

The Mountain Scout.

DEVOTED TO THE SOCIAL, MORAL AND FINANCIAL INTERESTS OF THE CITIZENS OF ALEXANDER COUNTY AND WESTERN CAROLINA.

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THE MOUNTAIN SCOUT.

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LAND OF THE LONG LEAF PINE

Latest News of General Interest That Has Been Collected From Many Towns and Counties.

Kinston.—Will Ferrell and Jack Temple, well known young men of this city, miraculously escaped death when an automobile in which they were riding turned a complete somersault down a 14-foot embankment on the road leading south from Kinston.

Mooreville.—A very quiet election was held here to determine the issuance of bonds to the extent of \$85,000 for sewerage, water extension and street improvements. All three measures carried by an overwhelming majority.

Concord.—The first week of the hookworm and sanitary campaign ended recently. At every point in the county the dispensary was a centre of interest and a large number of people made preparation for examinations at future visits.

Greensboro.—The Normal college authorities are making preparations to receive a large crowd for the Home Makers' and School Improvement Conferences to be held here during the last week of the summer session, beginning Monday, July 21, and extending through Saturday, July 26.

Dunn.—At the regular meeting of the chamber of commerce the question of a union station to be built by Durham and Southern and the A. C. L. was brought up, and as usual in towns of this size, the people are divided so on the matter that there seems no hope of unity of action, as to where it should be located.

Wilson.—Passengers from Kenly tell a story that causes one's blood to boil, viz: An unknown negro attempted to criminally assault a married lady near Micro, in Johnston county, but failed in his purpose. He was tracked and caught at Bagley and taken to Smithfield and lodged in jail, where he is heavily guarded.

Durham.—City Electrician Whitaker with his assistants went over the entire number of pull-boxes, 32, and gave them a thorough cleaning and oiling. Following this a new coat of red paint was applied and now the alarm pull-boxes are not only in much better shape, but present a good appearance.

Asheville.—A company of eighteen players will arrive in Western North Carolina within the next few days for the purpose of securing motion pictures, among the mountains of this section of the state. The moving picture actors will spend their time near Bat Cave, where four reels of pictures were taken last fall.

Raleigh.—Joe Womack, or his double, was caught on Nash Square and is in the city prison on a charge of murder. The big black man denies both the murder and his identity. He says he can establish an alibi. He will be tried at the criminal term of court in the near future if the case does not turn out to be mistaken identity.

Charlotte.—Red 'Meb' in Charlotte and elsewhere were much interested in the eighth district meeting of the Improved Order of Red Men, which was held at Dallas, Saturday, July 5, with visiting tribes from Chester and Yorkville, S. C. A large crowd was present, estimated at 5,000 to participate in the exercises of the day. The principal speaker of the day was Governor Bleasde of South Carolina.

Raleigh.—The state board of education has adopted a resolution to the effect that the state will in no way assume any time undertake to revoke the agreement entered into recently with the contractors who are to undertake the installation of the drainage system for Mattamuskeet releasing fifteen thousand acres of the land involved from a mortgage that the state holds for balance due for the state's holdings in the drainage district.

Statesville.—The board of aldermen is seriously considering the matter of reacquiring the franchise of the Statesville Gas Company, which it is believed has been legally forfeited by failure of the company to give the town gas service. The matter was discussed at a meeting of the board and Mayor Caldwell and City Attorney Thompson are now looking into the matter with a view to making recommendations to the board.

Greensboro.—The board of education of Guilford county was in session here recently. School committees for the next two years were appointed. Plans were outlined for enforcing the compulsory attendance law for the county enacted by the recent general assembly.

Salisbury.—The Rowan county commissioners in session several days ago extended the time for paying state and county taxes to August first without costs being added. The limit had been set for July 7, but the extension was made for various good reasons.

STOCK DOESN'T PAY FOR CONVICT LABOR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF STATE'S PRISON OBJECTS TO AIDING RAILROADS.

PENITENTIARY FUNDS SHORT

The Cash Now on Hand is Insufficient For the Running Expenses.—Authorities Would Accept Money Contracts For Convict Labor.

Raleigh.—If the wishes of the board of directors of the state's prison count for much, railroads in search of convict labor will have to go elsewhere than to the North Carolina penitentiary to secure it. In their report made public recently the directors and Superintendent Mann insist that Article V, Section 4, of the State Constitution forbids state aid to railroad construction unless approved by the vote of the people.

The council of state, however, stands firm on retaining the system as to fulfilling present contracts where the promoters are meeting the terms required by legislative acts for such aid.

The position of the directors is simply that the railroad stock acquired through hiring of convicts fails to bring in the ready cash, and has often failed to bring any. They do not want to turn down offers of cash for the prisoners' labor and run behind on prison expenses, as the present situation threatens to force them to do.

The prison directors report that the prison is now absolutely without funds except the railroad stock that is pronounced worthless. The running expenses of the prison amount upwards of \$15,000 a month and with no revenue except this railroad stock for labor in sight until far into the fall, the state will probably have to put up \$93,000 or more for prison maintenance by January 1. On the other hand, there are numbers of applications for convict labor a \$150 cash a day that would quickly create surplus at the prison, if the railroad stock contracts were terminated.

A lengthy report by Supt. Mann gives in detail the conditions at all these railroad camps. It pronounces the Atlantic and Transcontinental operations a "sham and pretense" at the same time crediting its promoters with honest intentions.

Education Board Holds Meeting.

The Iredell county board of education held its first meeting several days ago under the new administration which dates from July 1 and the members of the board—Messrs. J. H. Hill, J. L. Bradley and W. G. Nicholson—and the new county superintendent, Mr. R. M. Gray, all took the oath of office. The work of appointing new school committees was begun. It is announced that a number of ladies will probably be named as members of the school committees.

Storm Does Damage in Halifax.

A severe storm passed over Scotland Neck and vicinity doing much damage to the crops. While the storm was not severe, at Spring Hill there was considerable hail and a terrific wind and the rain fell in torrents for a few moments. It is said the hail did but little damage, but the wind blew and twisted the corn and cotton badly. At Hobgood, a few miles south of here, there was a severe electric wind and rainstorm.

Meets Death Under Southern Train.

Fred L. Smathers, for the past three years a switchman of the Southern Railway Company, met instant death on the Asheville yard when he was crushed beneath a refrigerator car, which was overturned. The deceased was horribly mangled and when physicians arrived an examination showed that he received internal injuries which resulted in his death.

Wood is President of N. C. R. R.

Governor Craig announces a new directorate for the North Carolina Railroad Company and names W. H. Wood, prominent banker and business man of Charlotte, for president and J. P. Cook of Concord, state senator, for secretary-treasurer. The new directorate follows: L. Banks Holt, Alamance; W. T. Brown, Forsyth; J. M. Allen, Franklin; W. H. Wood, Mecklenburg; C. S. Tomlin, Iredell; John P. Yount, Catawba; J. Q. Hickey, McDowell; J. R. B. Carraway, Haywood.

PRODUCTION OF ALUMINUM

North Carolina Will Do Its Share Toward Meeting the Increase Demand For Aluminum.

Raleigh.—A special from Washington states that the officials of the United States geological survey believe that this state will during the year 1913 do a great part in meeting the growing demand for aluminum, through the formation of the Southern Aluminum Company, which has commenced operations on the Yadkin river, in Stanly county.

In a report of the production of aluminum during the year 1912, issued recently, the survey states that last year there was a notable increase in the use of that metal, more than 65,000,000 pounds being consumed, compared with 46,125,000 pounds in the preceding year. Not only was there an increase in the domestic production, states the report, but there was a decided growth in the imports of the metal.

In commenting on the formation of the Southern Aluminum Company in this state, the report of the survey states:

"To meet in part the growing demand for aluminum, the Southern Aluminum Company, with a large capital, has acquired a water-power site on Yadkin river, in Stanly county, North Carolina, and is now engaged in the development of the property. The projected operations of the company and the additional fact that the importation of foreign aluminum is being stimulated by a keen demand promise a sufficient supply of the metal in the future."

North Carolina New Enterprises.

The Interstate Stores Company, Greensboro, is chartered for the establishment of a chain of department stores. The charter specifies that the company has the power to do a general department store business. The capital is \$200,000 in \$10 shares of preferred and common stock. The incorporators are L. J. Shaw, Carter Dalton and Dred Peacock. Another important charter is to the Carolina Bridge & Iron Co., Lexington, capital \$125,000 authorized, of which \$10,000 is eight per cent preferred stock and \$115,000 common stock. The incorporators are J. R. Hoffman of Burlington, G. F. Hankins and J. C. Bower of Lexington. There is also a charter for the Catawba County Farmers' Union Warehouse Company, Newton, capital \$25,000 authorized and \$1,050 subscribed.

Commission State Guard Officers.

Commissions are issued to officers in the North Carolina National Guard by Adjutant Gen. Young as follows: J. I. Brown, Kinston, captain of Company B, Second Infantry; J. O. H. Taylor, Lieutenant, William A. Faulner, second lieutenant, Kinston; R. E. Stevens, second lieutenant, Company I, Second Infantry; A. C. L. Hill, Kinston, captain and quartermaster; S. E. Winston, Youngsville, captain and quartermaster, Third Infantry; William Westmoreland, captain, Company E, Statesville; W. D. Holland, Dunn, first lieutenant, Company M, Second Infantry; C. D. Loane, Plymouth, lieutenant junior grade naval reserves; V. E. Everett, Plymouth, lieutenant naval reserves.

Women on Guilford School Board.

The Guilford county board of education in appointing school committees did not take so very enthusiastically to the new provision of the legislature that permits women to be made members of school committees but went far enough to give it a trial. Four women were appointed in various parts of the county, as follows: Mrs. W. S. Dick, McLeansville high school; Mrs. Laura Davidson Stockdale high school; Mrs. R. O. Gamble, Summerfield high school; Mrs. W. L. Gibbons, Colfax school. All of these are very intelligent and capable women and with one exception, college graduates.

Hookworm Campaign in Rowan.

The Rowan county board of commissioners has decided to put on a hookworm campaign in this county and appropriated \$250 for the prosecution of the work, which will be under the direction of Dr. G. T. Leonard of the North Carolina board of health.

Taylor to Succeed Watts.

Joseph F. Taylor, of Washington, N. C., who will be clerk of the senate finance committee, succeeding A. D. Watts reached Washington, after having spent two days in his home town making ready to take up the work. Senator Simmons said that his decision in Mr. Taylor's appointment would not have the effect of hastening announcement of other appointments in Eastern Carolina. He said that he has no idea when selections for district attorney, collector and marshal will be made.

THERE IS NO CHANGE

THE APPOINTMENTS OF POSTMASTERS FOR NORTH CAROLINA STILL DELAYED.

MEN ARE UNSATISFACTORY

Senator Simmons Holding up Nomination of Postmasters at Laurinburg, Marshall and Reidsville.—His Reason For This Action Given.

Raleigh.—A special from Washington states that there has been no material change during the past two weeks in the situation regarding the appointments of postmasters at Laurinburg, Marshall and Reidsville, where the men named by congressmen are unsatisfactory to Senator Simmons, and he is having their nominations held up.

G. H. Russell, who was recommended for appointment at Laurinburg by Congressman Page was in Washington going over the situation with his friends, and seeking advice as to the best way to overcome Senator Simmons' objection. He did not call on the senator, Senator Simmons said that he had not seen Russell and indicated that it would be useless for Russell to call on him, as he was intent on having E. H. James, appointed postmaster at Laurinburg, and did not believe he would change his mind any time soon.

It is understood that Russell's friends in Washington advised him to take up the matter with Senator Simmons through a mutual friend of both. In an effort to reconcile the senator to the appointment of Russell and the defeat of James, Senator Simmons has filed no charges against Russell either at the postoffice department or with the senate postoffice committee, and in fact it is not a question of his being opposed to Russell or having anything in particular against Russell, but he wants James appointed and will not let any one else have the office.

At Marshall, Madison county, the appointment of J. R. Swann as postmaster, on the recommendation of Congressman Webb, is being held up in the postoffice department by Senator Simmons. The charges brought against Swann, and on which his appointment is being held up, are that he has talked too freely in an uncomplimentary way of a number of prominent North Carolina Democrats.

Offer Reward For Murderer.

Raleigh.—With the family of the murdered officer offering a reward of \$50 the sheriff of Wake county \$50 and application to the state to add the sum of \$100 for the apprehension of Henry Jenkins, the negro slayer of James Glenn, a white man in the northern section of Wake, concerted efforts are endeavoring to effect the capture of the desperate character in brief town. Citizens from Barton's Creek township in attendance upon court here brought the news that 40 farmers were in search of the negro, and every home in which suspicion hovered that the negro might be harbored there is being searched.

The Tobacco Crop Good.

Raleigh.—Raleigh people who have visited the Wendell section of the county within the past two weeks say that the tobacco crop has the brightest outlook for being better this year than for the past five years. Tobacco in that section is unusually matured for this time of the year and unless there is a visitation of some destroyer the crop will be of better quality and also quantity. In some places the weed is waist high and at read topping.

Contribute to Central Highway.

Lexington.—The board of county commissioners held a very busy session of two days. Of the important matters that came before the board at this meeting may be noted the revising of the jury list, which took up practically all of a day, and the appropriation of Davidson county's share of the state automobile license tax to the Central Highway.

W. H. Hippi Succeeds Himmell.

Asheville.—County Superintendent of Education W. H. Hippi was unanimously elected to succeed Himmell at a meeting of the Buncombe county board of education. His name was the only one placed in nomination. Mr. Hippi has been superintendent of the schools of this county for the past year, having been elected in 1912 to succeed A. C. Reynolds, resigned. He has met with a great deal of success during the time that he has been at the head of the county's school system.