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OXFORD TOBACCO MARKET WILL CLOSE DOWN FOR XMAS

The Oxford Tobacco Board of Trade has named Thursday, December 20th, as the day on which the market will close down for the Christmas holidays, and will open on Monday, January 7th.

NORTH CAROLINA DAY.

Will Be Observed in Oxford Friday Next.

This is a day set apart by the schools of the State when the various phases of the State's activities are to be discussed in the broadest possible manner. During the past these programs have been very interesting and helpful. The one this year is much more so and has been very highly praised by leaders of National thought. It falls in line with the world problem of conservation and thrift so vital to this period. The necessity for thrift in this generation is great; but the most vital need is that all the boys and girls of our State and Nation develop habits of economy now and thus make the future safe. America is wasting much today in provisions and in man power that should be used otherwise.

The program will begin at nine fifteen at the College street school next Friday morning. The High School Department will be present to join in the exercises.

The public is urged to be present and take a part in the songs and discussions. Some interesting things will come up that you may want to know about. Make it a Big Day for the Schools.

A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY

Stovall Not Short on Meat and Lard This Year.

(Correspondence Public Ledger) There is in the town of Stovall 110 hogs that will average 200 pounds each, making a total of 22,000 pounds of meat. The town has a population of 312. This will give every man, woman and child in the town, if equally distributed, 70 1/2 pounds of meat, or a fraction over one and one-half pounds of meat a week.

How is this for a record of an incorporated town. All of us admit that a hog is not a pleasant neighbor, but in times of war we have to put up with hogs at home to enable us to send more pork to our boys in France.

We can boast of a great record which will compare with, if not surpass, hogless, flyless towns. In the year of 1917 not a single case of fever of any description and not a chill in the town, and of our small population there are six inhabitants over eighty years of age. There was only one death in Stovall last month, and that was caused by old age.

If any one is in search of health and plenty, don't fail to give Stovall due consideration.

"MONKEY RUM" WHISKEY.

The Moonshiners Are Hard Hit by Scarcity of Sugar.

And old farmer friend, living in the Herricane district of Granville, points out to the Public Ledger that there is one thing good coming out of the difficulty in securing sugar in large quantities.

The new drink known as "monkey rum," requires a quantity of sugar in its manufacture, and as this ingredient is scarce and hard to get the "sugar head" moonshiners must go out of business.

This may simplify the work of the revenue men, who are having more than they can do already with looking after collections, enforcement of war taxes, the rounding up of slackers and other such duties forced by the war.

MISS MALORY WILL SPEAK.

Secretary of Southern Woman's Missionary Union.

On next Sunday, December 16, at 3 p. m., Miss Malory, Secretary of Southern W. M. U., will speak in the Baptist church. She is coming on a visit to Oxford College and has consented to speak in the church. All the women and girls not only of Oxford, but from the country are cordially invited to come and hear her. Miss Malory has a charming personality and is a most attractive speaker. I count it a great privilege to have her in our midst and I wish every woman and girl in the Flat River Association could hear her.

MRS. JOHN WEBB, Supt. Flat River Association.

The Children Are Happy.

The busiest place in Granville county at this season is Hall's Drug Store. Both old and young have besieged the place. The toys catch the attention of the little folks while the older ones are selecting their gifts. The display is attractive. See announcement on the fourth and fifth pages of this paper.

THE MINOR WAREHOUSE GOES UP IN SMOKE.

The Fire Originated in the Farmer's Sleeping Rooms.

Fire was discovered in the sleeping rooms of the Minor Warehouse shortly after eight o'clock this Tuesday morning and in less than one hour there was nothing left of the big building but a portion of the brick wall.

The building was owned by Mr. James Webb, and it is understood that it was only partially insured.

Mr. I. W. Mangum, who has conducted the warehouse for three seasons, saved his books and records.

The Minor was to have the third sale this Tuesday and there were several loads of tobacco on the floor when the fire was discovered. All of this tobacco was saved, but there was a pile of scrap belonging to Mr. Mangum that went up in flames.

Mr. Mangum stated that if there had been a bucket of water handy at the time the fire was discovered the building could have been saved. The pipes were frozen tight and the fire was beyond control when the fire-fighters arrived.

It is estimated that it would cost at least \$15,000 to restore the building at this time. It is understood that Mr. Webb, the owner, will rebuild during the summer.

"DARLING OF THE SCREEN."

Mary Pickford in "A Romance of the Redwoods."

Thursday matinee and night Mary Pickford, the darling of the movies, will be seen at the Orpheum. In the days of '49 when the call of California's gold drew hordes of hardy prospectors to the great redwoods country, many stirring chapters were written in the book of life.

A story of typical Pickford charm, this subject at the same time discloses "Little Mary" in a role that is different from anything in which she has ever appeared. In fact it displays a dramatic finesse on the part of this winsome actress such as she has never before evinced.

Coupled with the art of Mary Pickford in the presentation of this stirring tale is the wonderful technique of Cecil B. De Mille, the well-known master of screencraft whose "Joan the Woman" has created a country-wide sensation.

The program at the Orpheum this week is especially interesting. "Madcap Madge," Wednesday, is of especial interest to college girls and students. See the program elsewhere in this paper.

Can't Get Uniforms Now.

A member of the Home Guard tells the Public Ledger that guns and uniforms would not be furnished to them for some time. These sturdy guardians have all manner of weapons. These range from safety razors to Springfield rifles, and if the company were to advance thus armed it would appear so amusing that the enemy could be captured before they recovered from a paroxysm of laughter.

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' CHRISTMAS FUND.

To those who intend to give to the soldier's and sailors' Christmas funds, I will ask them to give this week because the time is so close at hand that in order to get the presents to them by Xmas the packages will have to be sent away next week. Remember how pleasant it is for us here at home, and how lonely it is for the boys away from home and loved ones, and how they are bearing our burdens and fighting, or getting ready to fight our fight. Can we do too much for them?

Send in your contribution, no matter how small, it will help to cheer somebody's boy.

W. LANDIS.

GRANVILLE IS FIRST.

Oxford Post Office Makes First Deposit on Thrift Stamps.

The Oxford post office early last week made a report to headquarters at Raleigh of all funds collected on thrift stamps up to the prescribed hour. The returned receipt, which was marked "No. 1," reveals the fact that Oxford was the first in the State to report.

A very important meeting of the Women's Club will be held Wednesday, December 12, at 3 p. m. in the Oxford Library. Every member of the club is urged to be present.

—Have you done your Christmas shopping early?

WAR FORMALLY DECLARED AGAINST AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Only One Vote Was Raised Against Declaration in Either Branches of Congress.

Resolved by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled, that a state of war is hereby declared to exist between the United States of America and the imperial and royal Austro-Hungarian government; and that the president be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to employ the entire naval and military forces of the United States and the resources of the government to carry on war against the imperial and royal Austro-Hungarian government, and to bring the conflict to a successful termination; all the resources of the country are hereby pledged by the congress of the United States.

America at last is formally and actually at war with Austria-Hungary. President Wilson tonight signed the declaration that, with formalities waived and opposition virtually erased, had been adopted by the Senate and House of representatives in less than four hours. The declaration dates from 5:03 p. m. when the president affixed his signature, and from that hour all the resources of the country stand pledged to push the war to a successful conclusion.

Only one voice was raised against the declaration in either branch of congress, it being that of Meyer London, New York socialist. He voted no, against the yes cast by 365 other members of the house, in the senate no voice was raised against the 74 affirmative votes. Senator LaFollette did not vote, being out of the chamber.

U. S. DESTROYER IS SUNK BY GERMAN SUBMARINE.

Warship Was One of Newest and Largest of Its Kind in Navy; Was Built Last Year; Loss of Life Believed Heavy.

(Washington Special) The American destroyer Jacob Jones was torpedoed and sunk in the war zone Thursday with the loss of a large part of her crew.

The sinking occurred December 6 at 8 p. m., while the ship was on patrol duty. She was commanded by Lieutenant-Commander David Worth Bagley, of Raleigh, N. C., brother of Mrs. Josephus Daniels, wife of the Secretary of the Navy.

The navy department has received an official supplementary report from Admiral Sims stating Lieutenant David Worth Bagley, who was reported among the missing of the United States Destroyer Jacob Jones, which was sunk by a German submarine, is safe.

Commander Bagley's brother was the first American officer killed in the Spanish-American war.

The disaster brings to the American people the first naval loss of great consequence since the country entered the war.

DR. R. H. WILLIS RETURNS TO THE OXFORD CHURCH.

Rev. G. C. Thompson Remains on the Oxford Circuit.

The good people of Oxford and Granville county will be pleased to learn that the North Carolina Conference, in session at Greenville, returned Rev. R. H. Willis to the Oxford Church. Several big churches wanted him, but Oxford could not spare him. Rev. G. C. Thompson, who is also doing a great work in Granville, will remain on the Oxford circuit.

For Men and Boys.

That is an elegant line of useful presents for men and boys enumerated in the announcement of The Long Company on the fifth page of this paper. The Long Company quality is well known to the people of this section.

Will Be Incorporated.

Owing to the fact that the Victor Kaplon company will be incorporated and that the building is to be repaired, they have inaugurated a special sale with a view of reducing the stock as quick as possible. See the adv. on the third page of this paper.

Gold and Silver.

Gold, silver, cut glass, diamonds and novelties make a lasting present. See statement of Oxford Jewelry Co. on the fourth page of this paper.

Big Day at Bullock.

There will be a concert given by Prof. Edgar Hickman at Bullock school, December 14th, admission 10 and 25 cents. Also a box party given for benefit of school. Public invited.

OUR STOVALL NEWS LETTER.

(Correspondence Public Ledger) Saving Ammunition.

Mr. Lex Stovall killed two rabbits at one shot last week. They were on the jump when he fired and they both fell within a few feet of each other.

Red Cross Work.

The Stovall branch of the American Red Cross, which recently organized with nearly 100 members, is a busy scene. We hope to secure more workers for this noble cause.

The Boy Scouts.

There was a splendid entertainment at the Stovall school recently, including flag drill and showing the different nations in war. The Boy Scouts took a part in the program, and one of the Scouts raised \$1,200 for Uncle Sam in Liberty Bonds.

War Emblem Badge

Gorden Spicer will be awarded a war emblem badge by President Wilson, offered to the Scout that secured ten Liberty Bonds from different persons.

Fine Corn.

Mr. J. P. Williams measured up 105 barrels of corn grown by him this year. Some of the ears weighed 2 1/2 pounds. Can you beat it?

Accidentally Shot.

Mrs. Daniel Norwood's daughter was accidentally shot in the shoulder recently by unknown parties who were hunting near their home. She was standing in the yard when the shot struck her which reminds us to say that the State Laws prohibit promiscuous shooting near the highways.

Helping a Good Cause.

The Scout Master here led the campaign for collecting funds for the Army Young Men's Christian Association. In five or six hours he collected \$51.25. We expect to get \$100 in Stovall for this noble cause. Some of our folks when they see you coming with a smile on your face take out their pocketbooks and inquire "what is this for," and being persuaded that every little bit helps to win the war, they give freely to all causes.

Dr. Ferebee Missed.

The good people of Stovall miss Dr. Ferebee. He often drove out this way and it was always a pleasure to greet him.

FOUR THOUSAND ESTIMATED DEAD IN HALIFAX, N. S.

Munition Ships Run Down Freighter Carrying Foodstuff to Belgium.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 11.—It is estimated tonight by the superintendent of morgues whose duty it is to assemble and expose for identification, if possible, the bodies of those who perished by shock or fire when the ammunition ship Mont Blanc blew up, in the harbor Thursday, to be 4,000.

Halifax, rent asunder by the blast that followed the collision between a Belgium food ship and a floating arsenal, resembled a huge battlefield in winter after the carnage is over and the Samaritans have set to work. They have been busy more now than three days, but so terrible is the havoc wrought by the 4,000 tons of explosives that rained down on the harbor and city, so frightful is the misery, and suffering caused to thousands that it seems real relief is just beginning.

The force of the explosion may be judged by the fact that telegraph operators were killed at their work four miles away.

OUR PATRIOTIC INSTITUTIONS.

The Banks Urge the People to Observe North Carolina Day.

The National Bank of Granville, and the First National Bank are devoting their advertising space in the Public Ledger this week to "North Carolina Day," which will be observed in every school house in Granville county next Friday, December 14th. Good speakers have been procured for the occasion. Be present and we are sure the hour will be profitable to you.

MISSIONARY LEONARD COMING.

Will Occupy Pulpit at Oxford Baptist Church Next Sunday.

Rev. Leonard, who recently arrived in the United States from China, will fill the pulpit at the Oxford Baptist church next Sunday morning and night.

Mr. Leonard was sent to the missionary field in China by the Oxford Baptist church several years ago. The Oxford church pays his salary, and no doubt the congregation will be interested in the fund of information that he will bring to them from the foreign field.

December Drug Dots.

Mr. R. L. Hamilton, the druggist, can say a whole lot in a very small space. See the "Drug Dots" on the 8th page of this paper as edited by him.

DR. HARTE DEVOTES HOUR TO HEALTH PROBLEMS.

Tells Large Congregation How to Be Strong in Body and Mind.

Last Sunday was known throughout North Carolina as "Sanitary Day," and Dr. J. D. Harte, pastor of the Oxford Baptist church devoted the morning hour to the all-important subject of health.

There being no services at either the Methodist or Presbyterian churches, the Baptist church was crowded, and Dr. Harte held the large congregation spellbound as he told them how to fight the tuberculosis germ. He condemned the sheet-iron heaters and the air-tight sleeping chambers. Throw open the windows of your sleeping chambers, said Dr. Harte, and pile on the cover, leaving the face uncovered.

Dr. Harte spoke as one in authority. He told how he had nursed during his ministry, a man who was claimed by the white plague; how he thus contracted the dreadful disease; how he fought the disease in a sanitarium at Asheville for twelve months and coming away victorious. Big juicy beeksteak and raw eggs is the essential diet of the consumptive, said Dr. Harte. "Tuberculosis is preventable and curable," was the consoling statement of Dr. Harte.

Dr. Harte's health sermon was well received by the large congregation, and there will be more homes properly ventilated in Oxford than ever before.

THE NEGRO SOLDIERS.

Granville's Quota of Colored Soldiers Will Be Called Soon.

It is not definitely known here when Granville's quota of colored soldiers will be called, but the fact that they are being called from other parts of the State in large numbers leads to the belief that the 100 qualified negro soldiers will leave Granville at an early date. All of the colored men in Granville's draft seem anxious to go to the front, and there is not a slacker in the county.

In the direction of enabling him the better to handle the matter of the negro soldier, Secretary of War Baker has called to his assistance a representative of the negro race—Emmett J. Scott. The War Secretary drafted Scott from Tuskegee Institute, where he had served eighteen years as secretary for Booker Washington and where he was also secretary of the institute. He is officially known as aide to the Secretary of War. Secretary Baker, therefore, has the advantage of the counsel of a well-informed colored man and one who thoroughly understand the relation of the negro to the white people in general. Aide Scott is furthermore in touch with the best thought of the South; he stands as representative of the more consensant with Northern opinion.

THE LAST CHANCE FOR THE REGISTERED MEN.

Can Volunteer For Service Until Noon Next Saturday.

Those who are subject to draft in the national army but who have not yet been called, are permitted by a new ruling of the War Department to volunteer for service up to 12:00 o'clock noon, December 15. After that time no voluntary enlistment will be permitted from those within the draft age.

THE SCHOOLS CLOSE FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

Oxford College will close Thursday, December 20th for the holidays and open January 4th. This gives the faculty and student-body thirteen days for recreation.

The Oxford city schools will recess Friday, December 21, for the holidays.

A GOOD SUGGESTION

Watch Your Children Lest They Get Hurt.

A suggestion has come from a resident of Oxford that a warning be sounded against the practice of boys and girls skating in the middle of the street and swinging on to automobiles and swift moving vehicles. It is of course plain to everybody who stops to think that such a custom is a dangerous one. Not only do children risk being run over by skating in the middle of the street, but being thrown when holding on to passing vehicles.

Parents would do well to warn their children against the danger.

—America has declared that peace can never be made with the Hohenzollerns. Thus the Hohenzollerns must be shown up before the German people on the field of battle. The war must go on until the Kaiser is worsted by his foes and thus discredited at home.