

PUBLIC LEDGER



PUBLISHED SEMI-WEEKLY — TOWN AND COUNTY OFFERS BRILLIANT OPPORTUNITIES — ALL HOME PRINT

VOLUME XXXI.

OXFORD, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY, APRIL 8th, 1916

NUMBER 28

ONLY A WILD RUMOR

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS UNJUSTLY CRITICISED

The Idea of Mr. J. F. Webb Using Sixty Dollars Worth of Gasoline a Month and Charging it to the County is Simply Preposterous.

By reference to a previous edition of the Public Ledger will be found a card signed by the members of the County Board of Commissioners, in which it is stated that they have made no expenditure of the county's funds except those authorized by law, and then only in the soundest discretion of its members.

The commissioners took exception to a wild rumor to the effect that they were guilty of spending \$60 a month for gasoline to be used by Prof. J. F. Webb, superintendent of Granville County Schools.

In the first place, the Public Ledger is sure that Prof. Webb would not accept any such gift at the hands of the Board. He may have his faults, like the most of us, but there is not a dishonest bone in his body. It is not the first time that a dagger has been flung at him in the dark, but he sees them not, nor does he care, preferring, as it were, to attend strictly to his duties.

The fellow that started the report must be a contemptable nobody. It is the duty of all self-respecting citizens to first examine the records before crying "thief." The county records are available at all times and any one desiring to examine them will be given a table and a chair.

False statements and innuendoes this campaign year will not only puncture the vitals of those at whom they are aimed, but they will rebound and floor the one who makes them and also damage the Democratic party.

NOTHING DOING AT PRESENT

Two Railroad Superintendents Visit Oxford and Confer With Committees

Two railway superintendents, one from the Southern and one from the Seaboard, were in consultation here Wednesday with committees from the Town Board of Commissioners and the Granville Commercial Club. It is understood that the question of better depot facilities were discussed.

The Public Ledger was unable to secure any definite information as to what was accomplished. Everyone we approached referred us to General Royster, but who ever heard of a newspaper man interviewing General Royster when he does not care to talk for publication. He will greet you cordially and make you feel good, but that's the limit.

We venture the assertion, however, that the two railway companies entering here will come around alright in the near future, but it may require concerted action on the part of the citizens to accomplish anything worthwhile. We have the best town and the best people in the State and we should have depot facilities in keeping with our surroundings.

VACANCY ON RURAL ROUTE

Place Made Vacant by the Resignation of Mr. Herndon Moore.

We learn that more than seventy-five men have made inquiry as to the length of Oxford Rural Route No. 2, how long it takes to make the round trip and how much the carrier receives for his service. The place was made vacant last week by the resignation of Mr. Herndon Moore, and it would seem at this writing that Uncle Sam will have a large number of applicants from which to make a selection.

Oxford Route No. 2, extends out into the Culbreth section of the county and is a fraction over twenty-five miles in length. One round trip is required, rain or shine, every day in the week except Sunday. The carrier leaves the Oxford postoffice at 9:45 morning and returns at 5:45 in the afternoon. He usually consumes twenty minutes for dinner at the other end of the line. The carrier furnishes his own horse and vehicle and receives for his service \$100 per month. Mr. Rufus O. Moss is the temporary supply on the route.

This is published merely as a news item, but Postmistress Osborn will be glad to furnish all the information required.

Annual Meeting

The annual stock holders meeting of the Oxford Building and Loan Association will be held in the Court House next Tuesday night at 8 o'clock.

Rev. S. K. Phillips will fill his pulpit at the Oxford Presbyterian church next Sunday and on Tuesday he and Mr. John Webb will attend the Spring meeting of Albemarle Presbytery to be held at Roanoke Rapids. The church at Roanoke Rapids is a fine brick and stone structure with a substantial membership.

THE SHOPPING PRIVILEGE ABUSED

A THING OR TWO THAT IS OVER-DONE IN OXFORD

A few days ago we were in one of the big dry goods stores in this good old town and while engaged in conversation with the merchant a servant girl came in with a bundle and deposited it on the counter and told the clerk that "Missus don't want 'em."

On investigation the merchant learned that the goods were sent to the lady's home for inspection three weeks ago, and there being no record kept the incident escaped the memory of the clerk.

In their present struggle with the abuse of this system, the merchants of the different large cities are testing various methods. Los Angeles reports a 48-hour rule on the return of merchandise. Cleveland has the same rule. San Francisco merchants require that returns be made immediately if credit is to be given.

Minneapolis merchants who are parties to an agreement will permit no returns at all—excepting, presumably, where the goods are really at fault, while in St. Paul there is a 24-hour return rule on goods sent on approval. In Denver the rule is pretty much the same as in Minneapolis. Merchants in other cities are also said to have arbitrary regulations that are doing their work, according to reports heard. That they have been successful is judged by the fact that merchants who did not join the various movements when they were begun have since fallen in line.

We some times think that the Oxford merchants are the most lenient people in the world. They give freely to every worthy cause and adhere to many ancient customs that should be abolished. This thing of getting credit at one store and spending their cash elsewhere should be regulated.

FIGURES DON'T LIE

Especially if They are Made by an Honest Man.

The last issue of the Public Ledger carried a full page advertisement for Cohn & Son, in which is found this remarkable statement: "Val laces, edges and insertions to match, worth 50c per yard, sale price 2½c the yard."

In reading the proof it occurred to us that possibly there was some mistake in the low price, but knowing Mr. Cohn to be a very careful business man, we adhered strictly to his copy. As soon as the Public Ledger got into the homes of the people Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning there was something going at the lace counter of Cohn & Son. "Just think of it," remarked a lady, "this nice lace for 2½c the yard!"

It did not take Mr. Cohn long to find out his mistake. The price should have been 5c the yard, but Mr. Cohn, like a true sport, said not a word and the sale continued with unabated interest as long as the supply held out.

HANDSOME STOCK OF GOODS

The Long Company Well Equipped for all Occasions.

The fresh new line of goods at the Long Company's stores this season reflects great credit on Oxford. It is an elegant stock with wide range from which to select, and one of the most pleasing features is the fact that the war does not seem to effect the price; but that is attributed to the superior wisdom in placing the orders and buying at the right time.

The crucial test of a dry goods store in a high toned, critical community is millinery and shoes. In this particular the Long Company competes with the very best houses. This old reliable firm mentions a few of the things in this paper that have a National reputation and carry a guarantee.

A SCRAP OF PAPER

Containing the Outlines of a Sermon Or a Political Speech.

The following, written on a scrap of paper and neatly folded, was picked up on the sidewalk in front of the Public Ledger office, and it is supposed to be the outlines of one of Rev. S. K. Phillips sermons, or a speech of some one of the county candidates:

- "Luke: 10-16"
- "God knows"
- "The Fair Women"
- "This Great State"
- "The Glorious Past"
- "The Old Veterans"
- "Breathes There a Man"
- "Familiar Faces"
- "Joke"
- "Deep Gratitude"

Missionary Society
There will be a meeting of the Young Women's Missionary Society of the Oxford Methodist church Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the residence of Mrs. Walter Crews. All members are requested to be present.

MEXICO

MORE TROOPERS ORDERED TO ENTER MEXICO TO PROTECT LINE OF COMMUNICATION.

Even Money Being Betted That Outlaw Will Be in the Hands of Troops Within Week and Half—Washington Not Worried Over News That Carranzista Officer and Hundred Soldiers Joined Villistas—Had Worked Independently, Reported—No Further Disaffection—Villa's Wounds May Not Be So Serious as Carranzista Reports Stated Last Week, Say Dispatches—Final "Round-Up" Now Commenced.

(SUMMARY)

There is much speculation along the border regarding Villa, his hurts and whereabouts. The correspondents are chasing rumors; some of which indicate that Villa was desperately wounded and hauled off from the attack made on his forces by Colonel Dodd's flying squadron and others, that he was wounded prior to that engagement, and was not with his troops then. In the meantime Colonel Dodd and the other troops under General Pershing are "sawing wood and saying nothing." The country may rest assured that they are beating bushes behind which the quarry has taken refuge, and that they are not making fifty-five mile forced marches over deserts and dangerous mountain passes without knowing what they are doing.

More Troops

General Funston advised the War Department Wednesday he was sending more troops into Mexico to protect the line of communication. So far General Funston has not suggested reinforcement of Pershing's forces except to protect the communication lines and there was no confirmation today of border reports that extensive additions would be required.

Needs Railways

It is intimated in Washington that if it is proven that Villa is on his way campaign against him cannot be carried much further unless the railroads between Chihuahua and the border are made available for the troops to strengthen the lines.

Would Surrender

Advises from Torrena, Mexico, states that General Canuto Reyes, commanding the Villa forces in this locality, has sent a letter to General Trevino, Carranza commander, offering to surrender if given amnesty.

Even Money

Field Headquarters, Near Dublin, April 3.—Army circles are betting even money that Villa will be taken in ten days—dead or alive. The pursuit is believed to be nearing the climax. Large reinforcements, including infantry, have been sent for the final round-up.

BETTY NANSEN

The Great Actress and Charming Woman Coming to Orpheum

Betty Nansen, who will be seen at the Orpheum Theatre Monday night, April 10th, in the William Fox production of "The Song of Hate," a powerful modern photoplay based on Sardou's famed "La Tosca," is a famous beauty, bewitching the audience with her large, strangely moving, pearly gray eyes.

"Do you actually feel all the emotions you portray when you act?" was the pertinent question.

"Yes, I must confess that in defiance of all the learned doctors of the drama, I do really feel poignantly every movement. I let myself go and be carried away with the waves of whatever emotion I may be portraying. My tears are real, my laughter is genuine. That is why I am frequently in a state of collapse at the end of a hard day's work in the studio. With me it is all real. If the heroine suffers, I suffer, if she is glad, I am glad. I cannot help it. It is my method of acting."

This explanation accounts for the extraordinary hold Miss Nansen secures upon her spectators.

TOBACCO MEN WILL MEET

Board of Governors of United States Association Selects Asheville
Asheville was selected last week by the board of governors of the Tobacco Association of the United States, which met at the Jefferson Hotel, Richmond, as the city in which the association will hold its annual convention this year. The tobacco men will meet some time during the latter part of June or the first part of July.

The association has a total membership of about 400, composed of leading tobacconists in all sections of the country.
Mr. W. Z. Mitchell, of Oxford, is a member of the Board of Governors and was present at the meeting.

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

LIST TAKERS APPOINTED AND OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED.

The honorable Board of County Commissioners met on Monday, April 3d with the following members present: B. I. Breedlove, chairman; R. S. Hart, J. L. Peed, H. C. Floyd.

Ordered that the following road is declared a public road: Leading from the old Roxboro road about one mile west of Grassy Creek church and connecting with the Virgilina road at Johnson Creek church (col.) and being in Oak Hill and Sassafras Fork Townships. The chairman with Mr. J. A. Yancey and E. G. Buchanan were appointed a committee to locate the road, it being stipulated that there will be no cost to the county on account of the road.

J. T. Algood was exempt from road duty for year 1916.

There was presented to the Board a request for help on the Halloway and Virgilina road. The Board granted Mr. G. W. Pollard, the overseer, the privilege of spending not to exceed \$40.00 on said road to be paid by the county.

Mr. R. W. Harris was before the Board February 7th, asking for a road leading from Jim Jones place to the National Highway near Mr. Dud Wheeler's place. Action was delayed pending the filing of objections. None having been filed and there appearing no objection, the road was granted, providing there be no cost to the county.

There was a petition before the Board asking for a road from Roberson Creek to Creedmoor, the right of way free. The road was not granted.

Mr. W. H. Harris was instructed to have a bridge built across Gibb's creek.

The allowance to Dima Glenn was increased to \$2.50 per month.

Due to error it was ordered that S. A. Fleming's land be listed for year 1916 at \$6150 and also granted rebate of \$9.31.

The following list takers were appointed for year 1916:

- Fishing Creek.....G. P. Overton
- Brassfield.....G. L. Allen
- Dutchville.....V. O. Peed
- Tally Ho.....L. L. Crews
- Walnut Grove.....Wm. Thorp
- Oak Hill.....Bal Norwood
- Sassafras Fork.....F. H. Gregory
- Salem.....L. G. Breedlove
- Oxford.....W. H. Walters
- W. G. Beck, Dutchville, was exempt from road duty for 1916.
- Albert Allen, colored, Brassfield, was granted rebate on one dog.
- Solomon Watson, Walnut Grove, was granted rebate on three dogs.
- I. B. Newton was exempt from road duty for year 1916.
- R. F. Daniel, Tally Ho, was granted rebate on poll tax.

There was a special school tax election ordered held in Oak Hill township, boundaries set forth in petition on file, district known as No. 3, Oak Hill.

A NEW DEPARTURE

Weekly Advertising Space Reserved by the Rector of St. Stephen's

The good people of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church have contracted with the Public Ledger for advertising space. A nice, interesting five inch card, the first of a series, appears in this issue. We are quite sure that the space set apart for this noble cause will be a source of inspiration to those who follow its teachings.

THE "CRUCIFIXION"

Prof. Poteat Will Assist the Thursday Choral Club.

On Good Friday night, April 21st, at the Methodist church, the Thursday Choral Club will sing Sir John Stainer's Oratorio, "The Crucifixion." It sets forth in wonderful music the entire Crucifixion scene, from the judgment hall of Pilate to the last breath of Christ on His Cross. The Church ought to be taxed to its capacity, for not only music lovers, but all Christians ought to be present that night. Prof. Poteat, whose rich baritone voice is especially adapted to this music, will sing the principal solo work.

The Club will take a silver offering, and asks its friends to come prepared to be as liberal as possible, as they desire to close the season free of debt and ready to start on their next program. Announcement of this offering is made because last year a number of those present stated afterward that they didn't know about the proposed offering and came unprepared.

The Public Ledger hopes that as many as can will witness the presentation of the sacred story.

Easter Sale.

The big Easter sale started at Cohn & Son's this Friday morning and will continue until Easter. See their announcement on the fifth page of this paper.

MR. GARMAN WRITES

FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH ACTIVITIES OF A BELGIAN COLONY.

Mr. Garman Thinks a Four Million Dollar Steel Plant Would Be Too Large for Oxford Just at This Particular Time.

Mr. C. S. Garman, who is on an extended trip to the West, favors the Public Ledger with the following letter, dated at Chattanooga, Tenn., April 1st:

"I am enclosing a clipping from a Chattanooga paper that is of general interest. The town referred to is about the size of Oxford. How well we could use some of the farmers referred to. I also learn today that Chattanooga has succeeded in landing a four million dollar steel plant. Of course, this would be too large for our town.

"I have noticed on my western trip that all of the small towns are moving forward with rapid strides—more so in proportion than the larger towns. Can we say the same about our town? At least, I hope so one year hence."

The Clipping

The following is the clipping referred to by Mr. Garman, dated Tallahoma, April 1st:

"The Belgian colony, three miles from town, is now very busy with their farming work. This colony numbers about twenty-five people, one of whom was an agricultural professor in Belgium. Another was a big truck grower in Antwerp, so that scientific knowledge is applied to their work. This is the second year of this colony, settled by the railroad company on new land near Tullahoma that needed development, and last season was mostly spent in clearing and building homes. They are well equipped with farm machinery and fine mules, and will produce some surprising results in intensive farming, so used are they in the old country to making a living on a few acres. Their success will also be a good demonstration to the county as to what can be accomplished by simple but scientific principles, which can be applied by all farmers when understood."

MR. L. A. ROYSTER IMPROVES

Reached Home From Gastonia Tuesday Evening.

The many friends of Mr. L. A. Royster in Granville will learn with genuine pleasure that his condition is not as serious as first reports from Gastonia indicated. He reached home Tuesday night and is resting nicely. The Gastonia Gazette contains the following in reference to Mr. Royster:

"Mr. L. A. Royster, a resident of Oxford who visits Gastonia frequently, was seized by a sudden attack of illness Saturday afternoon while waiting for the 5 o'clock interurban on which he purposed going to Charlotte, having purchased his ticket. The streets were crowded at the time and his falling in an unconscious condition caused more or less excitement. He was removed to the city hall on a cot and later, when his identity was learned, was taken to the City Hospital where he was given treatment. Mr. W. M. Nolen, Mr. Clyde Armstrong and a few others knew him and they got in communication with his family. His son and wife came in response to messages and took him home. Mr. Royster travels for a house selling dust down and comes here quite frequently. He is about 70 years old. It was not thought that his condition was critical when he left for his home."

THE BIG ANNUAL EVENT

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Next Week.

Samuel Davis, the big Clarkesville hardware man, has named Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week as big Farmer's Day sales, which comes but once a year.

The farmers will find on sale next week at this big sale everything that is needed on a farm. Davis never exhibits for sale any second hand or out of date machinery, but on the other hand he handles only the reputable lines backed with an absolute guarantee.

Mr. Davis is prepared to show you sixty styles of buggies, surries, carts and harness and old prices on everything will prevail at this sale, in the face of a rising market abroad. We call special attention to the Samuel Davis announcement on the fourth page of this paper.

Annual Meeting

Annual meeting of Morris T. Smith Camp will be held in the Court House, Tuesday, April 11th at one o'clock to make arrangements to attend the Birmingham Re-Union the 16th May and to consider other very important business. It is hoped that all the members of the camp and all Veterans will attend promptly.

A. W. GRAHAM, Commander.
W. H. WHITE, Adjutant.