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TWICE-A-WEEK

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A Booster For Scotland Neck

Greater Scotland Neck Edition of The Commonwealth Will Put us on The Map With Other Enterprising Cities

OUR MOTTO MUST BE "GET THERE"

Do we, as citizens, realize we can do anything we set out to do, provided we pull together in the right spirit? Do we realize the pungent and vital fact that towns and cities are merely collections of individuals, and that the community cannot rise higher than the average of intelligence, thrift and public enterprise manifested by the citizens? Have you ever stopped to dwell upon the now evident fact that cities are made more by men than by opportunity.

For instance, Chicago was not located for a great city. I was originally a swamp. The best location for Chicago, where she could buy raw materials and sell the finished products was at the southern end of lake Michigan. If one were choosing a natural location for a city the conclusion would have immediately been reached that Chicago was about fifty miles too far north and out of line for railroad facilities east and west.

But the men who were planning a great city had a vision. They were governed by the spirit "I WILL", which is Chicago's motto today. They yecame natural barriers, they swept side obstacles, they filled in the Camps, and upon the foundations of oak, perserverance and public-spirit they built the greatest metropolis in the United States out-side of New York.

Now, when you wish to improve your business you advertise—you place the advantageous points of the commodities you have to sell before the public. It has been demonstrated hundreds of times that the same methods when used in advertising a city or section will naturally produce similar results, thereby reviving and enlarging the activities of that community, by bringing in new blood, new energy, new capital, new industries, which mean increased wealth and commercial and industrial activity.

The people here have faith in this town, and the public-spirited citizens have recently contracted obligations amounting to many thousands of dollars in the nature of public improvements that are themselves the best evidence of their public spirit and progressiveness. We, in Scotland Neck and Halifax county, are not looking backward, but forward towards the goal of greater achievements. The Commonwealth believes this an opportune time to tel about Scotland Neck and this section, to exploit to the world at large the many advantages awaiting the investor and homesecker in this section. All this, and more will be heralded in a mammoth edition of The Commonwealth now in course of preparation and which will be called the "GREATER SCOTLAND NECK EDITION". It will be a newspaper in every respect worthy of the splendid community it represents and the inspiring message it will bear. In addition to the historical, commercial, industrial and general review of Scotland Neck's progress, special articles will be prepared by the local Board of Trade, by men who are thoroughly conversant with, and proficient, to prepare special articles on the subjects of Banking, Farming, Educational, Religious, Jobbing, Retail, Real Estate, manufacturing and many other advantages, resources and possibilities, together with a summary of the opportunities that await the investor and homesecker here. We shall faithfully try to make this "GREATER SCOTLAND NECK EDITION" reflect Scotland Neck as it once was, as it is today, and as it should and can be within a few years from now.

It is the desire of the management to have the hearty cooperation of every business and professional man and ide-a-wake citizen in Scotland Neck and Halifax county—every man who wants to keep step with the army of progress for a "GREATER AND BETTER SCOTLAND NECK" and county.

The undertaking is one of detail that will call for effort upon those engaged in it, and the extent of the success of enterprise will depend largely upon the measure of the cooperation extended by the citizens. Now lets altogether look up our many resources and possibilities, write them down, and then lets tell the world of Scotland Neck and Halifax County—one of the best sections to be found anywhere.

RETAIL MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION MEETING
A meeting of the Retail Merchants Association will be held Thursday Night, January 11th., at 7:30 in the Directors Room of the Scotland Neck Bank.

So important are the matters to be brought before the meeting that every member is earnestly requested to be present.

BERNARD ALLSBROOK, Sec.

ATTEND WOOD PROPERTY SALE NEXT FRIDAY

The engineers of the Atlantic Coast Realty Company have been all week clearing up the Wood property and putting it into good shape for the sale that takes place Friday next at 10:30 A. M., rain or shine.

This sale represents one of the best boosters that has struck Scotland Neck for some time, so that if you are not going to buy any of the business or residence lots you should at least show your interest in the town to attend this sale, for there is not a person in the vicinity that is not interested in some way or other in the advancement of the town, and the sale of this property, with the probable building possibility it affords, is certainly a town boost that we have so long needed.

A slow man, the indifferent man, is not one to make things hum, either for himself, or his neighbor, but you always notice how very pleased he is that the other fellow does it.

Be the other fellow.

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to thank the unknown friend for the New Year's Gift and best wishes.

It was certainly appreciated. Wish I could know who you be that I might shake your hand and thank you face to face.

I also wish to thank the many friends who were so thoughtful of me during my recent illness.

Though I am not blessed with wealth it is sweet to know that I have friends that are tried and true.

It will be a life long comforting thought.

I remember you dear friends every night before I sleep.

CLAUD B. JACKSON.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN HINES

News was received here this morning of the death of Mr. John Hines of Oak City, who died Saturday night at ten o'clock. Mr. Hines was about 64 years old, having lived all his life at the home of his brother, until a few years ago he bought a home in town. He was a prosperous farmer, in early life married Mrs. Ida Hyman, who died in 1902. He afterwards married Mrs. Cartwright of Portsmouth, Va., who survives him, also three boys and two girls, Kit Hines, of Dunn, John and Spencer of Oak City and two girls at home. Our heart goes out in sympathy to the bereaved ones, and may God in his infinite mercy lead, guide and direct them in the path he would have them go.

Mrs. Flowers is here on a visit from Portsmouth to Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Gray.

STATE LEGISLATORS ARE NOW BUSY

(By "Llewzham")

RALEIGH, Jan. 8.—The first week of 1917 was an historical freak. I have been reporting the proceedings of every General Assembly that has done business in this town for the last 18 years—and never one like this before.

With Punctilious biennial regularity I have witnessed and recorded the lavish wastefulness of time the first week of every regular session—the law-makers dawdling away a brief period each day yelect a "session," ostensibly with nothing to do because the legislative machinery just couldn't get in motion (for no well defined reason) inside of a week or two.

In some of the "cloak rooms" and other more or less secret places in and around the State House, the odor of apple brandy and cawn lieker pervaded the atmosphere. A considerable percentage of the legislators and employees (not to mention the festive "lobbyists and the nimbel 'representatives' of the liquor supply houses and blind tiger agents) brought the aroma of the distilled fruit and grain into the Senate and House and offices and breathed it into the nostrils of those who came in contact with them—and without a thought of apology ever suggesting itself to 999 percent of them for it was the custom of those days, understand.

The Evolution of the Tar Heel Legislator

Now, all of a sudden, we find this great radical change, this wonderful change—and it amounts to a clear instance of transformation itself.

This year the busiest week of the session (as far as actual legislative "grind" goes) is the first seven days of the 60—days work allotted. Because of the recent adoption of the Constitutional amendments affecting a certain class of legislation the "Little bills" mostly local in character, which have consumed so much of the time of previous legislatures, are barred out this year—unless presented by or before Jan. 10th. Hence these busy opening days. They are estopped on and after Wednesday of this week—and then the real and serious and worthwhile work of the session begins. Everybody busy ever since noonday of the first day of the session—too busy to drink lieker. It is literally the truth that is stated when I add that I have not seen, have not smelled any "lieker" up here this session. No sir, not a single sensation excited through the lofactory never like that yet, on myself or anybody else—and five days have elapsed since this Society of Solons gathered themselves together here.

Nothing like this ever occurred in this place before since the cornerstone was laid—way back nigh onto ninety ye-a-r-s ago.

Jehosaphat! Think of it! A whole Tarheel legislature here in Propria persona, for five (count 'ems) long days of 24 hours each, without a drink! And what's more surprising, no bill of lading for anything like spiritus frumentis is lurking in the distance. And the most astounding thing connected with the situation is that nobody around here appears to care a continental if they never fall into an oasis of 'stillery worm juice.

More Students to Raleigh Other Result

These be also the days when students, hundreds and hundreds, renniting into several thousands, are rejoicing their fellow students in the flee colleges here. They come from all over North Carolina and are entering the A. & M. College, and King's Business College, (two best places I know of to get learning and trainging that will pay most in dollars and cents and fit one for the business battles of life) The girls are filling Meredith College, St. Mary's and Peace Institute—and it makes a time North Carolina's heart swell with gladness to look upon them and the fine preceptors who are fitting these boys and girls to successfully fight life's battle.

Suggestive Developments

"Retrenchment and reform" (ever hear the like before?) Is not figuring any to speak of as a slogan up here this session—certainly not with reference to the State's payroll. Nearly every office-holder and every clerk (some few exceptions to all rules, of course) is hoping for a raise in salaries. Gov. Craig gave the home a boost in his personally conducted message to the general assembly, but everybody concerned in authorizing the

A. C. L. ASK FOR OUR LOCAL EXHIBITS

The industrial agent of the Atlantic Coast Line Railway writes the secretary of the local Board of Trade asking whether he could get together an exhibit the products of the territory to be placed in the Agricultural Car of the A. C. L. which will shortly leave on its trip through the country, and especially the west.

Mr. Smith would therefore be glad if the farmers of this section would get together exhibits that would make a creditable showing of our production and advise the Secretary of the Board of Trade that they will do so, in which case he will advise with the demonstration agent as to the best way to make this exhibit.

This matter requires quick action and as it is an opportunity to show the rest of the world the fertility of the county it should be embraced and a very attractive exhibit placed in the car.

GERMANS CAPTURE GALREASKA (BY UNITED PRESS)

BERLIN, Jan. 9.—It is reported that the town of Galreaska in Roumania has been taken by storm after hard fighting, and was successfully maintained against vigorous counter attack.

In the advance it was officially stated that the Germans took over five thousand prisoners.

Mrs. R. J. Manney, Misses R. J. Manney, Annie House left Sunday for Petersburg to visit Mrs. Manney's father, Mr. J. B. House.

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ADVERTISE SCOTLAND NECK SAYS BION H. BUTLER

A letter received by Mr. Norfleet Smith, secretary of the Board of Trade from Bion H. Butler, of Southern Pines, N. C., suggested that the local Board of Trade take up the matter with the Senator and representatives the question of having a law passed permitting the state, counties and towns to appropriate money for the purpose of advertising themselves.

He stated in his letter that Moore county alone would receive this year at least \$50,000 more in taxes from new settlers in that county as a result of advertising that had been done through the Sand-Hill Board of Trade. Mr. Butler gave it as his opinion that any county could well afford to spend from \$5,000 to \$20,000 in advertising its resources as shown in the results of Moore county.

BROGDEN-MARKHAM

This evening at six o'clock, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Markham, Durham, N. C., will be solemnized the marriage of their daughter, Miss Lula B. Markham to Mr. W. J. Brogden.

These parties are well known in this section, Mr. Brogden being one of the foremost lawyers of Durham while his bride is well known in social circles.

Immediately after the wedding the couple will leave for the north where the honeymoon will be spent, returning about the 20th, when they will be at home to their friends.

raise don't appear to be unanimous, and the leven seems not to be working fast enough to bake that cake in time.

Of course, the State's officials and employees feel the cost of living is very much h'isted these war times. But so does everybody else. And the biggest part of the whole shooting match has to grin and bear it.

When brograms command thirteen dollars per, some of us can afford to go barefooted or sew raw-hides on our understanding and limp it out. Till then, bon sour!

State Purchasing Agency

Senator Oates joint resolution creating a Commission of five legislators to investigate and report on the advisability of establishing a State Purchasing Agency for the purpose of supplies for the various departments of the State Government and for the several state institutions is some proposition. Nobody yet seems to have smelt the size of the rodent that ramrodded itself down the bore of this bomb but I am passing on the suspicious circumstances that I noticed an eager terrier sniffing excitedly in the neighborhood of the thing a few moments ago.

Mass Meeting On River Bridge

Expert Engineers to be Present to Discuss Practiciability of Scheme And The Cost

ADJOINING COUNTIES SEEM FAVORABLE

Definite arrangements will be made Wednesday night at the meeting of the directors of the Board of Trade for a mass meeting of the citizens of the town, and also those who are residents of the country contiguous to Scotland Neck, when a clear cut proposition will be outlined for full and free discussion as to the advisability of pushing forward the movement to build the Roanoke River Bridge.

The mass meeting will be held some day next week in Macky's Opera House, and the exact date will be published in the next issue of the Commonwealth.

At this meeting the Board of Trade will be in possession of full data on the cost, difficulties, benefits, and everything appertaining to the project, and also have in attendance at the least one engineer of note, and be

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given at

Mr. R. S. Neal, an old Scotland Neck man, and an engineer of considerable reputation, who has complete plans of the proposed bridge, will be present. Mr. Neal will be glad to advise his former townsmen as to the feasibility of this project, and, having the confidence of the people, any suggestion, or advice, coming from him will be worthy of careful consideration.

The public is urgently requested to attend the meeting as the Board of Trade is extremely anxious to give each man an opportunity to express his opinion, and hereby ascertain the full sentiment of the community as a whole regarding the movement.

If the public want the bridge built the Board of Trade will do everything within its power to push the movement to completion without delay.

The Commonwealth heartily endorses this movement, feeling that it will be in the interest of the town, and surrounding community, for it will give us access to a virgin territory and bring us in touch with 10,000 to 15,000 people who now trade elsewhere.

It has been the cry to increase and develop our town, and that is right. Develop and increase. What more feasible than to take this big territory so adjacent to our own, and the population that will be so beneficial a builder to our commercial value. What greater opportunity could come knocking at the door of any town than this, a wealthy population of ten thousand people willing and anxious to trade with us.

In addition to the question of monetary advantage to us from getting the trade across the river there is a broader view to consider, and that is it will put Scotland Neck on the map with

A NATIONAL HIGHWAY

as it will connect the eastern coast of the south, with Virginia, and states north, through Scotland Neck. Look at the map and determine this for yourselves. It is the logical route of travel as soon as roads are built across the river to connect with other good roads already waiting this connection.

The adjoining counties of Bertie and Northampton are heartily in favor of the proposed bridge, and will agree upon the bridge being built, either by township bond issue, or private subscription, which goes to show that our neighbors are willing and anxious to be closely connected with Scotland Neck.

The Commonwealth has looked at the matter from every angle and cannot see a flaw. It is mathematically correct in every detail that this bridge and road should connect, and that it should run through Scotland Neck, and if this project becomes an actual result this town will have then come in-

to her own, which should have been the case when the main line was built instead of having been put on a branch though it may be that this disability has made Scotland Neck hustle for what she has attained, and has made of its people the kind they are, which puts a good taste in the mouth of the visitors that come from time to time

FARM SUGGESTIONS

(By Donald McCluer)

All farm tools should be cleaned and put in repair during bad weather. It will save time when farm work starts. This is a good time to plan your cropping system for next spring.

Manure properly handled and applied to the land means more money to the farmer next fall.

(If any farmer in the county wish to ask for information on any subject connected with the care, up-keep or improvement of his farm or stock, a letter addressed to The Commonwealth will obtain the required information.)

LAWSON PUT THROUGH THIRD DEGREE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The committee of the house investigating the alleged leak of the president's message, which caused the loss of millions on the stock exchange had before it Thomas W. Lawson, of Boston, who had previously written to the Committee that he was in possession of the name, or names, of the men who divulged the message.

Though put through a searching investigation Lawson still refused to divulge the name of the cabinet member responsible for the leak.

Congressman Bennett made a motion to report Lawson to the house for contempt for failure to answer questions, but the action on this motion was deferred.

Again refusing to divulge the name of the banker who told him of the cabinet official, he stated that he would be willing to tell any member confidentially, but would not tell the name in open committee.

Incidentally Lawson urged Federal regulation of the New York stock exchange.

Under persistent questioning by Representative Chipperfield, of Illinois, Lawson confessed that he had no direct information of anyone profiting through the alleged leak.

Lawson definitely promised finally to give the name of the cabinet member if the present commission recommended full rather than preliminary probe.

He further mentioned that there might be another name who might make the matter more serious than those now hinted at.

He finally admitted what he really wanted was an investigation of the New York Stock Exchange, and that he did not care much about the leak probe.

NAVAL PROGRAM 300 MILLION

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The last session of the Sixty-fourth Congress appropriated \$313,384,212 for the 1917 naval building program. The act was approved August 29, 1916 and the money has ever since been available.

Of the 66 vessels authorized, however, in this, the greatest preparedness step in the history of the nation, 60 keels yet remain to be laid.

Inability to agree on terms of cost demanded by private yards have been responsible for the delay according to Sec. Daniels.

For the entire program of construction, bids have been received for all but one vessel. This is an ammunition ship for which bids were opened January 3. Contracts already have been placed for four battleships, 20 destroyers, and 30 submarines. For eighteen of the last named, however, certain details yet remain to be worked out before their construction can be started.