

ESTABLISHED IN 1880

MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA OCTOBER 11th, 1928.

\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

## Mount Airy Honors Member of President's Official Family

### Hon. Jas. J. Davis Spends Day in City in Interest of Moose Home.

Mount Airy citizens took the day off Tuesday to welcome and entertain a member of President Coolidge's official family, Hon. Jas. J. Davis, secretary of labor. Aside from holding one of the most responsible and intricate official positions in the nation, he is also the directing head of the strong and progressive fraternal order of Moose. It was his connection with the order that brought him to Mount Airy, coming here to look over prospective property for the location of a Moose home in the near future.

He and his official party were met at Winston-Salem by a delegation of local Moose and accompanied to this city arriving at 10:30. The party was escorted to the National theatre where a welcome program was rendered, in which the key to the city was presented to Mr. Davis by John H. Folger in a very fitting talk. This key was of solid gold, molded by Dr. H. R. Hege for the occasion. The pattern was made by jeweler W. L. Steele from a steel plate. After it had been polished down E. W. Paddison engraved upon it, "The Key to Mt. Airy, N. C."

In coming into the city the visitors witnessed the spectacle of all the school children lining the streets giving them rounds of cheers. Local stores also closed for an hour during the ceremonies at the theatre.

Following the ceremony at the theatre the party visited the quarry. Here a fitting tribute was paid the official of the government in the unique stage effect that had been prepared by the quarry officials. Two of the large bison heads carved on stone that are to be used on the Washington bridge were mounted on a flat railway car and a speaker's stand built between them and to the rear of the stand was displayed the American flag. It was from this stage that Mr. Davis spoke a few minutes to the hundreds of workmen of the quarry and the many people of the city. He was high in his praise of the skill exhibited by the workmen, and his advocacy of a high wage scale for American workmen brought hearty applause from the large audience.

A luncheon was served the visitors at the Blue Ridge hotel, and while this was being prepared a trip up the Fancy Gap was hurriedly made. On returning more than 100 citizens of the city joined with the visitors at the hotel for the luncheon. Here Mr. Davis again spoke to the people and declared that North Carolina today is making more rapid strides than any state in the nation. Mr. John Paul Lucas of Charlotte gave some interesting data on the development of the state in the past decade. In speaking of the needs of the state Mr. Davis said that all he saw lacking was an advertising program for the state.

The visitors were shown the springs property which is being advocated as a possible site for the Moose home and Mr. Davis expressed delight at the wonderful panoramas of scenery that unfolded itself up the valley of the Ararat. The party left in the late afternoon for an engagement at Winston-Salem.

Accompanying Mr. Davis to this city on his visit were Wm. T. Giles, supreme lecturer of the Moose, of Baltimore and C. A. Heilig of Winston-Salem.

### Boss Gardner Has a Stray Mule

A stray mule is spending these days at the home of Boss Gardner, west of this city, and he wants the owner to call for same. Boss says the mule is a good natured animal, is evidently of Democratic disposition and his cheerfulness would indicate that he is looking for success for his party next month. But this does not pay for the hay and oats he is eating for Boss and the owner is warned that the feed box is about to give out and something will be done with the mule in a few days.

A fine cow belonging to T. S. Draughn near White Plains was stolen Sunday night. The animal was loaded on a truck and the driver left for parts unknown.

### THE TOBACCO MARKET

Breaks on the local tobacco market have been heavier this week, although the market average is not as high as last week owing to the lower grades being marketed. Tobacco observers are of the opinion that the medium and smoking grades are stronger, but there has been a decline on the lower grades. This condition prevails over the entire belt and farmers who have marketed at other places say the local market makes a better showing than those they have visited at other points. The average for the past few days has been around \$14.00 per hundred.

## Thompson Clan Foregathers

### Annual Reunion of Large Mitchell's River Family Held at Rocky Ford Church Last Sunday.

Five hundred or more Thompsons, their blood relations and friends celebrated their annual get-together festival at Rocky Ford Baptist Church on Mitchell's river last Sunday. Rev. Wayne Thompson of Glade Valley, Alleghany county, a Presbyterian clergyman, preached a strong evangelistic sermon in the forenoon.

At noon a picnic dinner was served on the grounds and after feeding the multitude the good women took up enough food to satisfy a hungry regiment. Old acquaintances were renewed and old times recounted, in some instances with pleasure and in others with memory made sad by old timers who have been called to their reward.

In the afternoon the crowd was again assembled in the church. Squire Bird Snow gave a brief but effective history of the part the Thompsons of Surry County have played in war and in peace, mentioning the names of those who fought in the War of 1812, the Spanish-American unpleasantness, the Civil strife and the World War. He praised their peace record no less than their loyalty to country in times of war.

W. E. Woodruff then made a short talk, mentioning the fact that there were present the oldest member of the Thompson family as well as the youngest, the oldest being Geo. Washington Thompson of Alleghany county and the youngest a babe of three months. He also made mention of the presence of Jonas Thompson a slave darkey who with his aged spouse has mothered and fathered three generations of Mitchell's river Thompsons and who is proud of his long service to the family. The speaker made mention also by name of many prominent visitors and humorously called attention to the presence of Jess Monday and Abbie Smith, both of whom he presumed had married into the Thompson ranks.

After these introductory remarks Mr. Woodruff gave a short talk on family spirit as related to good citizenship. Taking as his text a couple of sentences from Mr. Hoover's speech on Saturday at Elizabethton, Tenn., to the effect that the regenerating forces of America live not so much on Broadway and Pennsylvania avenue and State street but upon the streets of the smaller towns and the countryside, he pressed home the truth that rural America is depending on the plain folks of the country to keep alive the best and highest in our civilization. These fundamentals, the speaker declared, are a temperate life, respect for law, and the ability to square one's life and conduct to meet changing ideas and conditions.

Joe Hen Thompson, to whose efforts largely is due this annual get-together, was master of ceremonies. The crowd voted unanimously to have a similar celebration on the first Sunday of September next year.

J. C. Ward deputy sheriff captured a 25 gallon still on a branch near Pine Ridge Wednesday and destroyed some pommage ready for a run of brandy. No operators were in evidence and no finished product.

## Preparing For School Fire Drills Success

### Celebration Oct. 19th to Be Biggest Affair in History of This Mountain Section.

Plans are rapidly taking shape for the Fancy Gap celebration at Hillsville, Friday of next week, when thousands of people are expected to commemorate the opening of the Fancy Gap highway which affords the main connection between the south and the north over the Blue Ridge range.

Local committees are now at work making plans for the delegation from this point. All who take part in it are to make Mount Airy the meeting point, gathering here and leaving for Hillsville at 10 A. M., headed by the local band and the 50-piece municipal band of Winston-Salem. Before starting these bands will render a concert at the head of the parade near North Main school.

The local committee on attendance will meet in the city hall Friday night and complete plans for the occasion.

### They Heard Hoover Speak

A large number of people from this county heard Herbert Hoover speak at Elizabethton, Tenn., last Saturday afternoon. Among those who were reported to us as hearing the presidential candidate were W. E. Eckenrod, John Simpson, Early Hutchens, J. E. Venable, J. P. Venable, O. B. Webb, A. E. Tilley, C. B. Tilley, M. F. Tilley, W. M. Matthews, T. R. Robertson, N. W. Dobbins, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Worrell.

## Virginia Citizen Killed In Winston

### Identity Established in Morgue At Winston-Salem—Driver Of Auto Set Free.

Winston-Salem, Oct. 9.—The body of a white man, fatally injured when struck by an automobile on the Rural Hill road, seven miles from here last night, was identified today as Joe D. McMillan, of Cana, Va.

Dr. A. S. Harding, Pilot Mountain dentist, who was driving the automobile was given a hearing before Magistrate Shapiro here today on a charge of manslaughter and was dismissed the magistrate holding that the accident was unavoidable.

Identity of McMillan was not established until this afternoon when Wyatt Hall of this city, and J. B. McMillan of Rural Hill, went to a local undertaking establishment and viewed the body. They said they formerly resided near McMillan, at Cana, Va., which is about 12 miles beyond Mount Airy. L. F. McMillan, of Mt. Airy confirmed the identification, and later in the day several other persons viewed the body and stated that it was that of McMillan. Funeral arrangements had not been made tonight.

## Fancy Gap Road Celebration Recalls Horse Back Parade of Years Ago

Our friend, R. T. Joyce, of Westfield, has been spending a few days in and around this city presumably in the interest of his candidacy for the state senate on the Republican ticket. But all he has heard for the past week is the big road celebration at Hillsville on the 19th. This event recalls to his mind a celebration that was staged in this city many years ago when the participants traveled by horse back and not by auto. At that time Mr. Joyce and his associates had everything mapped out for the biggest celebration ever held in the hills of Surry, but later events taught him that the people in those days dared not enter into a parade of large proportions for fear of injuring their highly prized animals. In speaking of his experiences on that occasion Mr. Joyce said:

"Having so much interest in the success of the big Fancy Gap celebration I feel it my duty to sound a note of warning. When the railroad to Mount Airy was completed our citizens were equally as enthusiastic as the people are today over the Fancy Gap celebration. At that time I was a citizen of Mount Airy, and giv-

### Experiments Demonstrate That Children Are in No Danger From Fire in City Schools.

As a part of the fire prevention program for this week fire drill exercises were held in the three city schools Tuesday, which determined the degree of success that would prevail under real conditions. At a given hour on that day a real fire alarm was turned in without the knowledge of the students. All the students knew was that they heard the school alarm to leave the building and at the same time the city fire company was summoned to the building, arriving with full fighting equipment. All the conditions were made as real as possible with the exception of the fire. The tests made were positive proof that the citizens of the city need have no fears for their children in the schools as far as fire hazards are concerned. Time records kept showed that in all the buildings they were vacated in less than two minutes after the alarm. The exits are all built in such a way as to never be choked with smoke or flames.

The following is the record of the fire drill at the three schools as sent to Raleigh by Fire Chief Patterson:

High school on South Main, 330 children and 16 teachers, vacated in one minute and 30 seconds.

Rockford school, 735 children and 18 teachers, vacated in one minute and 16 seconds.

North Main school, 334 children and 16 teachers, vacated in exactly one minute.

Colored school, 93 children and three teachers, vacated in one minute.

The time above recorded also included the time consumed in arriving at the building with the fire company, connecting the water and having water going through 150 feet of hose.

### Republican Speaking Called Off

Chairman W. M. Jackson of the Surry County Republican Executive Committee has called off the speaking of Hon. H. F. Seawell, his party's candidate for Governor. Mr. Seawell was scheduled to speak at Dobson on Friday next week, but since almost every one in Surry County will be attending the Fancy Gap road celebration at Hillsville on that day the speaking has been cancelled.

### Belk's Holds Annual Fashion Show

A full house attended the annual fashion show and fall review at the Grand Theatre Tuesday night, which was staged by Belk's department store. Mr. Bain, the local manager, had charge of the exhibition of the many showings of the season's styles the frocks and coats coming from the stock of his store. More than a dozen young ladies and girls were used as models, being introduced as they crossed the stage by P. A. Boone manager of the theatre. The showing was highly creditable and received much favorable mention by those who witnessed it.

## Night Schools To Continue Another Term In County

### Pupils Glad of Chance—Learn Fast—New Pupils Coming In Work to Begin in Elkin.

Generous contributions last week to the expense fund made certain the continuation for another fifteen nights of the night schools conducted for the past several weeks in the Rockford street and the Flat Rock schools.

### Reporter Visits School

A visit by the reporter to one of these schools proved so very interesting that we thought our readers might find it interesting and help them to a better understanding of the value of the work if we would tell them of the fine spirit and splendid work being done there, through the columns of The News.

### Pupils Eager to Learn

In the first place it is a school for real work, everybody is busy and eager—oh so eager—to learn. And they do learn, and learn so fast one can hardly believe it.

The text book has been prepared with care by Mrs. Elizabeth C. Morris who has had much experience in working with adult beginners and the reading lessons are prepared around the central idea of a happy normal home with high standards of health, proper food, thrift, education, recreation, cooperation and citizenship and the activities linking home, school, church and community.

### Average Night School Age Thirty

It has been shown that the average age of night school pupils is around thirty and most of them have homes and children therefore the reading lessons were prepared with this in mind.

### Lesson on Citizenship

The following is a lesson on good citizenship used in the local schools: "The men and women in the schools for adults want to be good citizens. They want their children to be good citizens. They will learn the things a good citizen should know and do. They will learn that: A good citizen should know how to write his own letters. A good citizen should know how to read the newspapers and the Bible. A good citizen should know how to keep his own accounts. A good citizen should have good food for his children. A good citizen should keep his children well. A good citizen should keep his children in school. A good citizen should save money. A good citizen should have a bank account. A good citizen should own his own home. A good citizen should work and play. A good citizen should help his community. Each school for adults will have a community project each month. The men and women will plan some project that will help their community."

### Health Rules

Since the health of the child is the joy of the home and the power of the nation the following health rules are taught: "Take a full bath more than once a week. 2. Brush the teeth at least once every day. 3. Sleep long hours with windows open. 4. Drink as much milk as possible but no coffee or tea for children. 5. Eat some vegetable or fruit every day. 6. Drink at least four glasses of water every day. 7. Spend part of every day out of doors. 8. Head erect. Chest up. Waist flat."

### Letter Writing Taught

Blackboard and individual help is given in writing and as soon as possible pupils are taught to write letters. The following letter written in a clear legible hand with proper punctuation and capitals shows what is being done and how worth while the school is.

232 South St.  
Mount Airy, N. C.  
Oct. 8, 1928.

Dear Friends:  
I want to tell you how I appreciate the night school. I could not do anything but write my name. I did know all the letters. I did not know anything about arithmetic. This is my tenth lesson. I can now do subtraction. I can read the Bible and can sing out of a book when I go to church on Sunday. I am so glad I have this chance to learn. I had to work. I did not have a chance to go to school when I was a child. Night school is needed in our community. I want to thank all who have helped me to do this well.  
Sincerely yours,  
Mrs. C. R. Marion.  
Pupils Appreciative  
Mrs. Marion but voices the senti-

ments of all the night pupils when she says she is glad to have the chance to learn. One lady says she learns something new every time and can hardly wait for the time to come again. All agree they are anxious for the school to go right on and again and again we heard them say "oh I have always wanted to be able to read the Bible for myself" or "I will never be satisfied until I am able to do my own reading." We are proud to get this school and glad it does not have to stop."

### Woman's Club Back of Schools

We have stated before in these columns that the night school work here is a part of a demonstration in the sixth district looking towards making night school work a part of the states' educational system and that an effort will be made to have night schools state supported. To do this it was considered necessary to demonstrate by conducting schools in some section of the state that the people will attend night schools and that they actually want schools and will learn if they have the chance.

To this end the Colonial Dames and the D. A. R. of the state gave \$1000 and the district clubs 237.33. Long before the appropriation was allotted to Surry and Stokes Counties the Woman's club of Mount Airy under the direction of Miss Mary Franklin Graves chairman of the education committee was, through the public school teachers of the county making a survey of those who had missed their chance for an education and should be reached through these schools. When Miss Worley came into the county she was assisted by Miss Graves, and Mrs. Geo. Marshall, the club president in finding local workers to visit the prospects and by giving lessons in the homes demonstrate to them that they could profit by attending the night schools. The Woman's club appropriated \$100 for paying Miss Worley's assistants and providing other necessary expenses and secured a contribution of \$250 from the county. As the time approached for Miss Worley to close the work at the two schools in this community and open a school in Elkin with the pupils so eager to have the work continued and new pupils coming in every week it seemed best that the school should continue another term and so the situation was presented to the Kiwanis Club and their members donated \$150 to this was added \$50 contributed by the North Carolina Granite Corporation and this amount will guarantee the pay of four experienced teachers, Mrs. E. S. Hendren and Mrs. John Foy at the Rockford Street school and Mrs. E. F. McKinney and Mrs. Hauser at the Flat Rock school. Prof. L. E. Pendergraph, superintendent of the Mount Airy schools and Prof. E. S. Hendren, superintendent of the country schools have volunteered to cooperate with the paid teachers in carrying on the work in the night schools. Prof. Hendren has been deeply interested in the work from the start and has been a volunteer teacher from the opening of the schools. Miss Goode of the faculty of the Flat Rock school has also volunteered her services in that school for the remainder of the term.

A message received by Miss Worley Wednesday morning assures her that \$130 has been contributed or collected by the clubs there to provide for opening the work in Elkin and she will go to Elkin to begin night school work there October 15.

### Boy Struck By Car Three Miles Out

Isom Spencer 10 year old son of P. L. Spencer of the Banmertown section was struck by a car driven by William Eaton, col., on the Mount Airy to Winston-Salem highway Wednesday about noon. The car was owned by W. E. Cox, of Pilot Mountain. A car and truck were parked in the road and it is stated that the boy stepped from behind the truck just as the other car was passing. His injuries are considered very serious and practically no hope is entertained for his recovery. The colored boy was brought to the Mount Airy jail and is being held in default of bond for a hearing of the case.  
A strange feature of the case is the fact that the car is the same one which killed Joe McMillan near King when driven a few days ago by Dr. A. S. Harding, Pilot Mountain dentist.