

ESTABLISHED 1880

MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA, MARCH 24, 1927.

\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

## Clean-Up Program To Be Staged Here

Week of April 15th to Mean a Cleaner City—Merchants Association to Cooperate.

Mayor Snyder has designated the week of April 15th as clean-up week for Mount Airy, and the Mayor does not mean to stop at that but wants every citizen of the city to realize the full meaning of the event and join in the spirit and work that will be put forth at that time to make Mount Airy one of the cleanest towns in the state.

Already the Merchants Association has joined in the movement and is cooperating to the fullest degree. The association will endeavor to enlist the interest of the school children in the movement and prizes will be given to them for their efforts. A prize will be given to the student of the primary and grammar grades who submits the best poster suitable for the occasion, and a prize will also be given for the best essay on the subject: "My Part in Cleaning Up Mount Airy."

Mr. Wolts, Sec. of the Association, says that he expects to secure the undivided support of all the members of the association and that he can assure the people of the city that the business houses will not lag behind in the clean-up movement. The city's entire force of hands will be employed during that week for the purpose of removing rubbish and additional forces will be added if it is found necessary.

## Noted Entertainer To Visit Mount Airy.

Next Sunday in this city our citizens will be privileged to hear that noted entertainer, singer and musical performer, T. H. Barriett. For several years he was engaged in evangelistic work and is a talented musician. Recently he entered the employ of the Atkins Saw Co., and his most novel performance is using an ordinary hand saw for his musical instrument, being able to play most any piece from that particular carpenter's every day tool.

Mr. Barriett will give a short program at Central Methodist Sunday School next Sunday at 9:45, and will then go to the First Baptist Church for the 11 o'clock service, and will again be at Central Church at 7:30. He will also give a short program at the meeting of the Kiwanis Club Friday evening.

## An Old Time Singing.

There was quite an unusual program given at the Haymore Memorial Baptist Church Sunday evening, March 13, when an old time singing was enjoyed by every one present.

The auditorium and gallery were both full and overflowing with bright and happy faces.

First on the program was a song by the entire congregation, followed by a scripture reading by the pastor, which was appropriate for the occasion. Then a prayer was rendered by Rev. Mr. Stanley, after which the offering was taken and the announcements for the following week made.

The choir from the Calvary Baptist Church was present and rendered several selections and a quartet.

Special music was given by the orchestra.

A program like this will be given every month at this church. Come and enjoy the music and singing.

## Epworth League Institute Meets in Dobson.

The Mount Airy District League Institute will be held in the Dobson Methodist Church beginning Friday evening, March 25, with an all-day session Saturday, and continuing through the morning hour of worship Sunday at which time the Rev. J. O. Ervin of this city will preach the sermon.

The principal theme running throughout the program is "Christian Stewardship," stewardship of self, service and substance. Addresses will be made by Rev. N. C. Williams, of Spray; Rev. L. B. Abernethy, of Elkin; and Rev. W. A. Newell, of Mount Airy. W. A. Barber, of High Point, field secretary, will be in attendance and quite a number of other ministers and laymen will have something to say. The public is cordially invited to attend any or all of the sessions.

## SCION OF NOTED HOUSE TO WED CELEBRATED MEZZO-SOPRANO

Sir Sidney Blovine to Lead to Altar Miss Gwendolynne Graham Harrison-Jackson-Smythe.

Mount Airy will call it a Roman holiday when on the evening of April 1, Sir Sidney Blovine and Miss Gwendolynne Graham Harrison-Jackson Smythe, the singer, whose divine notes have charmed two hemispheres. This union of wealth and social position with the beloved goddess of the music loving world is to be staged in the National Theatre under the auspices of the Choral Society of the First Baptist Church. Proceeds from the sale of tickets will be used in improving the music of the church services.

The city's smart set is astir this week showering the bride and holding "stag" parties for the groom. Among the avalanche of costly presents flowing in upon the bride daily are the following: A lot on North Main street given by Mr. Byerly; stone for a 21-room house, the gift of Mr. Sargent; a Gilkinson Twelve Sedan by Mr. "Slick" Rierison; a colonial bed room suite by the Mount Airy Furniture Co.; a season's ice ticket by Mr. James Bray and a fuelless range with a bakeless oven by Holcomb & Midkiff.

Arrangements for the brilliant affair have progressed to points where one is certain of at least three main facts. There won't be a woman on the stage. The music, both instrumental and vocal, will surpass anything ever heard from local talent. The costume of the bride and her maids, scintillating with jewels of rare beauty and intrinsic worth, and the elaborate floral decorations will set a pace that Mount Airy's elite will emulate for years to come.

The male population of the city welcomes the opportunity to demonstrate for all time what a mistake Nature has made in not permitting them greater latitude in the display of their natural charms. It is their opinion that given the proper clothes they can prove to an admiring public that in form and limb and feature they have charms that will put to shame a Venus and cause the town's most pulchritudinous flappers to hang their heads in shame. Next week a complete list of these ambitious beauties will be announced.

Lovers of good music, women who wonder why men weren't made more handsome, men who admire beautiful women and all who have lost the art of laughter, should attend this Womanless Wedding.

## N. P. Short Property to Be Sold At Auction.

Some of the most desirable property in Mount Airy will be sold at auction on April 28th when Edw. M. Linville, acting as commissioner, will sell the N. P. Short property for division among the heirs. A notice of the sale appears in this paper, which gives the boundaries of the city property owned by the deceased. This property is located on North Main street and comprises a block between Orchard and Lebanon, with a store house and five residences. The land on Main Street will be subdivided into lots and sold at auction, The Land Co., of this city, having charge of the auction sale.

On April 29th the farm property of the deceased will be sold at auction by the same company. This land comprises a large boundary on Lovell's Creek and is located mostly in Virginia.

The terms on the property are as follows: On the city property, 20 per cent cash, and 10 per cent every 90 days. On the farm land, 20 per cent cash and balance in one and two years.

## Former Resident Returns to This Section.

Traveling in two cars, J. A. Atkins, his wife and six children arrived in this city Tuesday afternoon after being on the road for six days en route here from their former home in Richmond, Ind. Mr. Atkins brought his family with him for the reason that he expects to make this section his future home. He left here four years ago to look after some large land holdings he had in Richmond, Ind., but he says there is no place that seems more like home to him than Mount Airy, and he comes back to again take up his work here as a farmer and land trader.

## Happenings Twenty-one Years Ago

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

C. L. Moon of High Point was in the city last week and purchased a very fine pair of horses from Mayor Pace.

An architect from Winston-Salem has been here this week making plans for the improvement of the residence of Z. T. Smith. According to the plans the building will be one of the finest in the city when completed.

Last Saturday afternoon Miss Bertie Brannock and Mr. Clyde Woodruff were married at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Priel Brannock at Pipers Gap. Miss Brannock recently returned to her home from Illinois and Mr. Woodruff has been spending some time in the state of Washington.

F. D. Holcomb, representing a large company in Cincinnati, has sold a 25 horse power traction engine to the quarry. The engine will be used for hauling stone about the quarry and to the cable lines. It is of the latest type and is said to be far superior to anything that has ever been placed on the market.

About eight o'clock last Saturday night the nice home of Mr. B. F. Sparger on Franklin Street was burned with a loss of over \$3,000, and \$1,500 insurance.

Mt. Airy Graded School Honor Roll for the month ending March 7th 1906.

1st Grade A—Carl Jones, William Long, Walter Rierison, Sigfred Schafer, Polle Starling, Curtis Taylor, Maude Archibald, Mattie Bridgman, Annie Brown, Alma Everitt, Emma Jones, Ida Lineback, Beattie Martin, Essie Marrell, Pearl O'Neal, Ida Thore.

## Locked Up Because He Wanted to Marry

Sheriff C. H. Haynes informed The News reporter that he was called upon to arrest a young man a few nights ago "for no other reason on earth than just because he wanted to get married" and he didn't like the job. "Think of it," he exclaimed, "as many nice girls as there are around here who would marry and make excellent wives, and then when we find a man who is just determined to marry have to lock him up! It is a shame."

The young man in question, who is a former graduate of the Mount Airy High School, is madly in love with a young girl living on one of the rural routes, when his wooing did not meet with the response he desired he persisted in his attentions. Last Thursday night he presented himself at the front door of the girl's home and was refused admittance, but, undeterred, he tried the kitchen door and finding it unfastened he walked in, determined to continue his wooing. As he entered at the back the girl ran out at the front door and the sheriff was summoned to take charge of the lover who would not take "no" for an answer. "I just wanted to marry the girl" was his explanation for persisting in forcing his attention where it was not wanted. The sheriff would like to see the young man's misdirected wooing turned in a direction where it would be appreciated and desired. It is every man's right to love and to be loved in return and to marry, too, if he wants to do so, if he can only get interested in the right girl.

## Central Methodist Church.

REV. W. A. NEWELL, Pastor  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 A. M.  
Morning Worship ..... 11:00 A. M.  
Evening Worship ..... 7:30 P. M.  
Prayer Service Wed. .... 7:30 P. M.  
Junior League ..... 6:45 P. M.  
Intermediate ..... 6:45 P. M.  
Senior League ..... 6:45 P. M.

A Workers' Council will be held in the church dining room at 6:30 P. M. Thursday evening, when Sunday school work will be discussed and a simple meal will be served. Every teacher, substitute and officer is urged to be present. Delegates to the Western North Carolina Sunday School Conference, which meets in High Point, March 28-29, will be elected at this time. This church will be entitled to four delegates, one to represent the workers with those under twelve years of age, one representing the teen age workers, one representing the Wesley adult classes and one representing the administration.

The Mount Airy District Epworth League Institute will be held in Dobson Methodist Church March 25-27, beginning with a session Friday evening.

1st Grade B—Beattie Adams, Annie Aushurn, Mary Thompson, Nettie Jones, Sophia Snow, Nellie Saunders, Dinah Johnson, Tom Needham, John Ashby, Jasper Snow, Amory Welch, Kyle Snyder, Tommie Saunders, Guyton White, John Weiborne, Blanche Patterson, Carl Williams, Benton York, Perry Wagner.

2nd Grade—Margie Cook, Lula Johnson, Eta Tatum, Dora Tatum, Rutha Taylor, Lonnie Hawks, Robert Hodges, William Merritt, Foster Lineback, Scott Hale, Arthur Poore, Robert Aushurn, Fred Bray.

3rd Grade—Jessie Banner, Gertrude Belton, Inez Belton, Ida Burgo, Roscoe Callaway, Carmen Carter, Susan Gentry, Harvey Johnson, Allery Nicholson, Lumnise Phillips, DeWitt Welborne, Victoria Wolfe, Lucien Wrenn.

4th Grade—Francis Albright, Margaret Ashby, Clarence Archibald, Imer Lee Cassell, Myrtle Cox, Elsie Haughton, Lorie Jones, Adrian Robinson, Raymond Smith, Claud Thompson, Grace Everitt, Emma Johnson, Elizabeth Merritt, Metta O'Neal, Stella Worrell, Allen Banner, Arthur Jones, Ransie Lawson, Benton Norman, Alexander Owen, Taylor Poore, Randall Sparger, Willie Wolfe.

5th Grade—Ella Gunter, Jennie Creed, Myrtle Tilley, Fred Johnson, Gay Callaway, Lella Adams, Mary Hollingsworth, Annie Cirtz, Maggie Jones, Alma Yockey, Ira Fryer, Ed Smith, Howard Satterfield.

6th Grade—Sallie Martin, Mary Franklin Graves, Roy Mitchell.

7th Grade—Willie Johnson, Hairston Williamson, Sallie Hadley, Blanche Holcomb.

8th Grade—Frank Carter, Nannie Fulton, Lena Hatcher, Anna Payne, Kate Blackburn, Lizzie McCargo, Ora Parker, Alice Armfield.

## Roadside Baby Gaining Pound a Week

Many of our readers will be interested to know that the baby found near Elkin on February 15 is growing and thriving as all healthy babies should, and when seen by Welfare Officer Armfield last week, (four weeks after being found on the roadside) the little girl had gained 4 1-2 pounds. Two days after being found the baby was placed in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Somers, of Elkin, and it is their purpose at some later date to legally adopt her.

Mr. and Mrs. Somers are middle-aged well-to-do people and have no children of their own, and those in authority consider it an ideal home for the little girl, whom they have named Doris Faye Somers, and sent out announcements of her arrival to their friends.

An old proverb says "all the world loves a lover;" it must be equally true that all the civilized world loves a homeless waif, for Mr. Armfield tells us that he had applications from three states and five or six counties in our own state from people who wanted to give the infant girl a home. One application came from Pine Grove, Georgia, and some from nearer-by points in Virginia. Then there was a telephone call from Greenboro, and one couple drove in to Elkin hoping to be able to take the baby home with them. The offers of homes were not confined to people who are childless, but several couples with three or more children still had room in their hearts and homes for the poor little deserted baby. Truly it is a beautiful thought that for one mother and father who will desert their offspring there are dozens of others who will not only shelter and care for their own but will give their best effort and spend their hard-earned money to provide for a little helpless child of whom they know nothing except its needs.

The baby's foster mother told the welfare officer that she was afraid the little girl was going to be re-headed, however she would not give her up even if she did hope it would not be red.

## Our Sheriff Takes in New York.

Sheriff C. H. Haynes left this city last Saturday for New York to meet Mrs. Haynes and Mrs. F. D. Holcomb on their return from a trip in Europe. The ladies arrived in Boston Tuesday and expected to travel by rail to New York where Mr. Haynes met them Wednesday. Prior to their arrival Mr. Haynes spent the days looking over the city, being accompanied by his daughter, Miss Lucile, who is doing art work in New York. The party will arrive home Thursday night or Friday.

## HIGH SCHOOL PLAY FRIDAY NIGHT AT NATIONAL THEATRE

Students Under Miss Powell Present "The Hidden Guest," Three Act Comedy Drama—Not A Dull Moment.

By Wallace A. Shelton.

For the first time this season a Mount Airy audience will be given the privilege of witnessing the Mount Airy High School aspirants to foot-light fame in action, when the intriguingly interesting comedy drama "The Hidden Guest," is presented at the National Theatre, Friday, March 25. The play, written by Marion Short and Pauline Phelps and "produced by special arrangement with Samuel French of New York," is in three acts which require a playing time of approximately two and a half hours.

The cast was selected, by competitive try-outs, from the entire high school which insures the audience that the best in high school talent will be represented. The entire ensemble, while rather young and green and wholly without acting experience, is, however, taking on a finished aspect, due to Miss Lavinia Powell's excellent individual and collective coaching.

The comedy as a whole is very well balanced. From the rise of the first curtain, when Wallace Shelton and Claude Monday, in their initiation scene sound the keynote of the play, until the final curtain on the happy finale, there is absolutely not a dull moment, not a single one. This is a guarantee.

The leading feminine role is most capably filled by Miss Katherine Fawcett. Miss Fawcett's striking beauty, charms and personality are sure to win the hearts of her audience in her characterization of Ruby Mayfield, a society debutante. Miss Fawcett has as her male lead Claude Monday. Claude is new to the stage game. Early practices are, however, serving to wear off his first stages of stage-fright, and if early practice performance means anything, Claude will show up to advantage the night of March 25.

Annie Dean, as Melanthuria the deaf servant, and Annie Fawcett as Miss Minnie Mayfield, Ruby's aunt, have excellent feminine leads and are sure to give good performance.

The rest of the cast, though somewhat burdened by subordinate parts, will in no-wise be eclipsed in performance by the aforementioned players. The balance of the players "stage-wise" and "otherwise" consists of E. C. Belton, Wallace Shelton, William Baughn, Elbert Hull, Pansy Jackson, Dorothy Jackson, and Archie Dobson.

With Miss Powell as director the audience may be assured of the fact that each and every one will be able to hear, see and feel. Remember her two big successes of last year, "The Gypsy Rover," and "Come Out of the Kitchen." After the presentation of "The Hidden Guest" there will be three big successes to remember her by.

Cast of characters:  
John Judkins, E. C. Belton  
Bert Judkins, a college boy and son of John Judkins, Claude Monday  
Chester Briggs, employed by John Judkins, William Baughn  
Tad Wilson, in college and a member of the Theta Phi Gamma

Wallace Shelton  
McCarthy, a policeman, Archie Dobson  
Otto Hubner, a convict, Elbert Hull  
Ruby Mayfield, a debutante, Katherine Fawcett

Minnie Mayfield, Ruby's aunt, Annie Fawcett  
Mrs. Barrington, a widow, Pansy Jackson  
Nellie Trotwood, a society girl, Dorothy Jackson  
Melanthuria ("Melons"), a servant, Annie Dean  
Time: Now early evening in September.  
Place: Melville, Conn.  
Scene: Living room of Miss Minnie Mayfield's home.

## "I Can't Do Without The News," Says War Veteran.

Walter Blovine, prosperous farmer of Rockford, was in the city Monday doing some spring trading and stopped long enough in The News office to remind us not to make any mistakes and stop his paper, for he said, "I can't do without The News." Mr. Blovine has one empty sleeve, leaving his left arm on the battle-front of France, when he was wounded in the drive on "Indenberg" line.

## Wife Admits Killing to Save Husband

Herbert Ayers on Trial for Murder of Jesse Meredith—His Wife Declares She Fired Fatal Bullet in Self Defense.

## Both Ayers Boys Got Prison Sentence.

Just as The News went to press it was learned that both Herbert Ayers and his cousin, Cicero Ayers, were convicted of the murder of Meredith, and a compromise was reached whereby they at once begin their sentence. Herbert, the one who shot Meredith from behind with a pistol, gets ten years, and Cicero, who shot him in the shoulder with a shot gun, gets two and a half years. Cicero did not stand trial but agreed to accept the term as above pronounced.

They perhaps would have appealed their case but Wednesday at noon officers found a large crowd hid away in their bed clothing in the cell in which they were kept, and this circumstance was too much against them. The officers immediately upon their sentence started with them to Richmond, leaving Hillville Wednesday afternoon, to prevent any possible escape from the jail at Hillville.

Beginning last Thursday morning in Carroll County's new court room, the hardest fight for a life in recent years was brought to a close Wednesday morning when the jury was given the case and went into their room to decide upon the fate of Herbert Ayers, charged with the murder of Jesse Meredith at Ayers' home in Carroll County a few weeks ago.

The Meredith family had three lawyers to assist in the prosecution, they being Bynum and Dexter Good, and J. H. Rudy, with Ayers being defended by S. F. Landreth and W. D. Tompkins. The state relied upon the dying declaration of Jesse Meredith that he was shot with the fatal pistol bullet by Herbert Ayers, as he was leaving the home of Ayers about nine o'clock one Sunday night. From the testimony it was evident that liquor flowed freely at the home of Herbert Ayers on that night, and witnesses on both sides seemed to be keeping back some of the sordid details that they themselves were ashamed to admit even in the face of possible conviction of their friends and kinsman.

Cicero Ayers is also indicted for shooting Meredith in the shoulder with a shot gun, and will be tried at another term of court. Both the Ayers deny knowing anything of the killing of Meredith, Cicero stating that he was knocked unconscious by Meredith with a mattock in the early stages of the fight.

The surprise of the case came when Herbert Ayers' wife took the stand and took all the responsibility of the killing, stating that after Meredith had knocked her kinsmen out with the blows of the mattock that he turned on her and she grabbed a pistol and shot him in self defense. Just how much of this the jury will believe no one can tell, but reports are that she failed to satisfy the prosecution's lawyers in many of the details that she related as taking place.

Lawyers began arguing the case Tuesday and the jury perhaps took it under advisement sometime Wednesday. Road conditions between Mt. Airy and Hillville are so bad that it is almost impossible to get any information from there, but the verdict will perhaps be rendered by the time The News is mailed.

## Carroll County to Improve Wards Gap.

Surveyors of the state of Virginia this week began at the state line with a survey of the Wards Gap road leading toward the mountain. Recently the County of Carroll allocated \$35,000 to be spent on this road, and the state has been asked to supervise the work, the county furnishing the money. The road will be regraded and made one of the best in the county. It is not expected that the money now in hand will complete it, but when the work is once under way it is reasonable to suppose that the officials of Carroll will arrange some means of completing this road through the Danville pike, which traverses the county east and west.

## Friends Church.

B. H. MILLIKAN, Pastor.  
Sabbath school, 9:45 A. M.  
Morning worship, 11:00 A. M.  
Evening worship, 7:00 P. M.  
Prayer meeting, Wed. 7:30 P. M.