

Mount Airy News.

Mount Airy, N. C., Sept. 24, 1925.

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AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CONSTRUCTIVE WORK

"From now on, in every issue of your paper, I want you to urge the farmers of Surry County to sow a large acreage of wheat," stated W. J. Byerly, president of the Bank of Mount Airy, and chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, to a News reporter this week. And in that very statement there lies the true situation in this county and an opportunity for our County Commissioners to do some real constructive work.

Why do we say this? First, Mr. Byerly's request reveals the fact that he sees the need for a change in the farming methods as practiced in this county today; that its farmers need instruction along lines that will make their farms more self-supporting; that they need to be taught a system of diversified farming which will build up the soil and at the same time provide ample food for the table of every farmer in the county. And all this can be done if it is gone about in the proper way.

This newspaper is glad to do all in its power to aid the farmer in his present bankrupt condition but when it comes to advising as to how to farm that is a matter for one who has been trained along that line. For many years the federal government has seen that it was money well spent to furnish the farmers with a farm demonstration agent, where the counties were willing to pay one-half the cost of the work. Yes, for years, the far-sighted officials of our national government have been carrying on this work where they could get the cooperation of the local authorities and for these many years have they yet to learn that the work proved of no avail, but rather have they realized that only through scientific methods of farming as discovered in the experiment stations, and put into practice on the farms of the country, can the average farmer ever hope to rise above the level of serfdom.

The people of the county appreciate the efforts of our present Board of Commissioners in keeping the tax rate at the very lowest mark possible, but there are other ways in which to render service to the county than that of heaving a low tax rate. For a tax rate of just a fraction more than one-half a cent we would have money sufficient to pay our part in employing a farm agent, and since the heads of both our state and federal departments of agriculture still contend that the demonstration work is a great success after they have watched its results for many years, what right have we, who know so very little about it, to say that it is not worth the price?

We are of the same opinion of Mr. Byerly in that the farmers of this county should grow more small grains and other products that are required to make themselves self-supporting, but we go Mr. Byerly one point further and take the stand that a farm agent would earn his salary many, many times in the work that is awaiting him among our farmers.

AUTUMNAL EQUINOX

A lower temperature with grey hazy sky much of the day Tuesday was about all our citizens saw in the day to mark the Autumnal equinox, usually a period for heavy rains; however the equinoctial rains seldom fall, and may arrive a few days late.

If the rains should fall at this time we may be obliged to wait for the regular winter rains before any real relief is experienced in the matter of water supply in wells, springs and streams.

The light showers which we have had occasionally from time to time have washed the dust from vegetation and done much to keep plant life green, even giving a whole day or a half day of uninterrupted electric current to the dwellers in town only to revert, the next day, to a few hours service such as has been the rule during these weeks of drought.

If nothing else happens as a result of the sun crossing the equator and day and night being exactly equal surely we may expect relief from the excessive heat and may look forward to the glorious weather which comes with Autumn in this climate.

LOCAL TOBACCO MARKET OPENS OCT. 5th

Col. Ball Returns and Takes Up Old Position—Association to Begin Receiving Tobacco on Same Date

The tobacco warehouses will open in this city on Monday Oct. 5th, with both auction houses—Lovell Warehouse and Planters Warehouse—with a full corps of men to handle the weed. Col. J. S. Ball, who has spent the summer in southern Georgia, is back in the city and will again auction tobacco on the floor of Planters Warehouse, while A. A. Fowler will serve in the same capacity at Lovell Warehouse. Mr. Fowler is a new man on this market and comes from Kentucky where he has been on the floor for three years. He previously sold tobacco for Brown's Warehouse in Winston-Salem.

In talking to Col. Ball this week he stressed the point that the farmers should by all means pack their first curings down immediately after taking them from the barn so as to prevent the tobacco from running red. Unless this is done he says that every time the tobacco comes in order it will turn a shade darker and with several seasons striking it before it is put on the market it will change in its color a great deal when by packing it away while in good order the color is kept the same.

This market will be supplied by practically the same force of buyers as on the floor last year. They are men who have the confidence of the farmers, the most of them having been on this market for a number of years.

Mr. Joe Dobson, manager of the Cooperative Warehouse in this city, received a letter Monday notifying him to open the association's warehouse in this city on Tuesday, Oct. 6th, for the receipt of tobacco from its members. When asked as to what advance would be paid on delivery Mr. Dobson stated he had not been notified just what amount would be paid. Last year they paid fifty per cent of the bankers' valuation on the delivery of the tobacco. This year the association is paying 65 per cent on delivery on the eastern markets and it is reasonable to suppose that they will make the same advance to the members in this belt when their receiving houses are opened.

The Mount Airy branch will again be in charge of Mr. Dobson, with Mr. Frank Joyce as grader, and the remainder of the force will be practically the same as last season.

Civil Court at Dobson

A special term of civil court was convened at Dobson Monday, being presided over by Judge C. C. Lyon. More than 100 cases are on the calendar to be disposed of but the first two days of the court were consumed in hearing a land suit between Thos. Ball and W. M. Osborne of the State Road section. Ball is a man of 80 years of age, with several living children with whom he has made his home since the death of his wife several years ago. In 1913 he entered into a contract with his son-in-law, W. M. Osborne, in which Osborne was to board, clothe and care for him during the remainder of his life and at his death give his body a decent burial, and in turn for these services promised by Osborne old man Ball deeded his 22 acre tract of land to Osborne. After about a year this arrangement proved unsatisfactory to the old man, things were not as pleasant around the home as he desired and he went to live with some of his other children. Later on Osborne sold the 22 acre tract to another son-in-law, Marian Blanchet, for \$800.00, taking a deed of trust on the land for the purchase price, then Blanchet sold the notes and deed of trust to one Sam Speed, who became what is termed an innocent purchaser. Now old man Ball is suing for the return of his land and has appearing on his behalf Attorneys Folger and Folger and W. M. Jackson, while the other side is represented by Reece, Hendren and Barker.

The case is being hard fought and has proven interesting from the many points of human interest and sympathy that has from time to time been injected into the trial. The attorneys finished arguing before the jury Tuesday night and no one is willing to predict just how that body of men will untangle the domestic trouble that this old man finds himself involved in.

Trinity Episcopal Church Services

Rev. Arthur H. Marshall, Minister.
Church school each Sunday 10.00 a. m.
Holy communion and sermon
each 1st Sunday 11.00 a. m.
Sermon by pastor each 3rd
and 5th Sunday 11.00 a. m.
Sermon by pastor each 2nd and
4th Sunday 7.30 p. m.

A cold bottle of GREEN RIVER will refresh you.

BLUEFIELD GROUP TO PASS THROUGH MOUNT AIRY

Good-Will Tour To Be Made to Charlotte by 300 West Virginians—Visit Mount Airy the 25th

This city will be visited for a short time on Friday of this week by 300 tourists from the city of Bluefield, W. Va., who are making a good-will tour through this section which will terminate at Charlotte Saturday when a meeting of the Lakes-to-Florida Highway Association will be held. The caravan from Bluefield will reach Hillsville at noon Friday and expects to reach this city about two o'clock when a brief stop will be made and the party taken in charge by a committee of our citizens and shown our principal points of interest. On leaving here a large delegation of Mount Airy citizens is expected to join the visitors and accompany them to Salisbury where the party will spend Friday night.

The meeting of the Lakes-to-Florida Highway Association in Charlotte on Saturday is expected to settle the question of the route through this state. This question has been left by the Association to the directors of each state; already West Virginia has named a route that connects Bluefield with Wytheville, and the Virginia directors several months ago selected the Fancy Gap route. There are several routes in North Carolina that are being advocated but since the Virginia directors have expressed a preference to the Fancy Gap route thru their state it is hardly probable that the North Carolina directors can do anything but name a route that will connect with the Virginia route at the Fancy Gap which would put the road through Mount Airy. From this point there are several routes that could be followed, and this question is one of the problems that may be settled at the Charlotte meeting Saturday. Every member of the Association from this city should attend the meeting in Charlotte.

TO DEVELOP "NORVALE CRAIGS"

Enthusiastic Meeting Held in Mount Airy and Committee Named to Organize Work.

An enthusiastic meeting of about 75 citizens of this city was held in the directors' room of the Bank of Mount Airy last Thursday night and plans perfected looking toward the development of "Norvale Craigs", the noted scenic property at Lowgap, where it is proposed to erect a modern hotel and convert that section into a summer play ground for the tourists and citizens of North Carolina and Virginia.

W. J. Byerly presided over the meeting and W. E. Woodruff, J. D. Sargent and S. P. Graves gave expressions to the wonderful possibilities that this particular piece of property holds in store as being ideal for a large summer resort development. S. M. Hale, J. B. Sparger and T. N. Woodruff were named as a committee to confer with interested parties of Galax and later make a report and offer recommendations leading to a final organization and chartering of a corporation to begin the work.

The proposed hotel location, with an elevation of 3,600 feet is one of the highest peaks in the Blue Ridge thru Virginia and North Carolina and has a magnificent view over both states. Those who are pushing the proposition have secured options on 15,000 acres of land and they propose to build a \$200,000 hotel, a dam 60 by 120 feet that will make a lake covering nearly 100 acres to a depth of about 50 feet, a golf course and an automobile road, the latter a distance of three miles to the top of Fisher's peak which has an elevation of 4,000 feet.

Electric power will be furnished by a plant to be located at the head waters of Fish river some two miles distant where a cascade is waiting to be harnessed.

Former Mount Airy Citizen Died at Martinsville

John Bray, formerly of Mount Airy died at his home at Martinsville, Va. Sept. 8.

Mr. Bray was a painter and paper hanger and has been engaged in that work in Martinsville for the past 15 years. He will be remembered by many of the older residents here who will learn of his death with regret. His wife and one daughter survive.

STATEMENT

Of Ownership, Management, Etc., of The Mount Airy News, Mount Airy, N. C.

Publishers—J. E. Johnson & Son, Mount Airy, N. C.
Editor—J. E. Johnson, Mount Airy, N. C.
Managing Editor—W. M. Johnson, Mount Airy, N. C.
Business Manager—W. M. Johnson, Mount Airy, N. C.
Owners—J. E. Johnson and W. M. Johnson, Mount Airy, N. C.
Known bondholders, mortgagees, or other security holders—None.
W. M. JOHNSON,
Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 22nd day of Sept. 1925.
G. R. Welch, Notary Public.

Granite Workers Given Big Barbecue

More than two thousand men, women and children, representing the workmen of the quarry industry and their families, gathered at the picnic grounds near the big shed last Saturday afternoon where they were served with a barbecue prepared at the expense of the granite companies of this city.

Those in charge of the occasion had everything in readiness when four o'clock, the appointed hour for the barbecue, arrived and the entire assemblage was served with precision and promptness. The food was served on individual plates which contained liberal quantities of roast pork and beef, pickles, cakes, smokes, and all kinds of cold drinks.

The occasion was in celebration of the 35th year of the continuous operation of the granite industry of this city and the operators are to be commended in giving their large number of employees and their families such an enjoyable feast. In fact so glowing have the reports been of the good times these people enjoyed that many friends of the owners of the quarry were somewhat disappointed that they could not join in with the merriment and feasting, but Mr. Sargent, president of the North Carolina Granite Corporation, had stated in advance that the barbecue was prepared solely for the granite employees and their families. However the committee in charge of the barbecue had as their guest the banker and attorneys for the quarry and the ministers who lived in the locality.

MASONIC NOTICE

Special meeting Granite Lodge No. 322, A. F. and A. M., Friday night, Sept. 25, 7:30.
Work in 3rd degree.
B. Y. Graves, Master
C. Binder, Secretary.

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Greatest Dairy Cattle Show Held in South

Gastonia, Sept. 18.—This year's Gaston County Fair to be held October 6 to 10, is expected to be the occasion for the greatest dairy cattle show ever held in the south, according to Fred N. Allen, fair secretary.

Last year's fair lacked only three entries in the dairy show of having as many as the Great Southeastern, in Atlanta, Mr. Allen says, and he reports that the entries will be even more numerous this year than last.

Herds from Caldwell, Catawba, Mecklenburg and Gaston counties will be entered in the dairy show this year, it is stated. A feature of interest in the cattle show will be the collective exhibit from the calf clubs of Gaston county.

When sand dunes are encountered in the Sahara Desert, travelers in automobiles are required to lay nets under their cars to secure traction. Frequently it takes thirty hours to go 1,500 feet.

NOTICE

North Carolina, Surry County. Oscar L. O'Neal vs. Lillie O'Neal. In Superior Court. Affidavit.

Oscar L. O'Neal being duly sworn says:

1. That he has commenced an action in the Superior Court of Surry County against the defendant Lillie O'Neal for absolute divorce.

2. That the summons in said action has been returned by the Sheriff of Surry County endorsed as follows: "after diligent search and inquiry made, defendant not to be found in my county."

3. That the defendant cannot after due diligence be found in the state of North Carolina.

Wherefore, affiant prays that service of the summons be made by publication.

Oscar O'Neal.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the 21st day of September, 1925.

J. Luther Wood, N. P.

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