

ESTABLISHED IN 1880

MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA MAY 5, 1927.

\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

A Quiet City Election But June 14 Promises to Be Far More Interesting

Real Fight Will Be Over School Bonds and More Tax.

Never before is it recalled when a city election was as tame an affair as the one held here Monday. All the former officials were re-elected without a dissenting vote, only 30 voting in the first ward and 22 in the second ward. The commissioners and Mayor held a meeting Tuesday morning and again took oath of office for another two years.

But the absence of interest in the city election is only a calm before the storm, for the commissioners have called the school bond election to be held on June 14th, and it is admitted that strong opposition will be found to the measure. The proposal is to permit the city to levy a tax of not more than 60 cents for school purposes, a tax of 6c to take up a \$40,000 deficit in the school budget, and to issue \$50,000 additional school bonds to be used in building purposes where the school board may see fit and proper to use it.

The tax levy for schools is now 35 cents but it was stated to the board that it was taking a sum equivalent to 45 cents to run the schools this year, which is creating a still larger deficit in the school budget. The city officials say they expect to keep the tax levy for schools as low as possible, but it now appears that a 50c rate is in sight if they are permitted to increase the levy as they would be if the election should carry.

The board ordered an entirely new registration of voters for the election, and it will require a majority of those who are registered to carry the election—those registered and not voting will be counted as against it. D. C. Bowman is registrar for Ward No. 1, with E. H. Hennis and J. G. Harrison, judges. In Ward No. 2 Cecil Carter is registrar and Thos. Ashby and Mal Davis, judges.

Former Mount Airy Boy Com-mits Suicide.

Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock Attorney Geo. L. Jarvis took his own life in his office in Walnut Cove, shooting himself through the temple with a pistol. Mr. Jarvis once lived here but has been at Walnut Cove for about 10 years. He was 32 years old and unmarried, being survived by his father, who now lives at Shelby, and a brother and three sisters. His brother, Cleve Jarvis, operated a wholesale dry goods house here up until a few years ago. The deceased left no letter as to the cause of the act but friends state that he appeared in a peculiar frame of mind for several days prior to his death.

I. W. Barber Sees Flood Country

Three weeks ago I. W. Barber, of this city, left for an extended tour of the middle and far western states of the continent, but he landed back in this city Monday night, making a hurried trip across the Mississippi valley, coming via New Orleans. Mr. Barber denies the insinuation that he wanted to get on this side of the Mississippi before the situation became any worse but all the same he had to admit that he made a hurry crossing of the big stream at New Orleans on Saturday morning. And in the crossing he said he saw plenty signs of flood conditions. He says that for over a month the railroads coming into the city have been preparing for the worst, and have raised their tracks three to five feet above their present high water level, for it will be remembered that weather forecasters have predicted such a situation ever since February. For miles before reaching the river Mr. Barber said the train felt its way over water-covered tracks and it was a most uncanny feeling to hear the creak of the wheels as they split a path through the muddy, swirling waters.

In his trip out Mr. Barber took a northern route, traveling through the great farming sections and spending a few days with relatives in Gage, Okla., and later visiting an uncle in Utah. He traveled on over the Sacramento valley and back through the Grand Canyons, and returning home by a southern route which brought him through New Orleans. He says that the people in that large city appeared to be little concerned about the situation and everywhere they were in good spirits, but he said the

BARK AND WOOD SEASON OPENS HERE

Local Sheds Will Soon Be Paying \$1,000 Daily to Farmers of This Section.

In talking to John A. Martin, manager of the bark sheds in this city, we learned that he expects the largest business this season in the history of his concern. Within the next week he expects to begin receiving a steady stream of tan bark and acid wood at the sheds here which will mean a payment of \$1,000 a day to the farmers who bring the product here. The company this year is paying \$16.50 a cord for tan bark and \$6.50 a cord for acid wood.

The sheds here are now owned and operated by the International Shoe Co. This concern owns 14 tanneries and yet tans only 60 per cent of the leather used in their shoe factories. The bark and wood bought here is shipped at once to the tanneries in Morganton and North Wilkesboro.

Political Pot Continues to Boil in Carroll County.

The holding of the Republican primary in Carroll County some weeks ago failed to bring any settled condition in the political situation in that county according to recent reports that have reached this city. It seems that Bud Edwards secured a decisive victory in the primary for the nomination for sheriff on the Republican ticket, defeating the organization's candidate, B. M. Jett, the present sheriff. But now there is talk of a combination ticket, of the Democrats and the defeated side in the Republican ranks, and Wm. Webb, one of the defeated candidates for Clerk of the Court has already signified his willingness to enter the race as an independent candidate if the Democratic convention would endorse him. He was defeated by Swanson Smith, present representative for Carroll in the legislature. E. W. Ogles is now clerk, having held the office for eight years and was not in the race, having pledged his party that he would not seek the re-nomination.

Friends of Mr. Webb say he will make a strong race as an independent candidate. In the primary he was second where five were seeking the office.

The campaign in the Re-ublican primary held in April was one of the hardest fought in the history of the county and it has been stated that all parties for the various offices spent a total of from fifteen to twenty thousand dollars in the race.

WOMAN'S SHOT GOES WILD

A Miss. Proves to Be Fortunate Circumstance.

It has often been remarked that a jealous woman can shoot when she is aroused, but Mrs. Alice McCraw should be thankful that she failed to live up to the old adage, when she missed her mark Tuesday afternoon, having as her target Mrs. Ida Trainum. For some time there has been domestic differences between the two women and Tuesday Mrs. McCraw decided to end the trouble by doing away with Mrs. Trainum and also her husband. She first called at the home of Mrs. Trainum on South Street and when she came out in the yard Mrs. McCraw, standing about four steps away, fired a 32 Owl Head pistol point blank at her chest, and thinking she had made a "bull's eye," turned and fled to her home where she attacked her husband with murderous intent. Here she wrestled with her husband and he managed to take the weapon from her before she did him any injury.

After that the enraged woman left the house and made across Lovell's creek. In the meantime it was learned that the bullet had missed Mrs. Trainum, but passed through her skirt and undershirt, near her waist line. Officer Jarroll was notified and he arrested the woman beyond the creek after chasing her 200 yards, she at the same time dawning another pistol and threatening him. After leaving her home she had managed to secure a 32 automatic in some way and this the officer wrestled out of her grasp.

She was released under a bond of \$500 signed by her husband, Seymore McCraw, who is employed on the railroad yards in this city. The warrant was signed by Mrs. Trainum and charges her with an assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill. The matter will be given a full hearing before Judge Lowelyn next Monday morning.

Fruit Crop Practically Gone.

It is now an almost settled fact that the fruit crop as a whole is ruined in this section. The freeze of two weeks ago was more than the tender fruit could stand and almost every peach and apple was frozen through and through and will soon all be off the tree. Many of the peaches were as large as Boston beans, and are still hanging on, but when they are cut into the seed is found to be dead and the little peach will soon drop off.

The Sparger Orchard Co. came through the freeze with better luck than any of the other commercial orchards. Their orchards are located on Slate Mountain and there was a line around the mountain above which the fruit escaped damage, as the freeze did not injure the fruit on the higher elevation. Of the 300 acres they have in trees they estimate that 100 acres of it was destroyed. The Coveland Orchard in the Blue Ridge suffered practically a complete loss, as did the E. C. Bivens and C. C. Hutchens orchards, which are located near this city. The Granite City Orchard Co., near the Sulphur Springs, also was a heavy sufferer and will have very little fruit.

The beekeepers of this section will also feel a heavy loss, for the small tips on the sourwood trees were killed. It is from these tips that the sourwood blooms springs forth and furnish the delicious nectar for the little bee. And the killing of these tips means that there will be no bloom in sections where the freeze occurred. E. L. Brown and Lawrence Hawks, two large beekeepers of this section, have planned to move some of their bees to territory where the sourwood was not hurt, and they have found that on the high ridges about the county that the sourwood escaped. Mr. Brown will move one yard to a point on top of the Slate Mountain beyond the Sparger Orchard and Mr. Hawks will locate a yard on the Chestnut Ridges, near the old Indian Graves, in Westfield township. They have found that in these two localities the sourwood was not hurt on account of being located above the frost line.

Regular Club Meeting Post-poned

The regular monthly meeting of the Women's Club of Mount Airy will not be held this week but will be merged with that of the music department of the club the second Friday in the month.

COUNTY TO EMPLOY HIGHER GRADE TEACHERS

Resolution Passed Will Give Better Schools for Surry—Teacher Training School at Dobson.

The county board of education last Monday, passed a resolution that will have a far reaching effect in the matter of schools of the county and will tend to put them on a higher plane. The resolution provides that in the future no teacher shall be employed in the county who does not hold an elementary B certificate, and schools of five or more teachers cannot employ teachers lower than certificate A class. The class A teachers are required to have one year in college or the equivalent in summer school work and the class B must be a graduate of a high school and have had two sessions of summer school work.

Working in hand with the plan of providing the county with a better teaching corps the board of education will next year conduct a teacher training school at Dobson. Provision has been made for the state to pay for the instructor and the county will only have to supply the equipment. The class will contain not less than 10 and not more than 20 teacher students.

The board sold the Flat Rock school to Methodists of Mount Airy circuit for \$2910. It is the purpose of the Methodists to organize a church in that neighborhood and use the old school building for their place of worship.

D. H. Cooke made his final settlement with the board for the erection of several buildings last year. Prof. Hendren stated that the buildings had all been inspected and approved by both the inspector employed by the county and also the state inspector from Raleigh, and found to be according to contract. The buildings erected by Mr. Cooke during the year were as follows: Dobson, Bryan, Rusk, White Plains, Flat Rock and Copeland.

County Tax Listers and Assessors Named.

Dobson, May 3.—A re-assessment of the real estate of Surry County will be made this year. The following men were appointed Tax Listers and Assessors by B. F. Folger, County Tax Supervisor here Monday.

Bryan Township: J. Kyle Thompson, list taker; Devotion and Grover Haynes and Joe Norman, assessors.

Dobson Township: Alex Long, list taker; Henry Lawrence and Henderson Bledsoe, assessors.

Eldora Township: Harry Slawter, list taker; Squire Jones and Marcus Shackelford, assessors.

Elkin Township: Worth Gray, list taker; Dr. J. W. Ring, E. F. McNeer and R. M. Chatham, assessors.

Franklin Township: Willie Nixon, list taker; C. S. Carson and Mr. Ramey, assessors.

Long Hill Township: Fred Key, list taker; D. B. Needham, assessor.

Marsh Township: W. H. Chandler, list taker; Alex Mounds and Allan Stanley, assessors.

Mount Airy Township: Frank Joyce, list taker; Ed Patterson, F. L. Smith, Haywood Merritt, Chas. Creed, Tom Hatcher, assessors.

Pilot Township: Kent Swanson, tax lister; W. R. Badgett and Frank Dodson, assessors.

Rockford Township: F. E. Lane, list taker; W. J. Evans and Will McCormick, assessors.

Shoals Township: Lustra Whitaker, list taker; J. D. Michaels and Wess Scott, assessors.

Silom Township: Jap Patterson, list taker; Mr. Whitaker, assessor.

Stewarts Creek Township: S. D. Cook, list taker; S. E. Boyles and Casey Beamer, assessors.

Westfield Township: Rev. Joe Hall, list taker; Sam Arrington, assessor.

A Modern Store Front.

Turnmyre & Loman, druggists of this city, are remodeling the front of their place and will have the first "Florida" front in the city. This plan is proving very popular among drug stores and other like business concerns and will be the first of its kind in our city. When opened up the store becomes almost a part of the sidewalk, as practically all the entrance is open. There will be no screens but a battery of electric fans will drive a current of air into the street which will prevent the entrance of flies.

Letters Received From Flood Section Give Vivid Account of the Situation

Clothing Needed For Flood Sufferers—How Refugees Are Cared For—Glimpse From Family Letters.

In family letters to Mrs. W. E. Merritt, in this city, we get a first hand glimpse of the catastrophe that has visited the flood stricken Mississippi Valley and also a glimpse of the heroic spirit of those people who face their crisis with such noble courage and fortitude.

Mr. John Kochitzky a large land owner and brother of Mrs. Merritt finds his 400 acre farm under water, his wheat, and alfalfa land covered with water 6 feet deep, both crops a total loss besides 10 acres planted to early vegetables which would have been ready for market in another month.

His stock was driven to highlands as the report was received that a break in the levee was imminent and a tenant reported that his hogs are now being stolen. This will show you how one catastrophe follows upon another in this stricken area and his experience is probably the experience of thousands of others who are stricken and stripped of their earthly possessions in the flooded section.

In Cape Girardeau, Missouri, where thousands of refugees are being cared for from the lowlands across the river, the club houses, fair grounds, park and public buildings as well as homes have been pressed into service, and the women from the better homes have been called on to take charge of the building devoted to the use of the women and children refugees.

The leading women are giving generously of their time, strength, clothing, bedding, etc. for the refugees and groups of young girls are sewing for the new babies and their mothers.

Those who have money have gone to the hotels but those who have none are being cared for in tents or buildings the white and colored being housed separately.

Warm words of praise were given the Red Cross, which is aiding in every way possible. Food is prepared in the various churches, one church serving one day and another the next.

Mrs. Kochitzky, who worked with the refugees from early morning until 10 P. M., until she broke down under the strain from cold and exposure said the hard part of her experience was hearing these homeless ones tell about leaving their homes, mostly in Illinois, where their last glimpse of home showed little but the roofs of the houses above the swirling waters; and the new babies arriving with little or no provision for them and the children of all ages, races and condition.

No one, she writes is harder hit than the landlords, who face the problems of drainage, taxation and rehabilitation with their crops lost and

property damaged beyond the imagination to conceive.

Even in sections of Cape Girardeau, Mo., the water covered the roads to a depth of 12 to 18 inches and signs were driven on each side of the concrete as a guide to drivers and military guards patrolled the roads.

Train service was irregular and then discontinued as the water became deeper and mail is carried any way and any time, but they feel grateful to have even irregular service.

In this section of the valley the matter is beginning to show signs of falling but another rise is probable as the snows melt.

The people turned their attention to boat making and rafts and boats were used where water was too deep for cars or wading.

As we read the letters which were not meant for publication we were impressed with the way each one made the best of his or her losses and was busy trying to relieve the distress of the less fortunate on every hand.

Mrs. Merritt is willing to ship at her own expense all clothing which is left with her; she has already shipped four barrels but would like to send ten times that much if you have a clean used garments—blankets, sheets, underwear, overcoats, shoes, hose, or anything that you can spare that is in usable condition, leave it on the porch at Mrs. Merritt's and she will send to the refugees in care of the Red Cross to be used where needed.

Child Seriously Hurt by Auto.

Last Thursday at the noon hour the little six-year-old daughter of J. W. Lowry was struck by the car of Troy McKnight. She was crossing the street in front of the high school when the car struck her, knocking her to the pavement and fracturing her skull. The force of the blow threw her to one side and she was saved from being run over. Various versions of the accident are given, and the general opinion is that it was unavoidable, the main criticism being heard is the fact that the driver of the car, Mr. McKnight's daughter, was below the age limit. She attends school here, living across Lovell's creek, and is said to have been driving to and from school most of the time.

The injured child is being cared for at Martin Memorial hospital and the outcome of her injuries cannot be forecasted. An operation was performed and some of the bone removed from her skull, and a fractured blood vessel in the brain taken out. She is rational at times, but she is considered in a very critical condition and only time can tell what the outcome of the injury will be. No arrests have been made as the result of the accident.

Happenings Twenty-one Years Ago

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

Near Lumburg ten miles north of this city Logan Vernon shot and instantly killed Newell Rippey. Newell and a man named Golden had been in trouble and Rippey had tried to make peace between the men. Later Vernon met Rippey and attacked him. In the fight that followed Vernon shot him in the head causing instant death. The man then fled toward the mountains. Blood hounds were taken from this city and set on his tracks which they followed for several miles until Vernon had been taken into a buggy and the dogs lost the trail.

J. E. Barker of this city handles a high grade of clothing and makes a specialty of a brand of pants known as the "Security Pants." For some time he has had a pair of these pants up as a premium and Fred Johnson of the News force was the lucky one. He guessed the exact number of marbles that were in a bottle and was awarded the pair of pants.

John H. Walker died at his home near this city last Sunday morning as a result of an overdose of laudanum, taken through mistake. He was 48 years old and at the time of his death was foreman of the quarries operated by Ros & Rosch. He leaves a wife and three grown children.

Mr. George Fawcett has contracted to move dirt and improve in other

ways the D. A. Rawley property on North Main street until it looks very little like the old place. The old residence has been remodeled and is now a handsome place. It is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Garnett Fawcett, who will make it their home until their new granite residence is completed.

Marvin Ellis, who has been cashier at the depot, has been promoted to the position of agent.

Jim Lovill, the popular warehouseman, is now with W. E. Merritt and is acting as bookkeeper.

A most aggravated case that was tried at Dobson court last week was that of John Campbell and Will Hudson for trying to wreck the passenger train that runs from this city. Campbell is about 18 years of age and had a grudge against the railroad because he had been put off a train on one occasion. Hudson was not more than 14. They had placed cross ties across the track and only by the narrowest chance the whole train escaped being wrecked and many lives lost. Campbell was given five years and Hudson three years. They live near Pilot Mountain.

Produce Market—Apples, 75c to \$1; Irish potatoes, 50c to 60c; chickens, 12c; hens, 8c; butter, 15c; country hams, 10 1/2c; corn, 12c; rice, 75c; wheat, 90c.