

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

Local Bookkeeper In Toils of the Law

R. A. McCaw Is Held on Forgery Charge—Warrant Issued by Mount Airy Chair Company.

R. A. McCaw, bookkeeper for the Mount Airy Chair Co., of this city, is in the custody of Sheriff C. H. Haynes on a warrant charging him with forgery. The papers were served on him Wednesday morning and up to noon he had been unable to arrange a bond of \$2500.00 named in the warrant. The charge against him was preferred by his employers, the Mount Airy Chair Co., for whom he has worked for the past four years. It is said that up until a few weeks ago they had utmost confidence in his integrity and he had full charge of the books and monies of the concern. Street talk has it that for several months he has appeared extravagant in his indulging in luxuries and that this caused his employers to start an investigation.

The officials of the company say they have not completed their investigation but have uncovered enough to warrant them in having McCaw arrested and held here until the books can be thoroughly audited. McCaw has made no public statement and has been advised to give out none until he can employ an attorney.

He is a single man and supports his mother and a sister here. During his stay in Mount Airy he has made many friends and the trouble he has fallen into has proved a great surprise to the public.

Copeland High Boys To Try Baseball.

Down in Southern Surry the campus of a certain high school has undergone a change. The once numerous basket ball courts have given away to the king of sports. The high school boys decided that the center of their basket ball court would make a good "home plate"; hence they pulled up the old oak post; let the air out of the old basket ball, and began tossing the horse hide.

As this is the first year that Copeland has entered this sport, little is known of the strength of the club, however, the supporters of this school can bank on the fact that the athletes put "their all" into any activity which they undertake. Uniforms, shoes, sliding pads, bats and balls, have been purchased by the authorities of the school.

Rabbit Hawk Caught On Shelton Farm.

R. A. Shelton, a farmer who lives on route 6 recently caught a large hawk which when measured was 3 1/4 feet from tip to tip of wings. Mr. Shelton missed a fine hen and when a search was made he found the remains of the hen about half eaten and decided to try to trap the thief; with the hen as bait the trap was fixed at the feasting place and when next visited the monster hawk had had his last feast. Mr. Shelton explained that the hawk was not stretched to take the measure or it would have reached a higher figure, he just held out one wing at a time and measured with his rule therefore his measure was very conservative.

New Mercantile Firm Organized.

The Beamer-Creed-Ayers Co., this week took over the business formerly conducted by W. G. Lewis & Co. The new firm is composed of W. F. Beamer, Miss Mary J. Creed and J. E. Ayers, who are well known in this city, having been engaged in the goods business here for a number of years. Mr. Lewis has not definitely decided what he will do but he expects to enter some line of mercantile business in the city.

Honor Roll For East Mount Airy School.

Grade 7—Polly Gould, Leany Midkiff, Arvel Vaughan, Ray Webb.
Grade 8—Clinton Childress, George Gould, Joe Bob Lawson.
Grade 3—Claude Childress, Silvio Di Palma, Herschell Vaughan, Wilcher Short, Dolly Di Palma.
Grade 4—Bud Combs, David Midkiff, Bertie Doss.
Grade 5—Elizabeth D'amico.
Grades 6 and 7—None.

CLUB WOMEN TO HEAR NOTED SPEAKER FRIDAY

Prof. William A. Breach, of Winston-Salem, Will Speak on Subject of "Music in The Community."

Through the courtesy of the music department of the Mount Airy Woman's Club every member will be given an opportunity to enjoy with the music department a splendid program which will be put on at the Community Building Friday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock, when Prof. William A. Breach, of Winston-Salem, will speak on the general subject of "Music in The Community." Mr. Breach will bring with him several students of the Winston-Salem high schools who will have a part in the program.

The club is very fortunate in securing the service of Mr. Breach who is not only at the head of all public school music in Winston-Salem and chairman of the Civic Music Commission of the progressive twin city but is president of the National Association of Public School Music Supervisors, and therefore ably qualified to bring us a worthwhile discussion and demonstration of the subject. He is himself a talented musician and under his capable leadership wonders have been accomplished in Winston-Salem in the development of public school music.

Every club member is urged to be the guest of the music department on this occasion.

Jurors For April Court.

The following names were drawn from the jury box by the County Commissioners Monday to serve as jurors at April term of Surry Superior Court, which meets on April 25th for two weeks of criminal and civil issues.

First Week.

Nelson Gentry, Herman Gates, D. W. Hemmings, W. L. Seals, C. O. Davis, A. L. Ring, W. L. Inman, J. W. Thramer, Joe F. Booker, W. J. Midkiff, R. N. Lettwich, W. E. Gillespie, C. L. Simmons, Reid Snoddy, K. T. Moore, C. E. Lawrence, D. E. Nelson, A. J. Hiatt, J. A. J. Royall, J. H. Jones, J. B. Hines, S. C. Worrell, A. W. Shinault, Q. H. Badgett, A. G. Webb, T. A. York, H. F. Laffoon, Sherman Bundy, John Scott, S. B. Bryant, Sidney Cook, R. E. Creed, R. E. Inman, J. C. Gentry, Lee R. Sparger, A. Phillips.

Second Week.

C. R. Marion, J. M. Hill, J. H. Calloway, Alex Collins, C. E. Hiatt, J. A. Sparger, E. H. Cockerham, E. E. Marion, Grady Cooper, R. M. Bates, R. L. Church, H. C. Norman, Geo. W. Key, J. F. Nixon, C. S. Key, N. C. Marion, Fred Colhard, M. V. Poinexter.

Travelers Send News.

A card from Mrs. Ella Holcomb and Mrs. C. H. Haynes, written in the city of Jerusalem and mailed on February 15th, reached here on Friday of last week. The ladies it will be recalled left this city on January 22nd for a trip to the Holy Land and other places of note in the old world. The card brought the news that both ladies are in the best of health and enjoying the trip hugely. Mrs. Holcomb has been so well the entire time that she has not missed a meal and Mrs. Haynes has been well and enjoying the trip with the exception of a short time when she was sea sick. The trip they are on is supposed to end after a time of two months sight-seeing over seas.

Juniors Present Flag To Franklin School.

The local Junior Order of American Mechanics presented Franklin School with a large United States flag with the request that it be presented to the class making the largest percentage of daily attendance for the month of February.

This flag was won by the boys and girls of the seventh grade and presentation was made by the principal, Prof. Henry Wolfe, at the opening exercises Wednesday morning.

Henry Woods to Build Modern Home.

Workmen have started excavating on the lot adjoining Carl Simmons on North Main Street preparatory to erecting a modern two-story 10-room residence for Henry Woods, of White Plains. It will be of brick construction and is estimated to cost \$10,000. The work is being done by Contractor Matt Hines.

Pilot Mountain Suffered Fire Loss of \$50,000 in Big Blaze

Breaking out in the cafe owned by Claud Swanson about midnight Tuesday, fire destroyed four business buildings in Pilot Mountain, including the cafe, the store of W. H. Reid and the Smith Drug store, and the entire Smith block. When discovered the flames were confined to the cafe which is located in the building owned by the Junior Order of Pilot Mountain, but as there was no means of fighting fire the populace which quickly gathered were helpless to prevent its spreading to adjoining buildings. The first story partition between the buildings was of brick but the second story was wood work and as soon as the fire would burn down the wooden partitions it would break out in the adjoining building, and thus for more than an hour property owners saw the flames creep from one store to another until the four stores were completely gutted.

The Mount Airy fire department answered a call for help and arrived on the scene in half an hour but was helpless as there was no way in which the big engine could get water to pump.

But for the quick work of the people who soon gathered the flames might have spread across the street, but fronts of all the buildings opposite the burning area were protected by sheets of tin roofing being propped against them and thus pre-

vented the wooden fronts from becoming ignited. Many of the plate glass were broken from the heat as it was.

Warren Smith, proprietor of Smith Drug Co., estimated his loss at \$10,000 with \$5,000 insurance. He had just recently spent several hundred dollars in new equipment and had a real nice store. The Smith block was owned by Dr. J. B. Smith and had \$3,000 insurance while it will cost \$15,000 to rebuild the two stores in the block.

W. H. Reid lost his entire stock valued at \$3,000 with only \$1,000 on the building and stock combined. Just on Monday he had received \$500.00 worth of grass seed which went up with the other goods.

The other building destroyed, the Junior Order property, had \$2,500 insurance.

The building of J. P. Lewis was saved only by the fact that the brick wall held during the extreme heat. But most of the roof was burned off and it took hard work to keep the flames from spreading down into his building. His stock was removed when it looked as if the fire would win and take in his store also.

It is too early for the owners of the destroyed property to state just what they will do but friends expect it all to be rebuilt at an early date with modern structures.

THREE SENT TO STATE PRISON

Speas, Pendergrass And Childress Convicted in Yadkin; Attacked Girl.

Yadkinville, March 3.—A verdict of guilty was returned in five minutes Tuesday afternoon in the case of Jonah Speas, LeRoy Pendergrass and Garland Childress, charged with assault on a female, and the first two were sentenced to ten years each in the State prison and the last named to eight years.

The prosecuting witness was Miss Edna Speas, cousin of Jonah Speas, and who is only 14 years old. She makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. U. A. Martin near Yadkinville, and it was charged that the three defendants, in a drunken condition, went to the home of Mr. Martin and told the girl that her mother, in upper Yadkin County, was ill and had sent them for her. Going with them she was taken to a vacant house in Buck Shoals and kept there until noon next day. When she was released she told an awful story of the treatment and torture she had undergone at the hands of the drunken men and of their attempt to criminally assault her. She also bore many cuts and bruises from her awful night in the cabin.

The trial here lasted several hours with many witnesses giving testimony against the trio. The young girl took the stand and made a good witness. Williams & Reavis and J. A. Rousseau represented the defendants. They will be carried to the State prison some time this week. Speas and Pendergrass have bad reputations in this section and have been in court a number of times.

According to Sir W. Arbuthnot Lane, noted British surgeon, fair-haired persons are more able to fight against disease than dark-haired ones.

850-POUND WILD HOG KILLED BY HUNTER

Death of Huge Razorback Ends Hunt of More Than Two Years.

La Crosse, Wis., Feb. 26.—A huge wild boar, a sample of the razorback variety standing almost as high as a small cow, was brought to La Crosse recently by Percy Eagon, La Crosse hunter, who killed the animal after an intermittent hunt of more than two years on an island in the Wineahk bottoms of the Mississippi near Linxville, Wis.

The boar measured eight feet eight inches from snout to tail, stood breast high to an average man when erect, and its weight was estimated by the men who dagged it out of the bottoms as between 850 and 900 pounds. It had tusks ten inches long.

Eagon has had numerous experiences with the wise old wild hog and has come off second best in several encounters which ended with the hunter up a tree.

Sacred Concert Was Highly Appreciated.

Music lovers of Mount Airy are seldom afforded such a treat as was furnished Monday evening by the Centenary Men's Chorus directed by Mr. Edgar Clapp and assisted at the pipe organ by Mrs. Anne Albertson Clapp. The entire concert was beautifully rendered and the numbers selected included some of the grand old hymns so familiar to church people but sung by these artists they took on new beauty and charm.

The auditorium was packed and general satisfaction and appreciation for the program was expressed. A collection was taken for the benefit of the Rockford Street Methodist Church for the improvement of the church grounds.

Happenings Twenty-one Years Ago

Interesting Items Gleaned From the Files of The Mount Airy News 21 Years Ago This Week

J. D. Jenkins this week moved into his new residence on Main Street. The new home is situated on a part of what is known in this city as the Renfro lot. Mr. Jenkins bears the distinction of being the oldest merchant in the city and has been selling good here more than 20 years.

Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Jones, of Ash Hill, were here trading Wednesday. While here they took time to drive over to the quarry and see the sights that are truly wonderful to one who has never visited the quarry. They expressed themselves as being greatly surprised at the immense amount of work that is being done at the rock. Mr. Jones is one of the most prosperous of the young farmers in the county.

W. J. Nixon, of Kapps Mill, was in town Saturday and tells us that Mr. John Kapp is making many valuable improvements on his mill.

Hon. J. M. Brower and W. J. York left this city the past week on a prospecting tour of the west. They will go to the Indian Territory.

Mr. T. B. McCargo lost a good horse in this city Tuesday. Another horse was running away and dashed into Mr. McCargo's team driving the shaft into the horse's body inflicting a wound that caused death in a few hours.

Hon. Norman H. Johnson, of Raleigh, will address the members of the Retail Merchants Association in this city next Tuesday night.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Wolfe on March 8th.

KITTRELL'S STORE CHANGES OWNERS.

Will Be Conducted as a Department Store by A. J. Wagoner of Charlotte.

Inventory is now being taken of the stock of G. A. and M. J. Kittrell's store on the completion of which the business will be taken over by A. J. Wagoner and associates of Charlotte. The business will be conducted as Wagoner's, Inc., with Mr. Wagoner having active management.

Mr. Wagoner has had many years experience in department stores and will conduct this store along the line of the now famous Charles Stores that is, make it a 5c to \$2.98 store, there being no one item carried in stock at a greater cost than \$2.98.

The store room will be repainted and worked over to meet his needs and new display counters will be installed in order to carry the many departments that he will make a specialty of. Some of the departments that he will carry include candy, stationery, records, hosiery, lace, and ribbons, millinery, notions, dry goods, shoes, jewelry, ready-to-wear, toys, toilet goods, hardware, household articles and men's furnishings.

Mr. Wagoner is now in New York completing the purchase of his additional stock and on his return will announce to the public the opening of his store. He is now keeping house in the Hatcher apartments on Church Street, his wife and two children already being here.

METHODIST EVANGELIST MODEL FOR MEXICO

Calles Founded Itinerant Rural School System On Methods of Noted Preacher.

Peter Cartwright, pioneer Methodist evangelist, who itinerated for years through Virginia preaching the gospel from town to town, is the model upon which the present Mexican Government has founded its system of itinerant rural school teachers, according to Jose Kelly, a Californian, who for thirty years has been a representative of the Department of Labor of the Mexican Government.

Mr. Kelly says that in February of 1926, the Calles Government established 3,000 rural schools.

Every teacher has three schools in separate towns and villages. They travel constantly from school to school—to one on Monday and Thursday, another on Tuesday and Friday, and the third on Wednesday and Saturday.

Instead of the saddle horse upon which Peter Cartwright rode, each of these Mexican teachers is equipped with a Ford car. Mr. Kelly expresses the belief that these schools would mean a new and educated Mexico within twenty years.

Kiwanians to Winston-Salem.

The members of the Kiwanis Club of this city will meet with the club in Winston-Salem Thursday evening at 6:30. The party is expected to leave the Blue Ridge Hotel at 4:30 so as to be on hand promptly. The occasion is a tri-city gathering of the clubs from Mount Airy, Elkin and North Wilkesboro who will be guests of the Winston-Salem Club. A large number is expected to attend from all these cities.

Child Falls Through Plate Glass.

A large plate glass in the building of Jackson Bros. was broken out Saturday afternoon while several small children were playing in front of it. In their playing one of the children was pushed against the glass causing it to break, and throwing her through it. The child injured was the girl of B. M. Dickerson and was painfully cut about the face, and these who saw the accident marveled at her escape, as several large pieces of glass struck her. The glass was replaced by the Mount Airy Mirror Co., and was set Monday afternoon, the window being out of use only one day.

Paper currency now lasts only about half as long as it did before the war. Experts say this is due mainly to oil and grease soaking into the paper money at automobile service stations.

The Argentine capital at Buenos Aires, rising impressively above an extensive plaza, was constructed, with true Latin-American magnificence, in three months, with an expenditure of five millions.

This Pig Story Is No Story This Time

A Quick Way to Get Meat.

It was the luck of Charley Hall, citizen of this section, to have the family supply of meat stolen from his smokehouse last Friday night. The story of that meat is one that will appeal to most people. Charley Hall is a good citizen and has a large family, a wife and eight or nine children. He is a poor man and lives on the farm of Mr. Bud Gwyn near Salem Church where he farms on shares and makes his living. A year ago he bought from a wagon two pigs brought from beyond the mountains and sold for cash. The pigs were installed in a pen and for months received the devoted care of the whole family. The children pulled weeds for them, carried water and slop, and they never saw the day that they wanted for anything. They grew and fattened and became big hogs by the time frost was in the air last fall. It was with peculiar pride that the family saw the new corn fed to them and saw them rapidly take on flesh until they were whoopers. Then when cold weather came and ice was on the water in the early morning, the Hall family held council and decided that it was time to enjoy the fresh meat that was theirs by dint of care and attention and much cost.

The pork was stored away in new salt and the family enjoyed the ribs and back-bones and the feet and the ears and the new sausage. It was decided in family council that they could spare two of the hams and yet have enough to last until a new supply of meat could be produced. So two of the big hams were sold on the market to secure funds that the family needed.

And then, as bad luck would have it, last Friday night some skunk of a citizen, blast his dirty life, went to that same house and carried off every pound of the meat, to be accurate he got two big hams, two sides, two shoulders and a jaw.

The snow was on the ground in places and tracks leading from the smokehouse showed that a studied effort was made to lead Mr. Hall to think that a family of colored people in the neighborhood got his meat. Mr. Hall followed the tracks and they lead direct to the humble home of a negro citizen, he came to town and got a search warrant from Eaq, John T. Monday and, armed with it, had Deputy Jesse Monday to go with him and make a search of the colored man's home. They found nothing. But they did find that the same tracks that left the smokehouse doubled back after going near the colored man's home, thus showing that a deliberate effort had been made to entangle the colored man in trouble. And so, to make the story complete and the details all given, the Hall family was left with one side of meat which the thief failed to get. And for their supply of meat they must now provide. If that is not hard luck, then what is?

Fourteen cash prizes are offered for violin, banjo, guitar, harp and hand players as inducements for large numbers of players to take part in the Old Fiddlers' Convention to be held in the new high school at Flat Rock, Friday, March 11, beginning at 7:30 P. M., for the benefit of the school. The public is invited. Admission, 25c and 35c.

Fiddlers' Convention at Flat Rock High School.

The earliest measurements were based on parts of the human body. The "inch" developed from the length of the thumb joint, the "hand" was the four inches across the human hand and the "span," nine inches, was the space from the end of the thumb to the end of the little finger.

The argon hunt for "Kettlefoot," a black bear, is again under way in the Black Mountain district of North Carolina. The bear, which hunters say weighs 600 pounds, was named from the peculiar shape of his track which resembles an old-fashioned iron kettle.