

The Chronicle.

Equal Taxation, Direct and Indirect.

VOL. XXIII.

WILKESBORO, N. C., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 1909.

NO. 7.

GET READY FOR THE BIG INDUSTRIAL FAIR, NORTH WILKESBORO

LOCAL MATTERS.

—Prof. E. G. Suttlemyre was here a few days last week.

—Mr. C. W. Minton lost a fine young milk cow last week.

—Miss Kate Cranor has returned from her visit in Harnett county.

—Mrs. J. F. Norris, of Hickory, will spend the summer here.

—A fine little daughter was born unto Mr. and Mrs. Tom Crysel last week.

—A bright sassy little girl arrived at Mr. Tom Miller's Wednesday.

—C. W. Craven has Mr. Hemphill's new house well under way and soon will be completed.

—Mr. R. F. Edwards, Assistant Grand Lecturer, is giving a series of lectures at the No. Wilkesboro Lodge.

—Mr. Ed. Smith and Miss Carrie Bean, of Patterson, visited Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Vannoy last week.

—Mr. Alfred Carson's child, on Brushy Mountain, died last week. The child was about 15 months old and had been weakly all its life.

—Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Deal left Monday for Asheville and Hendersonville. Mrs. Deal will visit relatives and friends in Asheville, while Mr. Deal will attend the State Press Association at Hendersonville. They will be absent about ten days.

—Dr. W. H. Wakefield, of Charlotte, will be in North Wilkesboro at Blumont on Friday, July 2nd one day only. His practice is limited to diseases of the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat and Fitting Glasses.

—Prof. W. J. Horny, of Greensboro, has been here for several days in the interest of an Insurance company. Prof. Horny was formerly superintendent of the graded school here and has many friends here.

—Wednesday evening about 9 o'clock, at the Methodist parsonage at this place, Mr. Earnest Sloop and Miss Opa Pearson, of Moravian Falls, were married, Rev. B. F. Hargett officiating. The couple immediately returned to Moravian Falls.

—County Surveyor, L. B. Myers was in town last week and gives a gloomy account of crops in his section. He says people are having a hard time trying to save their wheat, and that he fears what has been cut will sprout in the shock. It seems to be about the same way all over the county.

—The clouds prevented the people of this section from seeing the eclipse Thursday afternoon. One little tot who was watching with his folks for the eclipse, when he saw the cloud cover the sun, exclaimed, "Mamma, they've done put a quilt over the sun so we can't see the 'clipse." and he explained it about correctly.

—The Wilkes officers don't seem to be raising any kick because the Iredell and Alexander officers come across the line occasionally and capture a blockade outfit. We can assure the Iredell and Alexander officers that our Wilkes officers have no intention of retaliating by going across after some of their outfits.

—Rev. Mr. Rook will preach at Edgewood next Sunday at 3:30 p. m.

—Misses Kate Forester and Lura Smith are visiting at Goshen.

—Mrs. B. S. Call is visiting her father at Transou, Ashe county.

—A lively little boy arrived at the home of Mr. Eugene Hubbard Saturday morning.

—Meadames W. W. Barber and J. T. Finley are visiting relatives in Newton.

—Dr. J. Q. Myres was elected Vice President of the N. C. Medical association at Asheville last week.

—Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Vannoy, of Ronda, is visiting Mrs. Vannoy's brother, Mr. J. M. Wellborn.

—Mr. R. E. Walters, of No. Wilkesboro, has gone to the Philippine islands where he has a government appointment.

—Mr. L. F. Smoak, of Orangeburg, S. C., is visiting his brothers here.

—Mr. and Mrs. Dimmett, of Greensboro, visited home folks here last week.

—W. E. Pharr of the Hustler left Monday for Hendersonville to attend the State Press Association.

—There is some sickness in both towns, and quite a lot reported from the country. Dr. Turner has several patients in the country that have been serious, but are better now.

—Edgewood has the banner Sunday school of the county the enrollment is 175 the attendance last Sunday was 137. Pr. C. O. Wright is Supt. Rev. M. McNeill is pastor.

—License were issued last week for the marriage of Mr. Loyd C. Blackburn of Reddies river and Miss Maggie A. Wiles, of Mulberry.

—Mr. Roby Deal, of North Wilkesboro, returned Sunday from Alexander where he had been to attend the burial of Mr. George Deal, his brother-in-law.

—Rev. L. P. Gwaltney filled regular appointment at the Baptist church here Sunday morning. He preached a strong and helpful sermon. On account of sickness in his home he was compelled to return home at once and did not preach in the afternoon.

—Children day exercises were held in the Baptist church here Sunday evening. A very interesting and helpful program was rendered by the children and young people. Dialogues, recitations and songs were all directed toward the development of the missionary idea. The large crowd present enjoyed the services fine.

—We call attention to the advertisement of the State Normal and Industrial College which appears in this paper. This institution shows a steady growth every year in its great mission of giving a higher and more useful education to the women of the State. During the past year the Melver Memorial Building was erected. Last year the total enrollment of the college was 979 students; 88 of the 98 counties had representatives in the student body. Nine-tenths of the graduates have taught or are now teaching in the schools of North Carolina. No institution is doing a greater work and girls can attend no better place.

INDUSTRIAL FAIR, NORTH WILKESBORO

BOUND OVER TO COURT.

Marsh Fletcher and Ed. Hubbard are held for causing Lee Bentley's death. Foote Fletcher and Thenie Fletcher Released.

The preliminary hearing of the case of the State against Marsh Fletcher, Thenie Fletcher, Ed. Hubbard and Foote Fletcher came off last Thursday and Friday at the court house, justices of the peace C. F. Morrison, R. M. Staley and L. M. Pharr sitting in the case. The defendants were charged with causing the death of Lee Bentley. The hearing began at 1 p. m. Thursday and closed about 1 p. m. Friday. There were about 60 witnesses summoned in the case, but only fifteen were examined. All these were witnesses for the State.

Finley & Hendren and Barber appeared for the State and John A. Hollbrook for the defendants.

The evidence was necessarily circumstantial and tedious, and after giving the evidence and arguments of the counsel careful consideration, the justices held Marsh Fletcher and Ed. Hubbard for court which convenes Aug. 9th, and acquitted Foote Fletcher and Thenie Fletcher, there being no evidence sufficient to bind them.

It is not necessary or hardly proper to go into the details of the testimony. The evidence of Esq. John Bentley, father of Lee Bentley, deceased, was a detail of the circumstances surrounding Lee's death, as here before given. Lee left home Saturday May 15th at 9 o'clock. He went by Wiley Watt's a neighbor, and asked to go with him after liquor, in accordance with arrangements made the day before. The arrangements were that they would go Saturday night to Marsh Fletcher's for liquor. Watts would not go, but Bentley went on by himself in the direction of Fletcher's. He did not return and Monday a searching party found Lee unconscious and almost dead in the woods on Fletcher's mountain, about 300 or 400 yards from Ed. Hubbard's house and about half mile from Marsh Fletcher's house. Bentley died in about 20 minutes after he was found. There was no sign that he had moved after lying down or being placed on the ground. He was lying on his back, his legs straight and feet together, one hand on his breast, the other by his side—just as if "laid out" for dead. His morocco pocket book containing perhaps \$100 had been taken from his inside vest pocket.

About eight or ten of the witnesses testifying had gotten liquor from Marsh Fletcher at his home on Sunday following the night Bentley went after liquor in that direction. (This testimony shows such a flagrant violation of both State and National laws by Marsh Fletcher in the liquor business that should have long ago called the attention of officers in that direction.) On Monday afternoon, while before Bentley was found, Marsh Fletcher was seen coming out of the woods where Bentley was found. It was shown that Ed. Hubbard was acting with Fletcher in several instances.

The defendants offered no testimony claiming the State had made out no case. The justices decided however to

hold the two defendants as above stated.

The theory is that Marsh Fletcher and Ed. Hubbard "doped" the liquor with poison for the purpose of getting Bentley's money and then placed him in the woods where he died.

Look After the Poor Better.

The county commissioners have a work before them which, if they will do, will win for them the thanks and plaudits of the people. We refer to the caring of the poor. It is certain that our aged and infirm are cared for as well as present facilities will permit. That is not the question of consideration. We need better facilities, a better county farm and some modern, decent houses for the county house. The present houses of the pattern of a century ago are not sufficient for this day of humanity and decency. Most every other progressive county has already erected decent county houses for the poor. Wilkes should not wait longer. Besides being a movement in behalf of humanity, it would be an economical financial movement. The county now pays about \$1200 yearly for the care of the aged and infirm besides what the little farm yields. Now suppose the county would buy a good farm, one worth say \$15,000 or \$20,000, the farm would easily keep the aged and infirm and pay the county \$1,000 or \$1,500 a year. Besides, it could be used as a nucleus for another great improvement which our county greatly needs and that is road improvements. Teams could be kept on the products of the county farm both for working the crops and for working the roads, hauling rocks, macadamizing, etc. With the small tax now levied for road purposes and teams supported by a county farm a good lot of work could be done on our roads, and if we would once get started properly on our roads our people would get aroused and would not be contented till we get good roads. Let the commissioners and people earnestly think of this matter.

Bugs Dip Snuff.

Two gray haired gardeners, who work their gardens by proxy and street arguments, were discussing the garden and the patch prospects the other day on the street corner. By listening at the conversation, an outsider would not have been able to decide which had killed himself first in over-exertion in labor in the garden. At last they drifted to bugs and microbes. "Well, said one "after all the labor I have put on my melon patch I wont have a vine; the blamed bugs have totally eaten up every plant." "They served you right," said the other gardener by proxy. "If you had used a little sense and sprinkled your vines with snuff the bugs would not have bothered you." "Oh, the devil," said the first gardener by proxy. "I tried that three weeks ago and it made matters worse. I put out the snuff one evening and went back next morning to see the result, and blame my hide if every bug for two miles around hadn't come in with tooth brushes and were sitting about on the remnant of the vines dipping snuff." A sudden flash of lightning cut off the conversation.

SEPTEMBER 28, 29, 30.

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