

# PUBLIC LEDGER



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## THE OXFORD BODY COMPANY

### REORGANIZED WITH NEW MONEY AND NEW BLOOD

#### High Class Manager In Charge—Plant To Be Enlarged At An Early Date and the Company Will Manufacture Automobile Bodies.

The Oxford Body Company is the name of a new company organized for the purpose of taking over and operating the Excelsior Seat Company's plant, which is located in the suburbs of Oxford, and was operated by the Excelsior Seat Company of Columbus, Ohio, as their Southern branch until the European war interfered with that line of business. Its resumption after a close down of two years means much for Oxford.

The members of the new company are: C. W. Bryan and C. S. Garman, of Oxford; the Excelsior Seat Chas. O. Mainor, of Cincinnati, Ohio each owning one-fourth of the stock and is operating with an authorized capital of \$50,000. The Oxford members of the firm are two of our best business men, and the Excelsior Seat Company is one of the most successful concerns in the country.

Mr. Charles O. Mainor, secretary and general manager of the new company, is a native of North Carolina, who learned the trade of body making with the well-known Tyson and Jones Buggy Company, at Carthage, Moore county, with whom he was connected for nineteen years, seven of which he served as draftsman and designer. When the automobile business made it unprofitable to manufacture heavy carriages, Mr. Mainor went West and got into the automobile body game and successfully managed the Carriage Woodstock Company, of Owensboro, Kentucky, but more recently was the factory manager of the Highland Body Company of Cincinnati, the oldest and largest truck and commercial body manufacturers in the world.

The new company will build a complete line of body bodies and seats for the trade, and later will turn their attention to the manufacture of automobile bodies. Mr. C. S. Garman, the well known wheel man and splendid citizen of Oxford, will sell the output, and Mr. Mainor will have immediate charge of the factory.

C. W. Bryan, president; W. B. C. Hersey, vice-president; Charles O. Mainor, secretary and general manager, and C. S. Garman, treasurer and sales manager.

Mr. Mainor is a splendid gentleman and has already made many friends in Oxford. He is the guest of the Exchange Hotel and Mrs. Mainor will join him there in a few days.

## FINE YOUNG MAN

### Mr. Heber S. Sutton Accepts Position With Public Ledger.

It affords us much pleasure to announce that Mr. Heber S. Sutton, of Winston-Salem, has accepted a position with the Public Ledger. He is not only one of the best Linotype operators in the State, capable of handling all kinds of copy, but he is a fine young man of pleasant address.

Mr. Sutton comes originally from an old and honored family of near Goldsboro. On the death of his father some years ago he entered the Oxford Orphanage and received that careful training that counts for so much in the lives of our great and good men. Being naturally bright, he absorbed all there was to be learned in the printing department of the Orphanage and on leaving the institution accepted a linotype position on the Winston-Salem Morning Journal. When we went in search of him two weeks ago we found him at the Young Men's Christian Association in Winston-Salem and his head was bowed in sorrow. His mother, whom he loved so dearly, had been operated upon at the Twin-City hospital. "I pray that mother will recover so that we may go to Oxford to live," said he, but God closed her eyes in death last week and her remains were taken to Goldsboro and laid to rest.

Mr. Sutton is making his home at the Exchange Hotel at present.

## BAND OF GYPSIES

### Camped In The Woods Near Salem Church.

Last week a band of Gypsies pitched their tent in the woods near the home of Mr. Roy Crews in Salem township. The first intimation that they were in the neighborhood was the appearance of a woman knocking on the back door of a residence and begging for something to eat. They claim to be Gypsies, but they look more like Indians.

## GERMANY'S TWO FOLD OBJECT.

### First Purpose is to Divert Minds of Own People from Hunger Pangs.

#### (BY BASIL MANLY)

In addition to the avowed purpose of harassing England by threatened starvation, the announcement of Germany submarine warfare without warning and to the knife, has two far more immediate and practical objects.

The first purpose of this sensational change of policy on the part of Germany is to divert the thoughts of the German people from their own hunger pangs to rejoice over the anticipated plight of the British.

For the past three months evidence of the severe straits of the German food supply and the consequence unrest of the civil population have been accumulating at a rapid rate.

Food riots have been reported in all parts of Germany and Austria-Hungary, and instead of denying their occurrence, as had been the former policy, Food-Controller Batacki has merely insisted that they were of little consequence and less menacing than reported.

Confirmation of the existence of a state of unrest over the food shortage and the alleged inequality of distribution was contained in the appeal von Hindenburg for more food for his munition workers, whose efficiency, he asserted, was being rapidly impaired because the farmers were holding back the food.

To add fuel to the flames of unrest came Batacki's admission during the past week that individual allotments of food would have to be still decreased and that the German people must prepare to endure even greater hardships than they have already suffered. Since then reports of food riots have increased.

The only way to meet this situation, after suppression by military, had resulted only in increasing the unrest, was for the German Government to launch some move so sensational and aggressive the thoughts of the German people would be transferred from themselves to thoughts of victory and revenge.

The second great reason for this dramatic change of policy is the pressing need of Germany for a new loan.

It is a matter of record that Germany has never attempted to launch a war loan except upon the carefully prepared basis of a great military sensation.

The drive through Belgium launched the first loan; the great drive against Russia was the basis for the second.

We may therefore expect to see a new German loan announced as soon as von Bethmann-Hollweg has assured the country that the new regime will bring England to the point of starvation and ready to sue for peace.

## LIVING SONGS IN LIVING PICTURES

### Presented By The Women's Club at The Orpheum Thursday Night.

The concert Thursday night, at the Orpheum Theater in observance of National Week of Song promises to be the most enjoyable event of the season.

The music will hold special charm to those who love the "Old Favorites," and the tableaux will be presented in beautiful representative of the characters in the songs.

There will be solos, quartets, sextettes, choruses, and in addition to the song festival, the program will also include motion picture films. The proceeds will be used for the Oxford Library.

Prices: Adults, 25 cents, children 15 cents.

#### The Program

Quartet—Juanita: Mrs. J. M. Wood, Mrs. Howerton, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Wood.  
Mother Machree—Miss Helen Royster.  
The Rosary—Miss Berte Hutchings.  
Quartet—Ben Bolt.  
Tit for Tat—Mrs. John Booth.  
Annie Laurie—Mrs. Wood.  
From the Land of the Sky-Blue Water—Miss Hutchings.  
Swanee River—Boys of the High School.  
Com'g Thro' the Rye—Mrs. B. E. Parham.  
America, I Love You—Miss Helen Royster.  
Gypsy Love Song—Mr. L. K. Phillips.  
Kathleen Mavourneen—Miss Hutchings.  
Quartet—Sweet and Low.  
Drink to me Only With Thine Eyes—Miss Helen Royster.  
Chorus—The Star Spangled Banner.  
Chorus—My Country 'Tis of Thee.

Mr. D. S. Fuller left for Baltimore Monday.

Mrs. T. S. Burwell has gone to Richmond.

Miss Clara Rogers has gone to Baltimore.

## THE OLD DEVIL COMES TO TOWN

### THE MINISTERS OF OXFORD TAKE A SHOT AT HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS

#### The Dance In The Armory Last Wednesday Night, Following the Week of Prayer, Cause the Deeply Consecrated People Much Concern.

The dance given by the society people of Oxford in the Armory last Wednesday night has caused considerable comment in the community, following as it did so closely upon the revival services. The first intimation that the Public Ledger received that there was to be a dance was to the effect that a Washington City orchestra had been secured to furnish the music and that it would eclipse anything of the kind ever attempted in Oxford. We were invited to be present and give them a good write-up. We promise to do so, but later found that we could not be present, nor could we get any one to cover the assignment for us. Our friends were there in large numbers, and we, too, had overlooked the fact that one of the most successful revivals of religion ever experienced in the community had come to a close only a few days previous. Ministers of the Gospel and other deeply consecrated people of the community could see in the dance a distraction, following as it did so closely upon the close of the revival services.

Rev. S. K. Phillips, pastor of the Presbyterian church, spoke with much feeling from the pulpit Sunday morning previous to the dance, regretting that it was scheduled to follow so closely upon the revival, in which all of the churches of Oxford manifested much interest in the uplift of the community, and which was accompanied by a spiritual tidal wave of such magnificent proportions seldom experienced in our sturdy old town.

"Following so closely upon the religious awakening in the community," said the man of God, "It can but be the work of the Devil!" But not only did Mr. Phillips preach against the approaching dance, but he personally plead with certain ones to use their influence not to have the dance at all.

Dr. Willis, pastor of the Oxford Methodist Church, preached a sermon last Sunday morning of much feeling and beauty. The theme of his discourse was the "Betrayal of the Son of Man at the Sad Hour in Gethsemane." After pointing out the duty of a Christian, he referred feelingly to those who run after the worldly things. He, too, had heard about the dance last week and was pained by the dark shadow that followed.

(Continued On Page Eight)

## GRANVILLE COUNTY COURT

### HON. JOHN H. KERR, OF WARRENTON, JUDGE PRESIDING

#### There Is a Rather Large Docket of Criminal Cases to Be Tried at This Term of Court—Two Men Will Be Tried For Their Lives.

The February term of Granville County Superior Court convened Monday morning with Judge J. H. Kerr, of Warrenton, presiding. This is Judge Kerr's first visit to the bench in Granville, and he has already made a favorable impression. The Judge's charge to the grand jury was short and was an able exposition of the criminal law. He transacts business with dispatch and no time is lost. Judge Kerr is a native of Caswell county and is a brother of Editor Kerr of the Caswell County Democrat.

The criminal docket is rather large the most important case being that of Lee Edwards, colored, charged with the murder of his wife, as reported in the Public Ledger last week. The case of John Henry Green, colored, charged with entering the home of Mayor Bullock at Stem last week, is also a serious crime. The negro who killed a man at the fair grounds last October will also be tried for his life. These cases will probably attract a great deal of attention. Solicitor Gattis is on hand and ready for any emergency.

Judge Kerr runs a smooth court with the able assistance of the court officials. Mr. John W. Hester is assisting the Clerk with the record.

The following is the grand jury: J. T. Dean, W. S. Burwell, Jr., W. H. Dean, W. R. Currin, A. L. Oakley, D. W. Hart, E. E. Currin, S. T. Daniel, W. P. Parker, R. S. Strother, Allie Cash, H. T. Norwood, B. F. Currin, J. T. Harris, C. G. Daniel, E. E. Coley, H. P. Moon, J. E. Hester.

Capt. A. A. Chopman was in Raleigh this week attending a meeting of the Indian Lake Lumber Company.

## MEN'S BIBLE CLASSES

### Will Assemble at the Orpheum Theater.

It has been practically agreed that the Men's Bible Classes of the four Oxford churches will unite at the Orpheum Theatre on the first Sunday of each month and engage in the study of the International Sunday Lesson.

This arrangement will permit the four Sunday schools to come under the influence of our best teachers, and thereby enlarge their sphere of usefulness. And it is thought that the large number of young men who do not attend any Sunday school at all will be attracted to the theatre.

The managers of the Orpheum Theatre have tendered the use of the house free, and the experiment will be tried out for four months.

## TWO SHIPS ON TEST TRIPS

### Well Marked, Carry Many Americans in Their Crew; Loaded with Contraband

With the stars and stripes flying and in defiance of Germany's submarine warning the American steamship Rochester, sailed Saturday from New York for Bordeaux.

The Rochester was followed by the American steamer Orleans, of the Oriental Navigation company, also bound for Bordeaux.

These are the second sailings of American steamers for allied ports since Germany warned of her extended submarine warfare. The first vessel to brave destruction in the U-boat zone was the Docha. She sailed on February 2 for Genoa.

Upon the voyages of the Orleans and Rochester, manned by crews, 22 of whom are American citizens, may depend the issue of peace or war with Germany.

Both carry contraband according to the German point of view. They are not armed for defense against submarines. Neither are they marked to comply with the conditions set down by Germany in her note warning the American vessels.

The Rochester of the Kerr Steamship company has an American flag painted on her bow and another on her stern. On the side in three foot letters is her name and "U. S. A." The Orleans is marked in a similar manner.

## SHIP OWNERS HELPLESS

### American Line Declares It Is Unable to Secure Either Guns or Gunnery

"We are helpless. It's up to the government."

Such in substance read the verdict sounding the death knell of American passenger traffic to England and France while unrestricted U-boat warfare keeps on. It was rendered Saturday afternoon in New York by P. A. S. Franklin, president of the American line, who in a formal statement given out to the press said:

"So far as the American line is concerned we have done our best in every direction to secure guns and gun crews. It does not seem possible to us that a private corporation will be able to properly equip their ships with proper armament. It looks as though the vessels of the American line will remain in port unless the United States government decides to provide convoys or put on the steamers guns and trained gunners for the protection of passengers and crews.

"Unless our vessels are convoyed by American warships in exchange for proper naval guns and crews to man these guns, American line steamers will not sail.

"We would sail the St. Louis with one gun, if we had that one gun. But our government seems disinclined or unable to furnish that protection. The American line has not even one gun. We should have at least two guns unless our ships are convoyed and the guns should be properly manned. The steamers of the American line will not sail without sufficient protection. There are too many lives and too much property at stake."

## SCHOOL LAWS REMAIN SAME

### The Famous Proprietary Medicine Bill Was Killed Also.

(Raleigh News and Observer.)

Representative Page, whose bill, providing machinery for enabling counties to elect county boards of education on majority petition was killed by the house, called up the Oates bill for primary nominations in the counties and commissioning of the nominees by the governor as members of these boards, and moved to table. Mr. Grier asked that the bill go over to Tuesday as a special order because of the absence of Speaker Murphy, but this was voted down and the Page motion to table carried and the clincher applied. So there will be no change in present status this session. Likewise Page moved that the "open formula" proprietary medicine bill be tabled and it took that course.

## HOW OXFORD LOOKS TO OTHERS

### VISITOR BELIEVES THAT OUR TOWN WILL SOON BE MOST THRIVING SMALL CITY IN THE STATE.

#### And He Believes It Will Only be a Matter of a Few Short Years Before Local Business Men will Find Their Ambition Filled

That people are inclined to believe that Oxford is destined to be one of the leading small cities of this section of the State, was graphically depicted to the Public Ledger a few days ago while conversing with a traveling man, who was in the city spending a few days, and who, as an extensive traveler, had gained much knowledge of the things so essential to the rapid growth and advancement necessary to make the small town today expand into flourishing small cities of the South.

The gentleman in his conversation with the Public Ledger, appeared to be greatly pleased with the fine growth which Oxford had attained during the past few years, and readily admitted that there was something behind the great constructive period that would eventually place the city to the front of the rank, and easily class it with the thriving and flourishing cities of eastern Carolina. He contributed the town's past growth to the fact of the progressive spirit of the business men, and declared that, with this spirit continuing, it would not be very long before the goal of the people's ambitions are fulfilled.

The gentleman said, that in all of his travels, and general observations of the thrifty towns, he had never before seen one that would compare with Oxford, considering the short time in which it attained such substantial growth and confessed, that though he had known other progressive towns to make fine advancement in a comparatively short time, he had never before seen such ardor and earnestness displayed as has been exhibited here by the local business men in the rapid advancement of the town during the past few years.

"Oxford's future is a surety," the gentleman declared, following a very interesting discourse with the Public Ledger, "I do not feel that I am in the least exaggerating when I say that the next five or six years will see it one of the most promising small cities in this section of the State. This will be principally due from the strenuous efforts of the progressive business men, and it will not take such a long time for them to accomplish their ambitions, after the town has attained a few more manufacturing plants and the ball set rolling in the direction of the brilliant goal."

"Of course," the gentleman continued, apparently deriving much pleasure from his subject; "I am aware of the fact that it is going to take something more than mere progressiveness to effect the natural transitions of which I have spoken of; but I earnestly believe that the men of Oxford are built of the stuff to make the progress continue and am sure that, should they do so, Oxford will easily be one of the best towns in the eastern section of the State, and gradually develop into a great commercial center."

The visitor talked very interestingly on the past history of Oxford, and greatly marveled at the great changes that transpired during the past year, when the town underwent one of the greatest periods of development in its entire history; and was free in his assertions concerning the glowing future, of which he was confident is awaiting.

### FIRST NATIONAL BANK ANNEX

#### Union Bank Absorbed by the First National

A deal was consummated in Oxford last Saturday whereby the First National Bank takes over the business of the Union Bank of Oxford. In the deal the Union Bank loses its identity. The details of the business, as regards the personnel, etc., has not as yet been announced.

Prof. Noble At Culbreth.  
Next Friday is the last day of school at Culbreth.

The pupils of this school are to give an entertainment consisting of songs, recitations, etc.

Prof. M. C. S. Noble, of Chapel Hill, will deliver an address on "Community Building." The public is invited.

Mrs. T. H. Street, of Roxboro, the mother of Mr. K. L. Street, who recently attended a conference in Wilmington, was taken sick enroute home and is dangerously ill at Rock Mount. Mrs. K. L. Street's mother, Mrs. W. L. Lewis, is also quite sick and she is at her bedside in Roxboro.

Mr. Herbert Crews, of Watkins, looked in upon Judge Kerr's court Monday.