

Mount Airy News

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THOSE LAND SALE NOTICES

Many have commented on the large number of land sale notices appearing in this paper within the last week or so, and some seem to be alarmed at the number of people appearing to be sold out of house and home. While outside appearance may seem a little gloomy yet if one would investigate he would find that in a large majority of cases these sale are never held, but some satisfactory arrangement is made to continue to carry the loan. In our experience in publishing these notices of foreclosure of land by the attorneys and banks it seems nearly always to be the fault of the borrower rather than the party who holds the paper. We know of many instances where the holder of a paper was unable to get any response from parties even regarding interest due and had to resort to advertisement in the newspapers to let the fellow fully realize that the claim still held good and that time had not paid it.

When banks loan money to people it must be understood that it is some other person's money that is being let out and it is only right and proper that they should take all the precaution necessary to protect the interest of those who entrust their funds in these institutions. On their judgment in handling these funds depends the safety of the banks and the faith of the people in them. For instance, the banking laws prohibit a bank from carrying past due paper, and when a man who has a note in the bank continually neglects to answer a notice that his paper is due he at once gets himself in the disfavor of the bank officials, and properly so too, and lays himself liable to some action on the part of the bank to start some proceeding to protect the interest of the depositors whose money they have loaned out. And so it is highly important that people having paper in the banks take care of it promptly either by payment or renewal and when this is done there is rarely ever any occasion for the advertisement of one's property to satisfy claims.

A DOCTOR'S ADVICE

A woman with what she thought was serious health conditions went to a famous physician and what he told her is worth the thought of other people. She had a real trouble and was told that the way out of it was to quit living too much to herself. That will no doubt sound silly to many strong people. It no doubt did to that woman. No doubt she wanted medicine, and that doctor gave her advice. He told her to get out in the world and be helpful to others—no help in giving advice, but do things for others and thus forget her own troubles.

Now the world has a lot of folks who are ready to help if advice will help, but there are entirely too few who are ready to be helpful in a more substantial way. The difference, at least one difference, between the savage and the civilized man is that the savage lives for himself and the civilized man largely lives for others. The savage left his old folks to die in want, the civilized man cares for those who cannot care for themselves. The savage made his women and children work for him when he could, the civilized man helps to make life easy for his loved ones.

In the light of all this one might say that the way to enjoy these holidays is to do things for others, and thus forget self. You can find plenty of people who have proved all this to be true by the every-day life they live. When we get to thinking along this line we always recall the case of the man we knew who helped to dig all the graves in his neighborhood, and that of the man who could find some sick man every Sunday morning and make him comfortable by giving him a nice shave. Little acts, you say, but happiness is made up of just such little acts. It may be a mint of comfort to hand out money and advice to those who need it, but every man who has tried it knows that the best way to have a good time is to get out and do something to bring happiness to others.

All this is so well known to every one that it sounds almost childish to be thrusting it before our readers again, but reminders are often helpful even to the best of folks.

Attorney and Mrs. Geo. K. Snow left Wednesday for Durham where they will spend the Christmas holidays with relatives of Mrs. Snow.

THE GERMAN ELECTION

On Nov. 7th, the German nation held a general election to select members of their congress. Eleven parties had candidates. Several of these represented the old military spirit and several various forms of the new democratic spirit that now controls the country. The election was not a great victory for any party. But the strong trend of the voting was in the direction of the present government that favors the republic and against the military order. General Ludendorf, one of the greatest military heroes, was leader of one party and only a very few congressmen got elected on this ticket. The laboring man's party which is decidedly opposed to the military order made the greatest gains and will have the largest number of members in the new congress.

Until the meeting the first of the year of the new congress no one can tell just how the line-up will be, but it is safe to conclude that the election points to a better day for that country.

THAT CHRISTMAS DRINK

That Christmas drink that many of the folks who read this will take may be the most expensive part of the holidays. This is brought to mind by the reports of many deaths in the land due to drinking what turned out to be rank poison to those who thought they were indulging in a good old-fashioned drink. In the city of New York a great many deaths have recently been brought about in this way, and investigation has shown that some gang of bootleggers has been buying up hair tonic and doctoring it up and selling it for liquor.

Men who drink and who should know, tell us that here in our own section of the country it is almost out of the question to get liquor that any sensible man who drinks would care to put in his stomach. One of the curious things of human nature is that the man who will make and sell illegal liquor seems to lose all concern about even the life of those who patronize his business. He would turn down the throat of his best neighbor a concoction of concentrated lye and tobacco and manure and take his money and seem to think that he had done a smart thing. These men who are now selling liquor seem to be the most heartless set of human beings that the world has ever known. They act like savages and stop at nothing short of murder in an indirect way to get the money they are after by engaging in this illegal business.

And so we warn all and sundry that the drink that may be tempting these holidays may be the act that will mean a bad stomach for many weeks or months to come, or a weakened physical system for all the remainder of life. And it might mean death, as it has to untold numbers of others.

Little Girl Hurt

Rachel, the eight year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Forester Booker, was knocked down at the North Main street dry bridge Sunday afternoon by a car driven by Mrs. Claude Absher and suffered a broken collar bone, a sprained wrist and a cut on the lip and one on her head.

Mrs. Absher, who is leader of a children's society at the Baptist church known as Sunbeam society, was returning from the church and turned at the triangle to carry home some children living down town.

The little girl who was also leaving the church was going towards home and it seemed that in waving farewell to some little friends she started across the street without seeing the car which passed over her body without the wheels touching her.

Mrs. Absher carried her to the hospital where she was examined and her injuries attended to and later she was removed to her home where she is doing as well as could be expected.

J. W. Gardner of Hillsville Dead

John W. Gardner, of Hillsville, Va., was brought to this city last week for an operation at Martin hospital but was desperately ill and died on the operating table before the operation was begun.

His funeral was conducted by J. C. Dunbar of city R. F. D. and Mr. Crews of Fancy Gap at Mt. Lebanon and interment made at the Gardner burying ground at Cap Va., Sunday.

He was sixty years of age and is survived by three sons and four daughters.

W. R. King Leaves For West Virginia

W. R. King, local pressing man, who has cleaned and pressed clothes for residents of this city for more than 20 years will leave for Bud, West Va., within the next few days to make his future home. "Billie," as he is popularly known, is now packing his machinery and expects to be located in his newly adopted home by the first of the year.

HOPES OF THE THIRSTY DESTROYED

Sheriff Haynes and His Deputies Have No Mercy on the Thirsty—Six Stills Put Out Of Commission

Right here in the heart of the season when the blockader and the thirsty ones most desire to go unmolested Sheriff Haynes and his force of deputies have gone right on with their work of cutting up stills and their efforts have resulted in the destruction of six within the last few days.

Sunday morning Deputy Sheriffs J. E. Monday and Floyd Ramey destroyed a double capacity outfit at the foot of Saddle Mountain in Bryan township. With the outfit they captured two men, Henry H. Moore and R. W. McCann. Moore is a man of about 50 years of age, and is well known in his part of the county. He is a man of considerable property owning four large farms on Mitchell's river. McCann is a young man who works about the neighborhood for the farmers. In making their way to the place where the officers thought the stills to be they suddenly met Moore and McCann coming down the path. One of them was carrying a five-gallon glass bottle full of liquor just from the still while the other had a jug of two gallons. Both denied any complicity with the stilling operations and what liquor they had they declared was for their Christmas uses.

A little farther down the path the officers found the most complete outfit discovered in months. Its owner had evidently decided to operate the remainder of the winter. Two stills, a 50-gallon and a 60-gallon one, were in their place, hot and ready to receive another filling of the mash. The owners had erected a good shelter, provided a couple of beds for their use, and had a liberal supply of groceries, flour, coffee, meat, and dishes on hand. And all this outfit, arranged so nice and handy, was butchered up by the officers. In the hunt for this outfit these officers were assisted by Bud Simmons and Will Mathis, and it required the combined efforts of all four to convey the spoils to the Sheriff's office, in this city.

To keep the work of destruction going forward Deputies C. P. Creed and C. L. Beamer Sunday afternoon destroyed another outfit near Round Peak post office. They found a large still set up ready to run and about 500 gallons of beer.

In addition to these captures Lee Boyd found one up on Johnson's creek near the Virginia line, and down in Marsh township Deputy W. H. Chandler has destroyed two outfits.

Carroll County Working For More Good Roads

The Hillsville News last week carried the following news of the efforts of the people of Carroll County to secure more good roads:

Within the past two weeks a great deal of interest has been aroused in the proposition of putting the highway from Hillsville to Princeton, W. Va., on the State Highway system. The proposed route goes through Hillsville, Sylvanus, Draper, Pulaski, Dublin, Poplar Hill to Pearisburg and then to Princeton.

The counties of Pulaski, Giles, the lower part of Bland and Carroll have endorsed the proposed route and a meeting will be held in Pulaski Friday to discuss ways and means of bringing the route properly before the highway commission. Pulaski business men are leading the movement and since Pulaski is very nearly the center of the route the meeting was called for that place so that the representatives from all along the road can attend.

The road from Hillsville to Sylvanus, known as the Greenbrier Road, is in very bad condition and in bad weather is nearly impassable. This road now will receive all the gas tax money returned by the State to the county but this will be insufficient to keep the road in good condition. If this road however, is put on the highway system the State will take it over for maintenance and this will relieve the county from upkeep, giving more funds for other roads in the district. Everyone in Pine Creek and Laurel Fork districts as well as those in all other districts who have to do their shipping from Sylvanus should lend their influence to the plan. The Board of Supervisors by a unanimous vote last Monday endorsed the proposition and the remainder of the people in the county should follow their good example.

There is only ten miles on the far end of the route and the road from two miles this side of Draper that has to be built before the entire route will be completed, giving us a through road from here to the coal-fields.

Rev. D. Vance Price Remains Indisposed

Friends of Rev. D. Vance Price will regret to know that his condition shows very little improvement. He is confined to his home and is only able to be up at intervals.

FARMERS BANK AT ELKIN AGAIN CLOSED

Sheriff Haynes Takes Over Assets Under Power of Execution Papers.

Another chapter in the struggle of the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Elkin to continue to operate and do business was written Monday afternoon when Sheriff C. H. Haynes locked the doors of the bank and took over its assets to satisfy executions placed in his hands to the amount of more than ten thousand dollars. For some time it has been known that certain creditors were pushing the bank for their claims and recently judgments were secured and execution papers placed in the hands of Sheriff Haynes.

The authority of the Sheriff in taking over the bank under the papers was questioned by some of the bank's officials, but Sheriff Haynes declared the bank as he would any other corporation doing business and closed it as he would any other one which had defaulted in its accounts to its creditors.

The doors were locked by the Sheriff last Saturday. Bank officials at once got in touch with Clarence Latham, chief bank examiner for this Corporation Commission, and he arrived on the scene some time Saturday night. He also placed on the door of the bank the seal of the Corporation Commission and a notice formally declaring the bank closed. As the matter now stands Sheriff Haynes has the keys to the bank and papers against its assets to the amount of several thousand dollars. Parties holding these claims are those who bought certificates of deposits from the bank during the days it is charged its officials were selling them at a greatly reduced price, and now these purchasers would like to take over the assets of the bank to satisfy these certificates which represent claims against the institution.

Attorneys for these plaintiffs contend that the bank has never been put in the hands of a receiver and that it is simply allowed to continue to do business as a corporation of the state by the kindnesses of the Corporation Commission and that these plaintiffs have a right to take over its assets to satisfy judgments secured in the courts. Had the bank, they contend, been in the hands of a receiver then the orderly course to follow would have been to allow the receiver to handle the situation as the court should direct.

When Sheriff Haynes closed the bank he took into possession a lot of notes and mortgages, but found no money. He has not determined the value of the paper, but those familiar with the bank's condition doubt if the assets will satisfy the claims held against it.

Seigfried Schafer and family, of Raleigh and Dr. Henry Schafer, of Winston-Salem, will spend the holidays with their mother Mrs. Rosa Schafer.

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