

PUBLIC LEDGER



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THE NOBLE FIRE HORSES

THE WHOLE TOWN LOVES SAM AND MAMIE B.

The New Firefighting Machine Displaces the Two Large Fine White Fire Horses.

With the coming of the more modern firefighting apparatus, "Sam" and "Mamie B.," the two noble white horses, have made their last run to a fire in Oxford. Since the advent of the new and handsome fire truck last week, the two horses seem to realize that they have been relegated to the rear.

It used to be the custom with men, women and children to stroke the horses with their hands and address them with kind words, but the handsome new fire truck, which stands at the entrance to the fire house, robbed the horses of the tender affection formerly showered upon them. We are fully persuaded that they hear every word spoken in their presence and understand much that is said. Tears actually filled their eyes the other day when a man looked them over and asked their old friend Mr. Pete Wood what the town authorities wanted for them. The low price set upon them after a term of faithful service, seemed to fill their heart with indignation, but when Mr. Wood stroked them tenderly and said that he hoped that they would fall in to good hands, they actually thanked him by lifting and lowering their heads.

A touching incident in connection with the horses occurred last Thursday night at an hour when many people were eye witnesses, viz:

As is well known the horses have been taught to take their places at the fire truck as soon as the alarm of fire is turned in. Just as a throng of people were leaving the Orpheum Theatre at nine o'clock Thursday night a false alarm was sent in, and in the twinkling of an eye the new truck bounded up the street. Mr. Bell the factory expert at the wheel. The firemen evidently knew what effect the sound of the bell would have upon the horses, and accordingly tied them securely to a post. Sure enough when the alarm sounded the horses tried their best to take their places at the old truck, but they were doomed to disappointment.

Dear old friends, just in the prime of life, strong and vigorous, here is hoping that they will find a good home in old Granville. Some one suggested that they be sent to the Allied army, but the faithful horses have a tender place in Mayor Stem's heart and he answered: "Never in this world. They deserve better treatment than that."

FREE LAND SITES

Exempt From Taxation For Ten Years.

In our rambles in old Virginia during Christmas week we noticed several signs on the outskirts of some of the most progressive towns that attracted our attention. On entering Chester we noticed a sign almost as large as the size of a Granville county barn door with the following inscription:

"This is Chester, midway between Richmond and Petersburg. Stop off and see us, a hearty welcome awaits you. Free land sites for manufacturing plants."

On the outskirts of another Virginia town we noticed a sign which stated they not only donated sites but exempted them from taxation for a number of years. It strikes us that a town with that kind of a progressiveness is bound to come to the front. A guarantee of a free site and an exemption from taxation for a number of years rings clear. It carries with it a sense of cooperation. There is quite a difference between the town that gives building sites and the one that sticks on a fancy price as soon as a prospective manufacturer puts his foot in town.

We hope that the citizens of Oxford will realize the importance of manufacturing plants in our midst. Let them view the great question from every angle. Let us go the Virginia town one better and print upon our banner in large letters: "This is Oxford; we invite capital and pledge hearty cooperation."

WILL RESIDE ON FRONT STREET

Rev. C. A. Upchurch and His Family Coming to Oxford

Rev. C. A. Upchurch, who has accepted a call to Knott Grove, Mt. Zion and Stovall churches, has rented the John Williams cottage on Front street and will reside in Oxford. Mr. Upchurch comes from Wake County. He will arrive in Oxford Thursday and his family will come a week or ten days later.

All good people extend Mr. Upchurch and his family a hearty welcome to Oxford. We learn that Mrs. Upchurch was an active worker in the Tabernacle Baptist Church at Raleigh.

LIFE WITHOUT BOOKS IS DEATH!

GRANVILLE ABLY REPRESENTED AT SOCIAL SERVICE CONFERENCE.

Miss Mary G. Shotwell, Who Spoke At the Invitation of Dr. Joyner, Draws a Pen Picture of Enon Community.

Old Granville had its innings at the Conference of Social Service workers in Charlotte last week. Oxford's own Mrs. A. H. Powell, Chairman of the Department of Literary Extension, State Federation of Women's Clubs, and Miss Mary G. Shotwell, Rural School Supervisor for Granville County were on the program. Miss Shotwell had in her mind's eye the Enon Community when she addressed the convention. In speaking of Miss Shotwell, the Charlotte Observer said:

"In a well-modulated and musical voice Miss Shotwell told how the school plant had been utilized in enriching the community life. The club is divided into junior and senior departments. A baseball team—the champion of the countryside—resulted, and tennis clubs, too, have been formed. Money enough to buy a piano was raised. Now the social club is well equipped, the school term has been increased from the 5 months' term of a decade ago to 7 months and instead of 5 grades there are now nine. Closer co-operation between home and school has been secured, and rural life has been made more attractive. Spelling bees are held in which the children frequently worst their elders."

"Life Without Books is Death"

The Charlotte Observer carried Mrs. Powell's address in full and adds editorially that it was an inspiration.

MRS. POWELL'S ADDRESS

"Life Without Books is Death" was the challenging subject of an inspiring address by Mrs. A. H. Powell, of Oxford, chairman of the Department of Literary Extension, State Federation of Women's Clubs.

"The trend of this great meeting of organized womanhood," said she, "is to seek the social welfare of our State, and this is as it should be, for unless we are a part of that great power that makes for social righteousness, we might as well not be at all."

"In thinking over the questions before us today, my first thought was, when so many vital conditions enter into the works of each of us, how can we meet them all efficiently, and this leads us one step further: 'That we must live within, before we can serve without.' So my plea is for the book—one of the chief foods of the inner life—and this is a plea that we read books that will enrich our minds, enlarge our understanding, and expand our souls. Can you imagine a bookless world—a world intellectually famine stricken—and not picture a world stripped of its real creative power!"

"So often the question is asked: 'What must one read to give one a clear and sympathetic understanding of Man and Nature's Struggles, of Nature and Nature's Beauties, of Effort and Effort's Worthiness.' Some years ago this discriminating advice was given: 'For clearness, read Macaulay. For logic, read Burke and Bacon. For action, read Homer and Scott. For conciseness, read Bacon and Pope. For sublimity of conception, read Milton. For vivacity, read Stevenson and Kipling. For imagination, read Shakespeare and Job. For common sense, read Benjamin Franklin. For elegance, read Virgil, Milton and (Continued on Page Two)

HEALTH NOTES

(Dr. Benj. K. Hays, Health Officer.)

Grip Again

I desire to again call attention to the dangers of grip. It is a most treacherous disease and should be combated with the utmost caution. Its after effects are especially dangerous. The feeling of depression which follows the disease demands rest in bed, warmth and fresh air. The use of stimulants to overcome this depression is but as a whip to a tired horse. Heart troubles and pneumonia are the complications to be feared in grown people, tuberculosis in children. Children with a cough following grip should not be permitted to attend school and it is the duty of both parent and teacher to see that they are kept at home. In the inspection of school children the Health Officer will refer all suspicious cases to the family physician. Where no physician has been employed he will, as far as possible, see that the parents are instructed in the care of the diseased.

Mrs. J. C. Robards is spending sometime with Mrs. Tillery in Wilmington.

WILSON WARNS NATION

COUNTRY MUST BE PREPARED, AND AT ONCE, TO DEFEND ITSELF

Does Not Know What Single Day May Bring—Treading Among Intricate Dangers Not Under Our Control or of Our Making—Time May Come When It Is Impossible to Keep Honor Unstained and Keep Peace Also.

So grave is the question of preparedness President Wilson has taken the platform to warn the Nation of the impending danger.

In a speech at Cleveland Saturday he stated that the time may come when he cannot both keep the United States out of war and maintain its honor. He declared that the country must be prepared to defend itself and prepared at once.

"America is not afraid of anybody," he said. "I know I reflect your feeling and the feeling of all our citizens when I say the only thing I am afraid of is not being ready to perform my duty. I am afraid of the danger of inadequacy: I am afraid of the danger of not being able to express the character of this country with tremendous might and effectiveness whenever we are called to act in the field of the world's affairs?"

The Associated Press reports say that the President spoke with more gravity and force than he has shown during any of his previous addresses on preparedness. He was applauded frequently and when he spoke of defending the nation's honor, the cheering was tremendous.

"Let me tell you very solemnly you cannot postpone this thing," he declared. "I do not know what a single day may bring forth. I do not wish to leave you with the impression that I am thinking of some particular danger."

"I merely wish to tell you that we are daily treading amidst intricate dangers. The dangers that we are treading amongst are not of our own making, and not under our control. I think no man in the United States knows what a single week, a single day may bring forth."

Speaks of the Nation's Honor

Again and again the President spoke of the nation's honor. He declared the real man believes his honor is dearer than his life, and a nation's honor is dearer than its peace and comfort. He said it had been difficult to keep the United States out of the war, and he felt he had proved he was a man of peace when possible.

Regret that the question has come up in a campaign year was expressed by Mr. Wilson. "Let us forget," he said, "that this is a year of national elections." The preparedness issue, he added, should have nothing to do with politics.

Sources of Danger.

Among the possible sources of danger mentioned by the President were the difficulties growing out of the protection of Americans abroad and the obligation of the United States to maintain the liberties of the people of the Western Hemisphere. "I suppose that this country has never found itself before in so singular a position," the President said. "The present situation of the world would only twelve months ago, even after the European war had started, have seemed incredible, and yet now the things that no man anticipated have happened. The titanic struggles continue."

THE RELIGIOUS FORUM

An Institution Which Bids Fair to Become Uniquely Powerful

The Baraca Class around at the Oxford Baptist church is assuming interesting proportions. Men who were far from regular attendance upon religious exercises in Oxford a year ago are regular in their attendance upon the Baraca Class. So great has grown the interest of Oxford men in this organization that we consider it an institution which bids fair to become uniquely powerful.

The International Lesson as presented by Gen. B. S. Royster to the class has much to do with it. Here denominational lines are laid aside and men of other churches attend the Baptist Baraca Class and then separate for visitations of their own denominational churches.

A GOOD REPORT

Mr. Ben W. Parham Returns From Up the State.

Mr. Ben W. Parham, who spent a few days in Thomasville last week on legal business, says that the manufacturers of the hustling chair town state that they have all the business they can handle. Thomasville was struck hard a year ago, says Mr. Parham, but business now moves at a nice rate. Mr. Parham is secretary and an enthusiastic member of the Granville Commercial Club, and his good report from the "Lowell" section of the State will be a stimulus.

THE CAMPAIGN IS NOW ON

W. D. BRYAN ANNOUNCES HIMSELF FOR SHERIFF

Other Announcements to Follow in Rapid Succession—The Public Ledger Points With Pride to Mr. R. S. Usry.

Elsewhere in this issue of the Public Ledger will be found the card of Mr. W. D. Bryan, who announces his candidacy for the office of Sheriff of Granville county. Other announcements, we understand, will follow in a few days. This would indicate that the campaign is now in its first stages.

Mr. Bryan is no stranger to the people of Granville county. He is a simon pure Democrat. He was for a long time county coroner and two years ago ran for the office he now seeks. He is a valuable assistant in the big house of Horner Bros. Company and has the confidence of the firm and a large number of people in all parts of the county.

In handing his card to the Public Ledger, Mr. Bryan stated that he had no fight to wage with any other candidate, that if he could not be elected by fair means he would not have the office by foul means. "I don't mind telling you," said Mr. Bryan, "that I seek the office with a view of bettering my financial condition, and if elected I shall give a good account of myself."

Mr. E. D. Hunt, another good man, well known to the voters of the county announces his candidacy for Sheriff in this issue of the Public Ledger. He states that he enters the campaign with clean hands and clean tongue, and he proposes to emerge a clean man. Mr. W. C. Curran, an honored citizen, is also in the running for Sheriff.

Nothing pleases the Public Ledger quite so much as to know that the county campaign is to be conducted on a high plane. Mr. Bryan knows, and you know and we know that nothing is to be gained by misrepresentation. The truth is a two-edged sword—it wins and it kills.

The columns of the Public Ledger are open for the discussion of men and measures, but if John Doe is inefficient you must name your man and sign your name, otherwise your communication will go to the wall. We have enough mugwump-progressive-republican articles signed by a so-called "Jeffersonian Democrat" to fill a half dozen papers.

While the Public Ledger is partial to those who have been tried and found to be efficient and accommodating, we shall in no wise disparage the candidacy of good efficient men. We have long looked upon county affairs from a purely business standpoint. In fact, so many municipal governments are prospering under the commission form of government we frequently ask ourselves why a county government would not prosper under the same form of government?

The County Commissioners constitute the most important part of a county government. It is best that hereafter the men who compose it shall not be struggling among themselves for concessions to please a township or district constituency. The general elections result in the choice of estimable men for the board but there are many of them, from time to time, who consider participation in the county councils as a thankless participation and some of them carry to the task just about as much business acumen as they are paid for—and the amount of the salary is generally known. There has possibly been too much tearing at the county vitals by men whose chief ambition have been to displace an honest effort to serve.

The affairs of the county were never in better hands than they are at this time, but if there is to be a change in the commission, the Public Ledger believes there is in the town of Oxford one whose selection would be more than generally satisfactory. Reference is to Mr. R. S. Usry. The Public Ledger has no expression from this man it has dared to suggest for the office, but it believes that he would accept should the place be offered to him. If he was offered it and assumed the place, we have no doubt that he would put in the duties the best of this thought to the furtherance of Granville. Mr. Usry is not merely an Oxford citizen, he is a citizen of Granville, too, and has proved in the past that he is able to hold the scales so that the rural population need have no fear of his attitude.

Changed His Mind

It is amusing to see what a few dollars will do. About one month ago a tobacco grower told us that he would not plant another crop of tobacco under any consideration. We met the same man at the Minor Warehouse the other day. He showed us his sale slip and check and he remarked that he was encouraged to plant another good size crop this year. He stated that he had raised some very good tobacco without potash and that he could do it again.

THE LUCKY SUBSCRIBER

MR. J. P. FLOYD CAPTURES THE TEN DOLLARS

A Committee of Five Disinterested Citizens Blindfolded Justin Rankoff Who Drew Name From the Box.

In order to stimulate business, the Public Ledger announced early in December that the name of each and every person paying one dollar on their subscription would be deposited in a box, the box to be opened at noon on January 31st.

The time having arrived to open the box, we summoned to the Public Ledger office Messrs. M. P. Chamblee, Capt. W. D. Rives, L. M. Curran, George Matthews and I. E. Jacobs, who blindfolded Justin Rankoff, the Russian, and just as the fire bell on the Municipal Building sounded the noon hour on Monday last the box was opened by the said committee and the said Justin Rankoff, blindfolded, drew from the box one card of uniform size and shape on which was written in plain English the name of "J. P. FLOYD, COLLEGE STREET, OXFORD, N. C."

The Public Ledger wishes to thank our many friends who subscribed or renewed their subscription. It has been an off year in all lines of business, and we are indeed thankful that so many have responded to our call for cash, many of the delinquents having paid in advance. It gives us renewed faith in the goodness of the noble people of old Granville. We are fully persuaded that they will pay every cent they owe when they are in a position to do so.

THE GRANVILLE GRAYS

Col. T. L. Springfield and Major Hunt Will Inspect Company

The Granville Grays had a nice oyster supper at the Armory Monday night. Strong coffee and luscious bivalves were served in tempting style. Capt. Stem and Capt. Wade H. Britt, who are down on the muster roll as reserves, were present and told stories in regular camp-fire style. There was nothing said as to preparedness, but nevertheless the soldier boys regard the issue with a great deal of interest.

Seated at the table, Capt. Stem enlightened the company to the fact that the United States issues a badge of honor corresponding to the Iron Cross issued to soldiers by the Kaiser's army for conspicuous bravery, and the Victoria badge of the English army, and the French badge dating back to Napoleon. Capt. Stem stated that so far as he was able to learn, the badge issued by the Federal Government was much harder to secure than any of the honor badges of the European armies. He explained that in our own country a soldier must go beyond his prescribed duties to win the badge—that the incident must stand out in bold relief and shown conspicuous bravery.

The hour spent in the army was indeed pleasant, after which Capt. Fuller, commanding, took his men to the streets for a practice drill.

Military Inspection

Major Hunt, Instructor Inspector, U. S. A., and Col. Thomas L. Springfield, Instructor General State Guard, will inspect the Granville Grays this Tuesday night at the Armory.

THE OXFORD TOBACCO MARKET

Prices Have Jumped Up Three Dollars

We have sounded the tobacco men of Oxford and learn that prices within the past few days have advanced about \$3.00 on the hundred pounds.

Well informed tobacco men, including the farmers and buyers, estimate that not less than 1,000,000 pounds remain unsold. This, of course, means leaf and scrap.

It is estimated that 8,000,000 pounds have already been sold this tobacco year. The actual figures are not at hand at this writing, but there seems to be no doubt that the eight million mark was reached including Monday's sale. With one million pounds remaining unsold the indications point to a nine million pound market this tobacco year.

Sacrament of Baptism

Dr. Lumpkin, pastor of the Oxford Baptist church announced from the pulpit Sunday that the sacrament of Baptism will be administered Wednesday night, preceded by a Bible reading. The good people of the community are very much encouraged over the results of the recent revival. There were about 125 conversions, including 50 children at the Oxford Orphanage; twelve will join other churches and 68 will join the Baptist church either by letter or Baptism.

The Old-Time Feeling

If tobacco had sold all the season in all the warehouses like we saw it sold at the Johnson Warehouse Monday the farmers of Granville would be independent.