

The Mount Airy News

A WEEKLY JOURNAL OF AUTHENTIC NEWS DEVOTED TO THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMUNITY

ESTABLISHED 1880

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\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

Sale of Mount Airy Business Property Indicates Prosperity of Granite City

Big Auction Sale Held Saturday Afternoon Disposes of \$36,000 of Business Property Belonging to the Masonic Bodies—Masons Retain Large Lot on Franklin Street.

WAY NOW OPEN FOR ERECTION OF MASONIC TEMPLE

The optimistic feeling that has prevailed in this city for several months was given an added impetus last Saturday afternoon when the prices that were paid for real estate that was sold by The Land Co., as agents for the Masonic Temple Association. The property included that tract of business lots on which was formerly located the old Central Warehouse on Franklin Street and had frontage on both Market and Willow Streets. Four years ago the Masonic fraternity of this city purchased this property from the Jarrell Company, paying \$30,000 for it, which included the warehouse and also the leaf house in the rear. At that time it was realized that the entire property would not be needed for a temple but the directors of the lodge managed to finance the sale and in turn rented the warehouse and thereby secured funds with which to keep the taxes and interest paid up.

Some weeks ago it was decided to sell the property that was not needed for the temple, and accordingly the sale was placed in the hands of The Land Co., composed of Edw. M. Lluville, D. S. Hodge and Martin Bennett. The Masons retained a lot with 100 feet frontage on Franklin Street and 110 feet on Market Street. This gives them ample frontage on both streets upon which can be erected one of the most modern and up-to-date temples in the country. It is early to anticipate just what kind of building that will be erected, but already there is speculation of the Masonic temple being the first building to be erected here that would assume anything like the proportions of a modern city structure. The first floor would be used for store buildings and afford an income to the lodge, and the last two floors of the building would be utilized for office rooms.

The sale of the land last Saturday netted the Masonic Association a total of \$35,763, leaving them a balance of over 5,000 with a large lot on Franklin paid for and free from all debt. The following purchases were made at the auction sale which was cried by Martin Bennett: Nelson Machinery Co., purchased 50 feet on Market Street immediately behind the Temple lot and paid \$7,675 for it. Mr. Nelson owns a fine building just opposite this lot and his new purchase will be used for additional storage room for his machinery business.

The ministers of the city evidently saw that they could make no mistake in purchasing property in Mount Airy as Rev. J. W. Simmons and Rev. W. A. Newell both purchased property last Saturday. "My purchase," said Mr. Newell, who has been here only a year, "proves that I have faith in the growth of Mount Airy." He bought one 50-foot lot on Willow Street paying \$2,775 for it, and he and H. O. Wolts jointly bought 25 feet on Market St. for \$3,625. Rev. J. W. Simmons also bought 25 feet on Market Street for \$3,745.

F. F. Blevins bid off 25 feet on Market Street for \$3,675 and Zeb Hatcher bought the remaining 25 feet on Market Street for \$3,625. John Banner bought a 15-foot lot on Willow Street for \$1,815, adjoining property he already owns.

Bob and R. E. Inman bought 31 feet on Willow Street for \$3,286. S. C. Stewart purchased the 22-foot lot on Franklin Street that adjoins his hotel property paying \$5,552 for it.

The sale of the property has created a great wave of speculation as to the future prosperity of Mount Airy as the advance of property is indicated by the sale held Saturday shows that our people have faith in the future of Mount Airy and are looking that faith up in their investment in real estate. And there has been added new enthusiasm among

the Masonic bodies of the city and already plans are being formulated for a new drive for subscription to the fund with which to build the temple—an edifice that will be outstanding in architectural design and size, and one which will be a credit to any city of the state.

FARM MAKES FORTUNE FOR NORTHAMPTON MAN

E. C. Lassiter Has Stack of U. S. Bonds, Money in Bank, Grows What He Eats.

Raleigh, Nov. 25.—E. C. Lassiter, who farms near Jackson in Northampton county, has reason to be thankful this year.

Although he is 52 years of age, he has a good wife, five children, owns 700 acres of land worth about \$50,000 and has a stack of government bonds and a healthy savings account.

Mr. Lassiter began farming when he was 21 years of age. At that time he had \$60 in cash as his sole earthly possession, but he had lots of hope and ambition. He put his money in a rented sawmill and because the \$60 was not enough to finance the mill, he had to work for neighboring farmers to get them to work for him at his mill an equal number of days. At the age of 23 he married. His financial condition at that time was such that he only had a small oxcart for traveling purposes. The oxcart was purchased at a farm sale for the amazing sum of one cent.

While he was buying his timber, however, he found it best sometimes to buy the land too. Thus, when he really began farming in 1907 he owned 500 acres of land and no money. Since then he has added 200 acres, the last tract being purchased in 1924 at a cost of \$10,000.

He is known now as a successful planter. Most of his farm is worked by tenants, some of whom have been on the place as long as 18 years. He declares he has never lost a penny on a tenant nor has he had but one to leave him in debt. Most of Mr. Lassiter's tenants have made money. They have profited by the example of his own success—raising their own supplies at home.

Mr. Lassiter's method of farming is very simple, if you will take County Agent E. P. Gullledge's word for it.

First, he demands that everything used at home be raised on his farm. The remaining land is divided equally between cotton and peanuts. Mr. Lassiter, himself, has a year around garden. It produces vegetables for the table each day in the year. He has a good orchard, bees supplying his honey, a flock of sheep to furnish his blankets and mutton chops, 300 hens to furnish eggs and fried drumsticks, and enough surplus to settle the bill at the local supply store, home grown sorghum to produce molasses and home-grown wheat is ground into his flour, and milk and butter are obtained from his herd of dairy cattle.

Mr. Lassiter has 35 hogs and 10 turkeys on his place now. Each tenant has a milk cow. Clover, oats and sudan grass supply all the hay needed for the mules and cattle and generally yields a surplus for marketing. A small sawmill provides all the lumber needed for building.

The Lassiter home compares favorably with any in town. Mr. Gullledge states, and in it are beautiful rugs made from hides, wool blankets from home-grown sheep, auto robes from the home-grown Angora goats, rag rugs from scraps and coon hides from coons trapped on the farm.

On one occasion, there is a story, Mr. Lassiter entertained some friends from a Virginia city at dinner. The meal was sumptuous, but there wasn't a dish not raised at home. Only the pepper, salt, sugar and coffee came from outside sources.

After farming for 19 years after the principles laid down by the "live-at-home" program advocated by the extension service of State college, Mr. Lassiter has concluded that he has a lot to be thankful for.

His formula for success, he says, is a good wife, a "live-at-home" program, and hard work.

Mount Airy's Christmas Decorations Will Be Well Worth Seeing

(Charlotte Observer)

"Mount Airy recently came under the benefits of an abundant and a reliable supply of electric current, and the people of that town are not unaware of the possibilities of holiday usage for it. The Charlotte style of making stores and streets especially attractive for the people in the season of joy and good-will, have planned to decorate after the manner which made Charlotte famous. The Mount Airy News gives details of elaborate plans included in which is distribution of 50 trees in the business streets. There will be the usual display of colored lights and one new feature of which other towns might stand in some little envy. Two thousand yards of laurel festooning will be used. This material is a product of Lowgap and lends itself most effectively to decoration of Christmas trees. Mount Airy is another North Carolina town that will be well worth seeing during the holiday season."

SURRY COUNTY FARM AND POULTRY NEWS

By H. E. White,

Surry County Farm Demonstration Agent

This article will try to briefly summarize some of the activities of the County Agent during the past year. We always have to make out an annual report give closely the details of all projects which have been started or worked on in the county. This report is made out in four copies, one goes to Washington, one to Raleigh, one to the county commissioners and one remains in the office of the county agent. You can examine a copy of the report and talk of all projects which have been attempted and what was accomplished along extension work and the plans for next year. The report is made out in two parts, the statistical and the narrative part. The following is taken from the summary of the narrative part. The next time you are in the office ask to see both parts.

1. Started definite long time demonstrations on apples and peaches.
2. Secured cooperation from the fruit growers located in widely different parts of the county.
3. Definite two year soil improvement demonstrations, provided for by the Surry County Loan and Trust Co., Dobson.
4. Determining a definite program of work in cooperation with the already established organizations of the county.
5. Introduction and dissemination of Tennessee No. 6 barley.
6. Introduction and dissemination of the Australian winter peas.
7. A 15 variety test of soybeans at the Mountain Park Institute.
8. Advocated the use of copper carbonate for stinking smut in wheat. First time this has been used in the county.
9. New method of fertilizing corn at the County Home.
10. Made a definite campaign against the Mexican bean beetle in the county. Previous to this campaign no one knew how to fight the beetle. Nearly a ton of poison was sold by the dealers.
11. Made a definite soybean campaign. The acreage was doubled and soybeans were tried out for the first time on many sections.
12. Made a definite start on forestry work. Two definite pieces thinning done. W. E. Matthews, Pilot Mountain, Klondike Farm, Elkin.
13. Definite efforts were made to discourage the keeping of scrub sires.
14. Introduction of some good pure bred poultry from some of the best flocks in the state with the aid of the Elkin National Bank and the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy in promoting the club work among boys and girls.
15. Did definite work in culling, feeding and construction of poultry houses.
16. Started several terracing demonstrations.
17. Duly to be in the control of the county.
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specialist of the State Department of Agriculture.

21. Promotion of more profitable dairying through dairy schools.

22. A great deal of miscellaneous work.

23. Arrangements through dealers for sale of materials recommended by the county agent. Splendid cooperation along this line by the dealers.

24. Arrangements whereby the price of lime is cut one half. This should greatly increase the use of lime. About 20 cars were used the past year.

25. The County Agent exhibit won first prize at the Carolina-Virginia fair.

26. The Carolina-Virginia Fair Association offered nearly \$100 for boys and girls club prizes. This is the first time money was offered for club work.

27. Started preliminary work on mint growing in the county.

28. Secured the absolutely necessary space for farm-news in the county papers—Mount Airy News, Mount Airy Star, Elkin Tribune and the Winston-Salem Journal has been very liberal in giving space to farm news and articles by the county agent.

Modern farming published by the Bank of Mount Airy has used many articles.

29. The outlook is good for more work to be done on permanent pastures and the growing of more soybeans, barley and vetch.

30. If we can secure the universal adoption of No. 29 then we will have solved the livestock question for with plenty of feed assured then a big increase will be noted in pure bred livestock which is so necessary for permanent agriculture.

31. Definite plans have been made to carry out the above projects along more extended lines next year.

32. Secured some good records on the cost of producing poultry.

THINK OTTO WOOD IS HID NEAR PENITENTIARY

That is Theory in Greensboro Where Gunman Used to Hang Out

Greensboro, Nov. 26.—Following the stealing of an automobile here early this morning, the word went around that "Otto" Wood, escaped murderer from the State prison had stolen it, but it was merely a rumor. Every stolen automobile in this vicinity will be ascribed to the bad man until he is caught.

Law enforcement officers really do not look for Wood to come this way on his third trip from the prison. His wife has remarried and is in a hospital in Winston-Salem, ill with typhoid. He has really no interests in this section. His blood relatives live in West Virginia.

Officers here point out the utter impossibility of Wood staying loose, however, by stating that his one hand will give him away. Even if he were to go to South Africa, they say, in time the word would come that a one-armed man was seen wandering about and Wood would be brought back to prison.

One theory here is that the man hasn't left Raleigh. There would have been some trace of him if he had gotten away from Raleigh, they say, and they believe that he is lurking in hiding not far from the penitentiary.

Christmas Seal Sale Now Going On In Mount Airy

Little Stamps of Greeting Should Adorn All Christmas Packages—Proceeds Go to Stamp Out White Plague—Seventy-five Per Cent Remains in Surry.

By REV. W. A. NEWELL.

The annual sale of Christmas Seals is now on. Everybody should buy enough to place at least one on every package, letter, and Christmas card sent out from now until the close of the holidays.

The idea of using such a small stamp for greetings originated during the Civil War and the proceeds were used to relieve the wounded soldiers. After the war the idea was dropped and was again revived in Denmark where funds were sought to maintain a tuberculosis hospital. This was in 1905. Jacob A. Ellis, of New York City, saw one of these little stamps and as he was a native of Denmark he wrote home and learned its purpose. He wrote an article for the Outlook telling the world of the wonderful results accomplished by this means.

Miss Emily Bissell, of Delaware, wished to help the tubercular patients in her native state and used the stamps to raise \$2,000 for that purpose. In 1908 she persuaded the American Red Cross and the National Tuberculosis Association to adopt this plan for financing the work of the Association. The sale of that year brought in the sum of \$135,000.

These two organizations worked together until 1920 when the Red Cross turned the entire work over to the Association. Last year the sale of Seals brought in about five million dollars and this year the results will be even larger. Every dollar of this will be devoted to the eradication of the dread scourge. The death rate from consumption has been cut in half in the last twenty years and with continued support the time is not far distant until tuberculosis will go the way of yellow fever and other infectious diseases.

We are now well on the way to success. More than 600 hospitals and sanatoriums are now in operation. One thousand open air schools await the afflicted child. Twelve thousand health nurses visit every section of the nation. The battle never ceases and we are gaining ground every year. More than \$175,000,000 is the value of the work already done. But the greatest gain is in the fact that thousands are now well and happy who otherwise would be in the grave. Perhaps a million children are enjoying good health to-day, who, without this campaign against the White Plague, would now be slowly dying without hope of cure.

The Association is issuing a "Health Bond" with par value of \$5.00. The holder of this bond is entitled to 500 stamps. Every business house, every office and many homes should purchase one of these bonds—a thing of beauty and a joy forever.

Many spurious stamps are being peddled from house to house. The persons issuing these stamps are of that horrible type of humanity that preys upon the sufferings of the helpless and they usually descend to the pit of depravity by getting innocent children to peddle their wares. The children are not to blame but our people should know the dirty character of these ghouls who can do such a thing. The Christmas Seal always bears the "Double Barred Cross" in red on the seal. All others are fakes. Look for the cross and buy no other. The heartless fakery will not dare use this symbol for it would land them in jail for forgery.

Tuberculosis is no respecter of persons. It is expelled from the lungs of its victims in the form of sputum. This "spit" is a real and ever present danger. When it becomes dried it is blown about by the winds and can float on still air. It stays on the undernourished, the naturally weak, the over-tired, convalescents and others who have not stamina to resist. But it is easily cured if taken in time. Rest, sunshine and good food will turn the trick. Every one who is cured reduces the danger of your infection. It is most often contracted in childhood. Protect your child by helping stamp out the disease.

None of the money secured by this sale will be wasted. Three-fourths of the money will remain in Surry County to be expended by our County Board of Health under the direction of Dr. Sumner and his assistants.

The other fourth will go into the state and national funds for publishing literature, establishing hospitals and similar work.

Now, altogether, for a big sale of the little stickers. Just one cent for each stamp. There are plenty for everybody. Get yours right away. And use them liberally. No better mark of a good citizen than to see his mail abundantly decorated with the "Double Barred Cross," the sign of good health for all and the abatement of the worst scourge that ever afflicted the human race.

Phone the Health Department at 545 and ask them to send you a bond. If you are in a hurry just call at the City Hall and load up.

I wish you a Very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and twelve whole months of health, happiness, prosperity, joy and peace.

Westfield Friends Improving Church.

Westfield, Nov. 29.—New life all around Westfield prominent among the evidences is the Quaker Church, today a large crowd is clearing off the extensive grounds in connection with the church which will present a fine appearance as it is a beautiful grove of native trees, its a big day with them, Thomas Andrews, the pastor, Ben Millikan, of Mount Airy, pastor, Friends Church and Lewis McFarland, what the Methodist would call the presiding elder from High Point, are on the grounds and at work. Besides all this the church is being repainted inside and out and other improvements as well. They have a good new piano. We understand it all paid for and to Herbert Hoover they are indebted for a large contribution, whose aunt Miss Ellen Mintall, of Iowa, taught school here in 1867 to '81, having been sent here just after the war by the Northern Quaker Church, and for this kindness if he should be a candidate for President as I see in the papers this morning he could count on the usual Republican vote of Westfield, 500 to 25 Democrats.

We have the best corn crop for many years. A wonderful crop of sweet potatoes and pumpkins. I never saw so many and so fine.

A good crop of wheat sown but not as much pork as last year.

The poultry business is still increasing.

About three-fourths of the tobacco crop is sold and the balance will soon be disposed of.

All this section is much concerned about Dr. Tom Smith, not only on account of his own indisposition, but because of his great number of patients who wait his attention.

Two new homes to be built at once on East Broadway.

A load of Buckingham apples here this morning, price \$1.00.

To The Boys of Surry County Who Are Out of School.

By B. J. Benson, Vocational Agricultural Instructor.

Many farm boys have to drop out of school early in the spring to plant crops, and in the fall a large number have to work in the fields until the crops are harvested. Such boys get behind in their studies and hesitate to go back to school. For this reason all boys of Surry county between the ages of 14 and 21 are invited to attend a class (known as a part-time class) in agriculture at Dobson school beginning Thursday, December 2, 1926. The class will begin at 9:00 A. M. and last from 90 to 180 minutes.

This applies to any boy who has for any reason dropped out of school and who is interested in agriculture. It makes no difference about your previous learning as to whether you enter, you may be a graduate from high school or not be able to read or write.

The program of work will be as follows: English, Arithmetic, Farm Shop, Poultry Production, Swine Production, Bee Keeping, Apple Production, Gardening, and any other subjects not listed above that the students may choose.