

PUBLIC LEDGER



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POLITICS AND GOOD TIMES

A MOVEMENT THAT IS LIKELY TO INTEREST THE PEOPLE

Remember That There is Only One Kind of a Democrat—All the Rest Are Something Else—This is the Year of the Emissary, the What?

The political pot is beginning to simmer a little in good old Granville and the prospects are that it will be boiling right before the primaries are held.

Judging from casual conversations the Public Ledger has an idea that the farmers are utilizing their spare time in talking county politics. An old friend who called to pass the time of day with the editor and have the label on his paper changed, told us of a movement that is likely to interest the people of the whole county if it goes through. This movement looks to the bringing forward a man for commissioner. He is a man of great influence and much popularity and if those behind the movement succeed in securing his consent, something interesting in Granville politics will have been started, for a fact.

As to the Commissioners, of course, Mr. B. L. Breedlove, the present chairman, will succeed himself if he will accept it. There is not a man on the Board unmindful of the great responsibility resting upon him. There are others who think they could do better than the present members. This is well, for we always feel just a little uneasy when no one wants these honors, with the fault-finding and abuse that goes with the office.

A great many do not seem to have realized what is meant by a primary. The last legislature enacted a law whereby every candidate has to be named by a primary, and that primary is no more or less than a regular election. This primary is for both parties and is held on the same day, and is obligatory upon every one who wishes to become a candidate. After a certain date, April the 10th, we believe, no one can enter the race, and if you expect to be a candidate you must let it be known, for you can not wait until the last minute and run in as a dark horse. We do not know how you are going to like this law, for it is new, but there is one thing certain, there will be no more packed conventions—as you have so often heard, for every candidate will be voted for just the same as if it was a regular election.

This is one political year in which it behooves us all to keep a cool head and to be more careful than ever in the selection of candidates, and especially to keep down strife and bitterness between factions. Candidates should remember that abuse and misrepresentation is a weapon that kicks backward, and never helps those that use it. Let us hope that the 1916 campaign in Granville will be conducted on a higher plane than ever before.

It is a pity that this is presidential election year, when it becomes our duty to elect a President, to elect a new Congress, members of the General Assembly, as well as county and state officers. It is really distressing that all these things come along at a time when everybody is busy and prosperous and haven't the time to give these political matters serious consideration. But right here, the Public Ledger desires to impress the Democratic voters that this is a most important year, one in which they are called upon to do a whole lot of personal work.

HIDDEN WEALTH

The Big Sand Dunes Piled Up in the Streets of Oxford

The sand dune in front of the Court House represents nearly one thousand dollars in crucible gold, and yet that does not represent one-tenth of the hidden wealth that is being extracted from the sand pits near town.

The street work has created a demand for sand that has never before been felt, and with the completion of the streets there will be an equal demand for red brick to be used in the construction of buildings.

Sand is now selling in Oxford for \$1.00 the cubic yard. There is just about one million dollars worth of the shap little diamonds within three miles of the corporate limits of the town, and all of it will be needed for building purposes within the next 25 years. The concrete brick is going to be in demand in Oxford in the near future, and the way it now looks, we are to have a number of concrete buildings to house manufacturing plants before many years.

There are no strings tied to Oxford now and you are going to hear some very sweet music. The Commercial Club has already heard the fife and the drum, and the members are now practicing the quick step.

THE COUNTY COMMENCEMENT

EVERYTHING BEING MADE READY FOR MARCH 31st

This commencement will be one of the most important events to take place in Granville during the year of 1916. This may be considered a strong statement, but it is true beyond a doubt, for a school commencement has to do with the children of the land, the future men and women who will conduct private and public affairs either for weal or woe.

The Public Ledger recently published the programme for the Commencement. It is elaborate and contains important features which will show the advancement made by our public schools, not only in "book" education, but in domestic sciences, manual training and other branches of knowledge which a generation or two ago were not undertaken in the public schools, especially in the rural districts.

The people of Oxford and the surrounding country no doubt recall the two previous Commencements held in Oxford—the great procession of happy, intelligent, vigorous boys and girls which marched through the streets to the delight of five thousand people. As the Public Ledger recently said editorially, the events of that occasion were a revelation to the people and their hearts swelled with joy and pride at the knowledge that great privileges of education in various branches were opened to the coming generation.

Prof. J. F. Webb, county Superintendent of education, and Miss Mary Shotwell, rural supervisor of schools, are very busy getting everything in readiness for the event next Friday week. The Public Ledger would most earnestly urge the parents to get behind the great movement. It is a great honor for any child to officiate on this occasion.

THE DUTCHVILLE MEMBER

Will Commissioner Peed Stand For Re-election?

The Public Ledger has talked recently with several fine men from the south side of Granville and every one of them have spoke in the highest terms of Commissioner Peed, of Creedmoor, but no one seemed to be in a position to say whether or not Mr. Peed would stand for re-election. It was pointed out to us that the Dutchville member has inaugurated a good work on the south side of the county and that the people would like for him to remain on the Board until it is completed.

One of the roads for which Commissioner Peed has stood for is almost finished. If we mistake not it leads from Creedmoor to Stem, and there is a gap of only two miles to be completed.

The Public Ledger is not fully advised, but it looks to us that there should be a fine road from Creedmoor to Stem. A trip down the National Highway to Stem, thence to Creedmoor and return, looks mighty good to us. If the completion of the road depends upon the return of Commissioner Peed, then we are sure he should be returned; but Mr. Peed's activities are not confined to a single township—he is a broad-gauged county man, as was recently shown in his willingness to let the convicts be withdrawn from the Creedmoor territory long enough to do urgent work elsewhere. We trust that the good people of Dutchville will be guided by the light that is before them.

AS OTHERS SEE US

Scranton Tourists Impressed With the Beauties of Oxford.

Mr. and Mrs. Moran, well known in Scranton, Pa., spent a couple of hours in Oxford last Saturday. They had been pretty much all over town when we met them at the postoffice and they were ready to ply us with many questions.

"We admire your wide streets and large trees," remarked the lady. They spoke of seeing the Oxford Orphanage, the Episcopal church, the Graded school building, the monument, Spring street and Oxford College.

Mr. Moran stated that he and his family always spend their winters in the South and he inquired very particularly as to our climate, schools, railroad facilities and water.

We were determined to learn as much as we could about Mr. Moran and his fine looking lady, and with one mighty effort we threw out our chest and remarked that we were the editor of the Public Ledger. The best that we could get out of Mr. Moran was that he is identified with the manufacturing end of an automobile, but we failed to notice the name of the car he was traveling in, but in justice to him we will state that it was not a "tin lizzard."

Miss Estelle White is the guest of Miss Edna Griffith in Richmond.

DOWN IN MEXICO

AMERICAN TROOPS NEARING VILLA HAUNTS

Leakage of News Guarded Against With Utmost Care—Newspaper Correspondents Are Held Accountable Under National Defense Act.

(SUMMARY)

The first phase of the American expedition into Mexico in search of Villa and his bandits was accomplished without the firing of a hostile gun by the Americans. The second phase takes the troops to Casas Grandes, up toward the rough mountain slopes, where it is known Villa already has preceded them with more than 100 miles' start.

Censorship

Warning that this second act in the chase might not pass without fighting against bandits was implied in a new and more stringent censorship imposed at Columbus. Further leakage of news of military movements, the censor said frankly to the American press, would be likely to cost soldiers' lives. An order was issued holding newspaper correspondents accountable for dispatches, under the national defense act.

Pass Carranza Garrisons

When Washington announced that the American columns did not intend to occupy cities, a menace to Mexican national pride was removed. The Carranza garrisons, which have been passed by the marching Americans, and which therefore, are now in the American's rear on their flanks, continued tranquil, so reports to El Paso indicated.

Grave Fears Subside

General Gabriel Gaviira, at Juarez, commanding the territory through which for three days the Americans have been penetrating, himself announced that for a time the situation as reported to him had been delicate and even serious. With evident relief he said the crisis had passed.

Soldiers in Camp

Snuday dawn showed the long lines of cavalry horses just outside Colonia Dublan, their troopers dismounted and in camp, at rest.

Villa Located

Several sources places Villa in approximately the same portion of Western Chihuahua. By all accounts he is more than 100 miles ahead of the Americans, about the same distance he has been out of their reach for a week, but with one possibly important difference, that, while heretofore the Americans have been riding on a somewhat cold trail, they are now nearing ground which Villa very recently passed over, and where they may have practical opportunity to test the temper of rural Mexicans from whom they might receive valuable information.

A Clash This Week

With the strict censorship, it is not known to the Associated Press what methods General Funston will employ to force Villa to fight or to trap him, but the news leaks through the sieve to the effect that the failure of Villa to make a stand and fight before the end of this week will radically altar the plans mapped out by the commander of the United States expedition.

VANCE FERTILIZERS

Manufactured at Henderson and Contains Real German Potash

A great many farmers have visited the fertilizer plant at Henderson this season and watched the blending process—real German potash, fish scrap, blood bone, cotton seed meal, tankage and other rich materials and see them put into the very bags they are to receive. Read the announcement of Vance Fertilizer on the seventh page of this paper.

Orphanage Superintendents Meet

Superintendent R. L. Brown of the Oxford Orphanage is in attendance upon the Tri-State Conference of Orphanage Superintendents, which convenes in Macon, Ga., this Tuesday morning.

PAY YOUR TAXES BEFORE APRIL THE FIRST

Unless your taxes are paid before the above date, your property will be advertised for sale. More than five thousand have paid and it is your time now. If you delay and your property gets advertised it will be you, not me. Settle now. You are near enough to the last day.

Respectfully,
S. C. HOBGOOD,
Sheriff

ADEQUATE DEPOT FACILITIES

IT SEEMS TO BE OURS FOR THE ASKING.

We hope that the railroads entering Oxford will understand that the people of our town are united on the question of securing adequate depot facilities. The fact that there is very little being said about the matter at the present time does not argue that there is a division of sentiment as to the actual needs. The fact is, if the sentiment keeps on growing and it becomes necessary to circulate a petition, it will be so overwhelmingly large we will be compelled to charter a special train to take it to Raleigh.

During the last three months the Corporation Commission has ordered the railroads to equip several towns in the State with better depot facilities, and in no instance has the needs been more urgent than they are in Oxford at the present time.

All the kickers in Oxford having died a natural death, the Public Ledger is of the opinion that when the question of adequate facilities is presented to the railway companies in regular form it will be duly signed and executed. But not only that, other railways will come to us in the near future.

The old battleship "Oxford" has cleared her decks for action and she will sail forth to capture new territory, and it will not be a submarine attack, either.

NEGRO FRIGHTENS LADY

Mr. Luther Davis Comes to the Rescue With a Gun.

There is a bad colored man lurking about Oxford that stands a chance of getting his head blown off. One evening last week he appeared at the home of Mr. J. C. Davis on Main street. Not knowing that any one was on the porch, Mrs. Davis went to the door and spied the big black object within a few feet of her.

"What are you doing here," inquired Mrs. Davis.

"I iz just come to see you," replied the negro.

Mr. Davis and his son Luther, were in the house and heard the dialogue and came to the rescue. Mr. Davis at first thought the negro was drunk, but on investigation this proved to be a mistake. Mr. Davis ordered him to leave the premises at once, but he stubbornly refused and then it was that Mr. Davis knocked him down and Luther ran to get the gun. If the negro was drunk, he sobered up mighty quick when the gun was mentioned, and he beat a hasty retreat.

This is the second time in the last three weeks that the same black man has terrorized the citizens on Main street.

COUNTY CONVENTION

The Chairman Issues Call for April 22—Precinct Meeting April 15

At a meeting of the State Democratic Executive Committee held in the City of Raleigh on Wednesday, March 8th, The State Democratic Convention was called to meet in Raleigh on Thursday, April 27th, for the purpose of electing four delegates at large and four alternates to the National Democratic Convention to be held in St. Louis, June 14, 1916, for the purpose of electing two Presidential Electors and for such other business as may come before the State Convention. At this same meeting of the State Committee, a common day was fixed for precinct meetings and County Conventions to elect delegates to this State Convention.

At a meeting of Granville County's Executive Committee held in the Court House March 16th. It was decided that precinct meetings be held in every precinct in Granville County at 2:30 p. m. on April 15th, for the purpose of electing five precinct committeemen and delegates to the County Convention. Each precinct Chairman is expected to look after this matter and see that his precinct is organized.

The County Convention will meet in the Court House at 12 o'clock on Saturday, April 22nd, at which time the County will organize and prepare for the Primary in June. The County Democratic Executive Committee is very anxious to have a large Convention and each precinct is urged to send a full delegation to Oxford April 22nd. This is important and the precinct committees throughout the County are urged to give this matter attention.

BEN K. LASSITER, Ch'm,
Granville Democratic Ex. Com.

The Anchor Store Co.

The Anchor Store Company, Henderson, will hold their Spring opening, this Wednesday and Thursday. See their announcement elsewhere in this paper.

Thomas Specials—See L. Thomas' Specials on back page of this paper.

THE STREETS NOT BLOCKED

THE FOREMEN WILL SHOW YOU HOW TO GET THROUGH

No Business in Oxford Will Suffer in Consequence of the Streets Being Torn up—Mr. Lassiter Promulgates Order.

It makes no difference from which direction one approaches Oxford during the time the streets are torn up and made ready for the dressing, there is a street always open, enabling one to reach any place in town he may desire.

We learn that Mr. Lassiter has wisely provided for just such an emergency by instructing his foremen to be on the lookout and advise all drivers of vehicles how to proceed. Travel the same old roads you have traveled for the last half century, and if on reaching Oxford you find a street that seems to block your way, just call for the foreman of the gang and he will point the way.

Those who come in on the Raleigh road will diverge at a point near the corporate limits and pass through Mr. Broughton's place. All the hitching lots in Oxford are open, just as they have always been.

SPECTACULAR FLIGHT

Messrs. John Webb and H. M. Shaw Have Close Call.

Monday morning at an hour when Main and Hillsboro streets were alive with traffic, the horse of Mr. Henry O'Bryan of Creedmoor, became frightened at the big steam roller in front of the Oxford Buggy Company and became unmanageable. Messrs. John Webb and H. M. Shaw were crossing Hillsboro street when they noticed the flying horse and vehicle bearing down upon them. Mr. Shaw took refuge behind the monument, but there was only a slender 2x4 scantling between Mr. Webb and the horse when the wheels of the vehicle grazed the post behind which he was standing. At the monument, the horse turned into Main street, throwing Mr. O'Bryan violently to the ground, and in front of the Union Bank the buggy struck Smith Watkins' dray, the contact liberating O'Bryan's horse from the buggy. Mr. O'Bryan was only slightly bruised about the leg, but his buggy was badly damaged.

HEW TO THE LINE

Mr. W. H. Hunt Gives His Consent to Remove Trees

Last week the engineers in drawing a line on Main street preparatory to putting down curbing, it looked as if the three handsome big trees in front of the old brick bank building would have to come down. Several men were standing by and one of them remarked that he would bet a hundred dollar bill that Mr. Henry Hunt would kick if the axe was applied to the trees.

The man with the hundred dollar bill to spare did not stop to think that all the kickers in Oxford are dead, excepting a few chronic cases. At any rate he seemed to be very much worried when no one would call his bet. However, Mr. Hunt, sole owner of the trees, came along and cast his eye down the line and remarked:

"That's all right, hew to the line and let the chips fall where they may."

MR. HUNT NEARLY WELL

Will Reach Home the First Week in April.

We learn from Dr. S. H. Cannady that Mr. Cam Hunt, Clerk of the Court, is getting along nicely and that every thing points to his return to Oxford during the first week in April.

When the popular official returns he will find a hearty welcome on all sides, and among the number is Mr. Shotwell, who is attending to the Clerk's office during Mr. Hunt's sickness.

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

Noted Divine Will Preach Thursday Night.

The Rev. Bertram E. Brown, Rector of Calvary Church, Tarboro, will preach at the Thursday night service in St. Stephen's Church. Mr. Brown has been heard before in the pulpit of St. Stephen's Church, and attracted wide attention. The Service is at 8 o'clock p. m. All are cordially invited to be present. Next Thursday night, March 23rd.

DATE OF COUNTY FAIR

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, October 25, 26 and 27th
Secretary P. W. Knott of the Granville County Fair Association informs the Public Ledger that the County Fair will be held on October 25-27. A fair circuit, embodying Oxford, Roxboro, Louisburg and Henderson has been created.