just the same. It is a hopeful sign to see the high position of men fail to shield them from their misconduct. The old saying that the king can do no wrong is not proving true in these days of enlightenment.

TRYING TO BEAT YE EDITOR

We have a neighbor, Bob Forest, who is doing his best to beat ye editor making a garden, though he will never admit it.

There is a spirit of rivalry in every man who is any account. It shows itself in many useful ways and in some very pernicious ways. It is a spirit of rivalry that makes a man get up before day and hustle to get ahead in the world. It is a spirit of rivalry that makes a man build a good home and try to make it an attractive place. It is also a spirit of rivalry that makes a man risk his money at cards or his life when some one tries to pass him on a nice stretch of road.

Bob Forest has gone and set out his tomato plants and has them growing under fruit jars. He thinks he will get ripe tomatoes along about July the first, way before we can grow them. He has not said so, but he is thinking it just the same. We know where there are some tomato plants that have been transplanted for many days and are now almost ready to bloom. We intend to secure some of these plants and put 'em out and place a box around each one with plant bed cloth over the box. Thus protected it may be that we can beat Bob even if he has the best start. Most folks will be getting ripe tomatoes along about August, but this home is expecting to have them by July 4th, if not sooner.

After all, what harm is there in trying to beat your neighbor in making a garden?

City Sells Street Bonds

The Wachovia Bank & Trust Co. of Winston-Salem, last week bought \$60,000 worth of Mount Airy street improvements bonds paying more than \$75 more than their face value. These bonds bear 5 1-2 per cent interest and mature \$2,000 every year until retired. The money will be used for street work that will be done during the coming summer which includes the paving of Lebanon, Church and Wilson streets and the resurfacing of a portion of Main and Franklin streets.

Boy Scouts to Take the City

Within a few weeks, just when the water in creeks begin to warm up and the boys shed those "prison cells of pride," this city will be infested for several weeks with a good size troop of visiting boy scouts from Greensboro. Through the instrumentality of A. G. Webb the troop from Greensboro will spend their camping vacation in and around this city. They will pitch their tents on the farm of W. O. Jackson at Green Hill where they will have access to the large fishing and swimming pond of Mr. Jackson. This is one of the best troops in the state and numbers about 60 boys.

An Owl Story

Two owls, of a species unknown in this section, have been captured at the home of Mr. Chris Bunker recently.

Mr. Bunker set a steel trap for an intruder that was catching his chickens, the first owl caught was so unusual that after he killed it he brought it to town and some one sent it to a taxidermist to be mounted. The second one caught the same way was brought here alive and placed in Bennett's window where it crested much interest and soon sold for \$5.00.

Some one who has been reading up on the subject says it is known as the monkey-faced owl.

Return From Fishing Trip

W. I. Monday and G. L. Simmons returned Saturday from a fishing trip to Greenville where they were guests of Mr. Simmons' daughter Mrs. S. E. Gates. Mr. Simmons tells tales about Mr. Monday's fight with big eels, caught on his hook, and about his own sea-sickness while fishing from a bridge where the waves made an uplander forget his love of fishing on account of "internal disturbances." However, he brags, they caught all the perch, robin and eels they could eat and visited the fisheries where they haul in the seines filled with herring, shad and rock with mule power and had a wonderful trip and heard Evangelist Ham in the bargain.

MOUNTAIN FIRE BURNS OVER LARGE AREA

About 1,000 Acres Swept By Forest Fire in Lowgap Section—May be Work of Blockaders

While the wind blew a gale of 40 to 60 miles an hour the first of last week almost the entire neighborhood of Lowgap section was busily engaged in a desperate struggle to check the flames of a forest fire that was being fanned by the continual gale and which threatened to sweep over that entire country. For two days and nights without rest or sleep about 50 stalwart men left their homes and went into the woods to lend their efforts to stop the onrushing flames which threatened to devour their homes.

They were finally successful in their fight and checked the fire by fighting it by the method known as "back-firing," or firing against it, after it had burned over more than a thousand acres of wood land.

There is something strange about the fires in that particular section. People tell us that there they can count on a forest fire at least every two years. And so regular have been their appearance in the past that they have begun to speculate as to the cause. Most of them have begun to reason that the fires are set out by blockaders. The galax picking furnishing employment to a large number of people along the foot of the mountain, and in their work they often discover the stills of the blockaders. It is supposed that the blockaders suspicion the galax pickers of reporting their discoveries to the officers and they have fallen upon the plan of setting fire to the section they expect to operate in. By doing this the growth of the galax is destroyed for two years and they are therefore free from the possible discovery of some innocent galax picker who might be searching the deep hollows and ravines for the choicest of these leaves.

Sometimes fox and possum hunters infest this territory and the blockader is also put in constant dread of discovery by the prowlings of the hunter through the woods and mountain foot hills. So by firing over the country he is also protected against the hunter as a dog will not trail game over burnt ground for about 12 months thereafter.

While fighting the fire last week and when the fighters thought their task was about finished another fire broke out in an adjoining ravine in more than one place, which had all the appearance of having been set by some culprit.

Just how much truth there might be in the speculation as to the probable origin of these fires we are unable to say but from observation for the last few years many of the people of the Lowgap section have formed the belief that their origin is incendiary.

DEATH CLAIMS TAMMANY'S CHIEF

In 66 Years He Had Been Almost Everything, Saloon Keeper to National Boss

New York, April 25.—Charles F. Murphy, grand chieftain of Tammany Hall, and for many years a powerful factor in Democratic councils of the state and nation, died today of heart failure induced by acute indigestion.

A product of the east side's picturesque "gas house district," he had, fought his way from the stokehold of ward politics to the quarter deck of party fame and financial fortune.

In a span of 66 years he had been poor man's son, ward heeler, bartender, saloon keeper, office holder, financier, and final local director and national adviser to his party.

He retired last night, after a busy day and a hearty dinner, to be awakened this morning by feverish chills and the pangs of indigestion. Characteristically, he insisted upon breakfasting at the usual early hour. Immediately he became alarmingly ill and died a few minutes later in the presence of his physician, a priest, his daughter Mabel, and her husband, Surrogate James A. Foley.

The taciturn genius, who had ruled the destinies of Tammany Hall for 22 years, as successor to the late Richard Croker, remained conscious to the end unaware that death was near. He submitted to the hypodermic injection when his physician recognized that collapse was imminent and his only comment was of surprise that indigestion should have awakened him and that his heart caused him pain.

Mrs. Murphy who was in Atlantic City, was summoned home. Although her husband died before she could on train, she was not aware of it until she was met by friends at this end of the journey.

Tammany Hall was the first to learn that death had invaded the home of its leader.

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Substitutes are generally more expensive in the end than genuine articles. Housewives have learned—they KNOW this is true where bakings are concerned.

Self rising flours are classed as substitutes for plain flour and good baking powder. The use of these special mixtures is very liable to result in false economy, failures and waste on bake day.

Remember there is a big difference, in many ways, between biscuits and other bakings made from these so-called self-rising flours and those made from good plain flour and a dependable leavener. Try the experiment—make a baking from each—convince yourself.

You will find the baking made from flour and baking powder far more attractive in appearance. It will raise higher—retain its full food value and taste better. For best results, do not fail to use Calumet, the Economy Baking Powder, and a reliable brand of plain flour.

Just think of it—the sale of Calumet is 2 1/2 times as much as that of any other brand. It contains only such ingredients as have been officially approved by the United States Food Authorities. It is pure and sure.

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PACKED IN TIN —KEEPS STRENGTH IN