

Mount Airy News.

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THE LURE OF THE NEWS-PAPER GAME.

There is something about the publishing business that attracts men in all walks of life. Just now we have in mind that one of the Vanderbilts, of the younger set, has failed in the newspaper business after spending a million dollars trying to make his paper go. It is a story as old as the publishing of newspapers. There is not a town of any size in the whole land where there is not a well filled grave yard of papers that saw their day and vanished. It seems that it is no trouble for ambitious men to make up their minds that they can take the field away from some paper that is already established. They live to learn that it is a long and hard road that leads to a successful newspaper enterprise. It is a fact long understood by experienced newspaper men that it requires from five to eight years to get a paper to a point where it is recognized by business men as a medium for advertising that it will pay to patronize. One of the surest and most certain of all enterprises in these modern days is the well established newspaper. It is a kind of community effort. It is the child of all the people in a way. The people aid in its publication, though they hardly realize that they do. Every successful newspaper has the hearty cooperation of its subscribers and advertisers and they aid in collecting the news and securing business for its advertising columns and speak a good word for it on all occasions. The paper to them is a family companion and they defend it and encourage it and fight for it at times when occasion demands. It is for all this that the established paper is hard to supplant, and it is for all this that it takes years to make a place in the homes and hearts of the people for a new newspaper.

Only a few years ago the small town newspaper enterprise represented only a few hundred dollars, but with the coming of the type setting machine and modern machinery of all kinds the expense of publishing a newspaper advanced to where it now represents an investment of thousands of dollars. All this means that the paper that now succeeds must have a large and permanent patronage. Unless it has this permanent support it soon becomes a graveyard for some man's money, and not many men are willing to back a losing enterprise for very long.

The value of a well established newspaper to a community is now a hundred fold greater than it was a few years ago. It has not been so long ago that the politicians were the most active folks about the newspaper office, but now all this has changed and it is the business man, the preacher, the farmer, the teacher, who are among the most frequent visitors to the home of the paper. All this means increased patronage, increased responsibility and increased usefulness, it is a game that now calls for skilled labor and efficient help in all departments to meet the demands and needs of the patronage that the successful paper has for its support.

DOINGS OF MY NEIGHBOR.

Often it is interesting to watch ones neighbors and keep track of what they are doing. Just now we have in mind a neighbor who is an expert gardener and gets as much pleasure from his garden as he does profit, and that is no little sum considering the size of his garden. He has a hobby of getting tomatoes ripe early. He likes them for his own table and can spare a few for market when the price is high. The way he has gone at preparing the land for his early tomatoes is something new to us. Maybe it will be to you. He prepared a row of fifty hills this week by first spading out a half bushel of dirt. Then he put in the hill some stable manure, a handful of bone meal, a handful of fertilizer, some lime and some baking soda and with a hoe mixed all this well with the soil. Just why he hit upon all this mixture to get fine tomatoes is too much for us, but you can rest assured that he will get results.

Another neighbor nearly a month ago bought himself a hundred day old chicks. He also bought a brooder and followed directions as to attention, food etc. He lost only two and the others are now well feathered and the size of a partridge. How did he do it? Others fail, but others also succeed. It must be in knowing how.

A POLITICAL BLUNDER.

We stood on the streets of Dobson one day last week and watched the many school buses start on their daily trips to the country districts of the county loaded with students who live too far away from the High School to walk from their homes.

Six of these huge machines loaded with dozens of young people pulled out from the little town of Dobson on that afternoon. Then we traveled for many miles through the same country where many of these students live and we saw not a single farm home that could be classed as a well improved farm. The land simply can not produce much, for it is every where poor and unimproved. And yet it is down on the tax books at war time prices.

And then we wondered what is wrong with all this, if anything. Who pays the bills and who is to continue to pay them. No one questions the fact that we need the schools and that we are getting the young folks educated. But who is to pay the bills for gasoline and upkeep of the buses and replacing when they are worn out. While thinking of all this we asked Dr. Stone, the local physician, how many of these young people will remain in the county when they have completed the High School, and he said, Not a single one.

And we are wondering just how Surry county is to continue to carry on in this way.

It all comes back to the blunder that the state made when it allowed the rich counties to change the system of public school education from a state system to a county system. It was a selfish and unfair trick to play in the game of politics. To say that the rich counties may support their schools and the poor counties do likewise, is the scheme of no wise man. It is a political trick and a blunder that is hurting the whole state. It is so manifest as an error that it does not need to be explained.

Everyone knows that no country has an equal distribution of wealth, and every one knows that the wealth of a country will concentrate about the market towns. It has done this in this state. Look at Winston and Greensboro and Charlotte, as examples of how wealth piles up at market towns. These towns are made rich because they have the back country upon which they depend for their support. Without this back country they would not exist as market centers. For these centers of wealth to lay claim to the right to run their own schools and demand that the rural counties do likewise is the boldest kind of unfairness. It is so unjust that every thinking man sees it. It is so unjust that no thinking man can justify it. It has made conditions such that any young man living in a county like Surry or Stokes or Yadkin could well afford to sell his home at a sacrifice and move to one of the wealthy counties where school advantages are supported by the great wealth that has been gathered in from the trade of the back country districts.

The Democratic party will have to correct this wrong, or it will rankle in the breasts of good Democrats until it develops a spirit of revenge that will get a hearing at some future date. The rural counties simply will not bear the great burden of their schools and be content to permit the county system to continue knowing that all this is a political trick perpetrated by political leaders who live in the counties of great wealth.

More Street Paving Projects.

Two more streets were accepted by the city commissioners Tuesday night at their regular meeting when they authorized the paving of Spring street beginning at Rockford and extending to near J. A. Jackson's home, and also Willow street beginning at Rawley Avenue and extending to Taylor street. With these two streets signed up Mount Airy now has under way the largest amount of street paving than at any previous time. Already work is progressing on the grading of Taylor, Orchard and Hines streets and contracts for the paving have already been made with a big concern in Winston-Salem.

Tax Listers Now At Your Service.

The tax listers of the county went on the job Tuesday and are now at the service of those who have property to list for taxation. County Supervisor B. F. Folger says that all property must be listed during the month of May, and that after May 20th, listing will have to be done at Dobson. Prior to that date the list takers can be found at convenient places in the county. J. F. Prather and E. L. Patterson are listing for Mount Airy township and they have the books in the wooden building opposite the post office.

Billy Sunday Teams Coming.

Beginning next Sunday night a Billy Sunday team will hold services in the Moravian Church each night for one week. There will be a different team each night from Winston-Salem and an interesting musical program will be arranged for each service. These Billy Sunday teams were organized following the Billy Sunday evangelistic services in Winston-Salem last spring and they make a practice of holding services in the various churches of this section of the state.

THAT BIG QUARRY JOB.

The state papers on Wednesday morning carried a dispatch from Washington City stating that the North Carolina Granite Corporation had been awarded a contract for stone in the construction of a large bridge across the Potomac river. In the news item the amount of the contract was stated to be \$1,515,000.00. For months the government has been figuring on a bridge that would cost fifteen million dollars when completed and those in charge have been getting estimates on the stone work from the leading quarries of the country. The quarry at this place submitted bids for a portion of the work, but none of the officials have received any notice of the work being awarded to them. Mr. J. D. Sargent, president of the quarry, stated Wednesday that he was keeping in close touch with the situation in Washington but knew nothing of the action that had been reported in the press. However, he left for Washington Wednesday night to be on hand and watch for developments. Should it turn out that his company has been awarded this contract it will mean that a large force of hands will have to be kept on it for not less than three years and possibly longer.

FOR OUR FAR AWAY READERS.

It may be interesting to our far away readers to know that spring in all its beauty has arrived in this section. The leaves on the trees are large enough to make the forests look green, and on many kinds of trees the leaves are almost grown. The danger of frost is almost past and the prospect for a fruit crop is as fine as one could wish. The gardens are planted and most crops are well on the way. The weather conditions have been fine for farm work and planters have made good use of the time.

This is a tobacco section. Tobacco is the crop from which farmers get their ready cash. For three years a plan has been working to keep the price of tobacco up by cooperative marketing. This plan has now fallen through and, for causes that would be hard to explain, the effort has failed. When the planters of this county were asked to sign a new contract for another period of years a few weeks ago they failed to respond. They seem to have no confidence in the plan to keep prices of tobacco up. Now there has come about a reaction to this and great discouragement is in the minds of many. They think the price of tobacco will fall so that it can not be grown at a profit. The usual crop will be planted, but every one seems to expect the price to be so low as to make the crop unprofitable. All this has cast a gloom over many and caused them to be much discouraged.

What this section needs is some Moses to lead the way to better conditions by showing these people how to get their lands in grass and pasture and give their attention to the big problem of making a living rather than to making money. Many farmers have already learned this lesson and others will learn it in the course of time.

J. W. Lovill Building Warehouse Down East.

J. W. Lovill spent the week end in this city, after spending a month in Fairmont, N. C., where he is erecting a large tobacco warehouse. Mr. Lovill states that the people of that section are planting a larger acreage than ever before, and he is building a warehouse of a size sufficient to handle the tobacco of the surrounding country. He returned to Fairmont Monday to rush the construction of the building to completion.

Some Hawk Trapping.

The 12-year-old son of Jim Goins, of Peters Creek, Va., was in the city a few days ago exhibiting a large owl. Over in Virginia the state pays a price of 50 cents for the head of owls and hawks that are captured and this young boy during the past four months has caught about his home 34 hawks and one owl. The neighborhood in which he lives must be infested to a great extent with these birds for another boy in the same section has caught 27 hawks. They use steel traps to catch them, tying fresh meat upon the traps and placing them on tall poles out in the fields. This attracts the hawk and he is an easy prey to the clutches of the steel trap as its jaws clamp down on his feet as he attempts to carry off the fresh bait.

Oil Companies Change Hands.

Last week important changes were made in the management of two of the leading oil companies in this city. M. D. Moore, who for years has been agent for the Red "C" product, has relinquished that line and bought the agency of the Gulf line from C. A. Shelton and will handle it from his place of business on South Main street. And the Red "C" agency has been taken over by J. D. McCollum. Mr. Shelton is interested in the oil business in Asheboro, where his family now resides and will possibly devote his entire time to that branch.

Flat Rock To Have Modern School Building.

The county board of education has selected a site for the erection of a modern school building for the Flat Rock neighborhood east of this city. The board will purchase five acres of land on the left of the road just beyond Deatherage's store and expect to start the work at once so the building can be used next fall.

S. C. Poore Passes.

It is hard to realize that S. C. Poore is dead. He passed from this life on Friday of last week after an illness of only a few days. Up to the time of his illness he was at his place of business daily, busy serving his line of customers. Then one day the word was heard that Mr. Poore was sick. The doctors thought he had appendicitis, but being a strong man he evidently thought his trouble would soon pass and preferred not to go to the hospital. He rapidly grew weaker and on Thursday submitted to an operation, but lived only a few hours, for his condition was worse than he had supposed.

Of all the men who have lived among this people we doubt if any one has been more highly esteemed than Mr. Poore. It would be hard to estimate the place he held in the hearts of all the good women of the town who did their daily trading at his grocery store. One good woman when she was told of his death, seemed to be shocked and after a little time of waiting said in a most thoughtful way, the world has sure lost one good man. And she seemed to be content with that expression, for to her it meant all that words could express.

For many years Mr. Poore had been proprietor of a grocery store and daily and sometimes hourly delivered goods to a large line of customers. He had the happy faculty of being able to win and keep the confidence of all who knew him. He never took advantage of his customers by any form of profiteering. The housewives who bought their groceries at his store had the utmost confidence in his judgment and ability to make selections of the things they needed for their pantry. If he had what was wanted in stock he promptly delivered it, and if it was necessary to go out to other stores and hunt up what was ordered he did this without a murmur or show of annoyance or complaint. His one effort seemed to be to render a service that was satisfactory. He never seemed to be annoyed and had the happy faculty of being able to command the respect of men in all walks of life. He could trust men for their monthly grocery bill who could not get credit at other stores, and yet they would pay him. It would be hard to say why, but they seemed to have an intuition that told them that Mr. Poore was one man who must have a square deal. As much could be said to his credit as should be said about any mortal man, considering his ability and qualifications for service. He was not actively affiliated with any lodge or church, but lived a quiet life content to move in a quiet and unobtrusive way, ever ready to do a favor or render a service or help in any way he could.

Training Young Men in the Printing Office.

It is with pleasure that we record the fact that The Mount Airy News office last week sent out into the world for good or better a full fledged new printer. Three years ago Odell Beck, a young boy just entering young manhood, entered The News office as an apprentice. He made good from the start and developed during the three years with us into a printer who can command good wages. He has accepted a position on The Hickory Record, at Hickory, N. C. at a nice salary and began work there the first of the week.

During the past years a number of bright young men have learned the printers trade in The News office, and in the small town office is about the only place a young man can learn the trade, for the large offices have but little time to bother with inexperienced help. It is with pleasure that we recall the fact that many young men who learned the trade with us are now doing well, some of them at the head of a business of their own.

Amos Wyrick, of this city, is now at the keyboard of the linotype and in a few months will be able to turn out several columns of type daily, and later go out into the world as an experienced printer and linotype operator.

Dr. Lancaster to Continue Vaccination Service.

With the abolishment of the health work in this county, there is now no arrangement whereby people can secure free vaccination against typhoid fever, small-pox and other contagious diseases. Several thousand people have been taking these treatments in the county every year while the health work was operated under the direction of Dr. B. M. Lancaster. Since the work has been discontinued by the county, Dr. Lancaster proposes to continue to administer vaccination treatments in his office in the city hall for an amount of 25 cents per dose, this sum about covering the cost of the medicine. Dr. Lancaster says that if he finds that there is a demand for this treatment over the county that he may make appointments in other parts of the county where he can be more accessible to the people. At the same time he will conduct an office in the city hall for the practice of general medicine.

MOTHER'S DAY May 9th Don't forget Mother—phone your order now for FLOWERS—CANDY—MOTHER'S DAY CARDS AND FRAMED MOTTOS. W. S. Wolfe Drug Co. Next to Post Office

New refrigerators! for old ice-boxes! That's what thousands of families are getting when they change their ice-boxes into electric refrigerators by installing the Frigidaire mechanical unit in the ice chamber. They are getting perfect refrigeration without care or work. Convert your own ice-box, or select one of the new metal cabinet Frigidaires. Buy on the GMAC payment plan. Frigidaire ELECTRIC REFRIGERATION Nelson Machinery Company

The Red "C" Oil Co. ANNOUNCES That beginning May 1, 1926, Mr. J. D. McCollum, of 358 N. Main St., Mount Airy, will act as their sole agent in the Mt. Airy District. Orders and communications should be addressed to Mr. McCollum at the above address or phoned to him at Mt. Airy, No. 144.

For Mother's Day Artstyle Chocolates in Metal Box With Motto Top See Ad in Saturday Evening Post, May 8th Issue Hollingsworth Drug Co. The Retail Store Phone 31

Notice We have listed a number of Virginia Grass farms that we will exchange for City property or North Carolina farms. SURRY REAL ESTATE COMPANY G. H. Stantiff, Auctioneer Office with Mount Airy Insurance & Realty Co.

Men Wanted! Good, experienced men to work in spoke and handle factory. Write or wire PARLIER SPOKE & HANDLE CO., Inc. North Wilkesboro, N. C.