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LIVE NEWS FROM ALL SECTIONS OF GASTON

LOWELL LOCALS

(By Mrs. G. Frank Hovis.)

LOWELL, April 12.—Monday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Parks W. Hand the funeral of Mr. Ben F. Clark was held, whose life was taken Saturday by a heavy voltage of electricity passing through his body. Rev. R. H. Kennington, pastor of the Methodist church, officiated, assisted by Rev. A. S. Anderson, pastor of Lowell Presbyterian church, and Rev. W. J. Rouch, pastor of Covenant Presbyterian church. The services were very impressive and the passing of this young life so suddenly brings much sorrow to the entire community, especially the younger set and his comrades with whom he constantly associated. Life is one great battle and soldiers are continually falling by the wayside.

Benjamin Franklin Clark was born February 28, 1890, and died April 9, 1921, and is survived by his father, who resides in Asheville, and one brother Mr. Paul Clark, of Chattanooga, Tenn., and three sisters, Mrs. Frank Land, of Montgomery, Ala., and Mrs. Jonas, Eclectic, Ala., and Mrs. Helda, of Canton. Interment took place in the cemetery of the Lutheran chapel near Lowell. The floral tributes were many and beautiful.

Quite an interesting quarterly conference of the Lowell charge was held Sunday afternoon at 3:00 at Bethesda. Rev. H. H. Jordan, presiding elder, presiding. Only a few officers were absent and the financial report showed "a paid up to date and an overplus." Delegates were elected to the district conference which convenes May 11-12 at McAdenville.

Miss Margaret Hudson had for her guest this week her niece, Miss Sara Hood, student of Queens College, Charlotte.

Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Robinson and Miss Edith Robinson spent Sunday in Charlotte with Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Wilkinson.

In the ancient times, meaning several years ago, April was sacred to the "straw hat season." A few days back men went with a heated brow wanting the straw "hat season" to hurry but now they are spending their straw hat money for coal and still donning their overcoats. It was down to freezing Monday morning. Shall we blame it on the Atlantic coast or is it the weather man's pet high pressure that is continually developing? Sometimes it seems that Sol, the former reliable celestial furnace man, has been listening to the soap box orators and has joined the foolish of the earth to lay off the job. Or has he accepted a retainer from the felt hat barons of Daubury?

BUDGET OF LIVE NEWS ITEMS FROM BELMONT

By Mrs. Adelaide Smith Beard
April Meeting Woman's Club.

The Belmont Woman's Club held its regular April meeting at the Central School auditorium Monday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. After the transaction of the usual business routine Mr. Fred M. Allen gave a talk to the club about having a community exhibit at the Gaston county fair this fall. He stated that the fair was originally organized to promote interest in better livestock and agricultural products, but that the women had contributed so largely to the success of the fair that last year one entire building was given over to exhibits; it will be given the most important place and will be the first thing seen on entering the grounds. Mr. Allen stressed the point that the fair was primarily an educational institution and while the midway would be the best and cleanest they could find it was of secondary importance to the exhibits. The Gaston county fair of 1920 was one of the most successful ever held in the state as 700 individual entries were made. He urged the Belmont club to make a good showing at the fair and not only help to make it a success but also to boost the town itself.

Mrs. Pressley then appointed the following ladies to act as a fair committee: Mrs. J. W. Gaston, Mrs. George Tate, Mrs. A. C. Lineberger, Miss Abbie Hall and Mrs. A. S. Beard.

This was followed by a discussion of clean-up week. An announcement was read inviting all the mothers of the club to hear an address to the mothers of Belmont to be given at the East Baptist church by Rev. R. G. Mace Thursday afternoon, April 21, at 3 o'clock.

The seventh grade, under the direction of Miss Austin, then gave a very interesting dramatization of "The Courtship of Miles Standish." The class was studying the poem and as part of their class work made it into a play. This was quite well-carried out, all of the characters taking their parts well.

Mrs. R. C. Dixon then rendered a very enjoyable piano solo. The membership committee gave a report of new members as follows: Mrs. W. G. Stone, Mrs. Eliza Harris, Mrs. Lee Chapman, Mrs. R. G. Mace and Mrs. Lee Lanier.

It was also announced that Friday evening at 8 o'clock a musical comedy, "The Minister's Wife's New Bonnet," will be given at the Central School auditorium by the Baraca and Philaena classes of the First Baptist church. Further information about the play will be given in another issue of the paper.

Belmont Boy Receives Athletic Honor.

Mr. Isaac Howe, of the Belmont High School basketball team, was recently chosen by Mr. A. L. Paul, of the Charlotte Y. M. C. A., as a member of the All-Western state basketball team as alternate guard. Mr. Paul is one of the most experienced coaches in the state and, having no connection with the public schools, is unprejudiced in his selection of players for the team. The Belmont High School feels signally honored in having one of its players given this honor, as all the high schools in the western part of the state were eligible for membership on the team and since local facilities for practice are not of the best, the boys having to play on an outdoor court and therefore seriously handicapped when forced to play on an indoor gymnasium.

Belmont Represented at B. Y. P. U. Convention.

Rev. R. G. Mace, director of B. Y. P. U. work in the Gaston County Baptist Association, was chairman of the convention of B. Y. P. U. workers recently held in Gastonia. He had 14 delegates from the society in his church, East Baptist, and his entire choir went over in a body Friday night to give a demonstration on B. Y. P. U. work. The delegates from the First Baptist were Misses Annie Ford, Ruth Tate, Eva Culp, Charlotte Leeper and W. J. Francis, moderator of the Baptist Association of Gaston County.

Forty Professions of Faith at Presbyterian Church.

The revival meeting which has been conducted by Rev. C. Connor Brown at the Belmont Presbyterian church closed Sabbath night, and was one of the best meetings ever held in Belmont. The attendance was splendid from the first and continued to increase until the church building was packed and the Sunday school auditorium had to be used. Great interest was manifested in the services, more than forty persons making a profession of faith. Twenty of this number joined the Presbyterian church of their choice. In speaking of the success of the services, the pastor, Rev. J. T. Dendy, states that practically the entire church membership rededicated themselves to Christ to be more faithful and loyal church members. Mr. Brown is Presbyterian synodical evangelist and his labors are wonderfully blessed wherever he preaches. He is an able, earnest, plain expositor of the Bible and any church will be fortunate to secure his services. He will conduct a meeting at the Covenant Presbyterian church in Lowell beginning April 21, and many from here are looking forward to attending it.

\$10,719 Financial Budget at Presbyterian Church.

Rev. J. T. Dendy, pastor, and Mr. C.

H. Lineberger were delegates from the Belmont Presbyterian church to the Kings Mountain Presbytery which convenes at Lowell in the Covenant Presbyterian church on Tuesday evening at 7:30, and will take with them a splendid report from this church. This congregation gave to all causes at home and abroad during last year the magnificent sum of \$10,719, thus making an average of \$55 per member.

Night School at East Belmont Closes.

The night school which has been conducted for the past ten weeks in East Belmont closed last week. Fifty were enrolled throughout the entire time and approximately half that number completed the course. The work covered began with the first principles of arithmetic, the more advanced classes finishing percentage, while the other two classes reached percentage. A great deal of interest was shown throughout the course and at its conclusion almost all the men enrolled asked that similar work be taken up next year and the school made a permanent feature.

Mr. H. H. Willis, of the State Vocational Education Department, under the auspices of which the school was held, states that the work can be taken up next September and continued as long as interest warrants it provided local funds are available.

Personals and Locals.

The pictures have been made and literary work is progressing rapidly on the Annual to be issued this year. The senior class and Clarion staff with the cooperation of the townspeople hope to put out the best annual that has ever been published at B. H. S.

Work on the plant of the Monthell Ice and Fuel Company is progressing satisfactorily, and the officials of the organization hope to be able to supply the town with ice by the first of May.

Dr. H. W. Jordan spent the weekend in Gastonia with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. H. H. Jordan.

Misses Annie Hall, Bonnie Howard, Nanna Bush, Laura Hall and Mrs. J. Q. Hall were Charlotte shoppers Saturday. Miss Ethel Stowe came over from Charlotte to be the weekend guest of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Stowe, the former her brother.

Mr. T. C. Moore and son, of Stanley, spent Saturday with his daughter, Mrs. C. L. Hager.

Mr. E. O. McDonald, who has been in Alabama on a two weeks business trip, arrived here Saturday night.

Mrs. L. H. Stowe spent Saturday in Charlotte with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Solomon.

Finality.

"John, I hear burglars." The dutiful husband arose and tiptoed bravely out. After an undue delay he returned. "Oh, John," said the wife, "what kept you so long? I was so afraid they had overpowered you." "No, no, dearie, they were stealing the victrola from the people across the hall and I just made sure that they got all the records."—Life.

CAVEATORS REST IN THE ROSS WILL CASE

Several Neighbors of Ross Women Testify for Propounders, That Maggie Ross Was Competent.

(Special to The Observer.)

MONROE, April 11.—The caveators in the Ross will trial rested their case and the propounders began offering evidence in rebuttal. J. C. Baker and J. S. Delaney, neighbors of Sallie and Maggie Ross, last witnesses for the caveators, testified that Maggie was not competent to make a will.

The will of the late Jonathan Barleson, grandfather of the Ross women, was introduced to show the source of the property devised to the negroes, Rob Ross and Mittie Belle Houston, by Maggie Ross' will. Several deeds and agreements were also read from the record by caveators to show that the property had come by inheritance.

Depositions of Mrs. Tizah Coan, Mrs. C. C. McIlwain and S. D. Howie were offered by propounders. Each of these deponents knew Maggie Ross and thought she was mentally competent to make a will. J. E. Crane and J. E. Yarbrough testified that they had rented land from Maggie Ross and paid rent to her and that she could rent and settle with them. They thought she was competent to understand the nature of her property and her will.

Propounders have several dozen witnesses to put up and caveators reserved the right to put up a few character witnesses, but attorneys in the case think that argument may commence some time Wednesday or early Thursday.

VALPARAISO, March 12.—Arrival here of Chile's first dreadnaught, the 28,000-ton La Torre, formerly the Canada of the British navy, and three destroyers, has revived comparisons in the press of the relative sea power of Argentina, Brazil and Chile.

A writer on naval topics in one newspaper, *Diario Ilustrado*, discussing this country's new fighting units, gives a table of statistics showing the total naval tonnage of the A B C countries to be approximately 345,000, divided as follows: Argentina, 140,000; Brazil, 120,000; and Chile, 85,000. Peru's naval tonnage is placed at 10,000. Other South American republics are not considered important as regards their naval power.

AT THE THEATRES

The Ideal Theater presents today Eva Novak in "The Smart Sex" and a good comedy.

The Gastonian Theater presents today Mildred Harris Chaplin in "Old Dad," Aided attraction, "International News."

The United Southern Stock Company appears again tonight and Wednesday night at the canvas theater in "The Naughty Wife."

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A Technical Reply.
A woman passenger on an Atlantic liner had an experience that led her to believe that a seaman is not apt to waste much thought on his personal troubles. The sailor who induced this belief had received a bad cut on the head the second day out. The woman was solicitous in her inquiries as to his welfare when she saw the captain that night and would undoubtedly have continued her sympathy had not a rough sea called to mind her own sufferings.
When she emerged four days later, white and weak, she suddenly remembered the poor sailor. In the course of the day she saw him with a strip of plaster on his head.
"How is your head?" she asked as he passed by on some duty.
"West by south, mum," was the response.
"How is your wife making out with these onions she is raising in a flower-pot?"
"They're drooping. Stirring the soil with a hairpin was all very well, but I don't think perfume from an atomizer is the sort of irrigation they need." — Louisville Courier Journal.