

The Smithfield Herald

VOLUME 40

SMITHFIELD, N. C., TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1921

NUMBER 7

DEVELOPMENT OF MUSIC IN JOHNSTON

Mr. G. E. Thornton Thru Sale of Instruments Does Much to Foster Music

"Music is well said to be the speech of angels."—Thomas Carlyle.

"Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast. To soften rocks, or bend a knotted oak."—Congreve.

"The man that hath no music in himself, Nor is moved with concord of sweet sounds, Is fit for treasons, stratagems, and spoils."—Shakespeare.

Turning over in his mind such thoughts as these, the reporter dropped into the big music house of G. E. Thornton last Saturday afternoon. Mr. Thornton was busy with customers; but we suspect he appreciates a good newspaper, for when we said we were connected with the Smithfield HERALD, he immediately called Everett to wait on the customers, and devoted his whole time to us.

The large store, formerly occupied by Turnage and Talton, was filled from entrance to rear with musical instruments—pianos, player-pianos, and organs. There wasn't much room to sit down, so when we told Mr. Thornton that we wanted him to tell the HERALD something about his efforts and success in cultivating the musical taste of the county, he modestly disclaimed ever having thought of his work in that way, but he asked us to come into the little private office and "talk it over". Mr. Thornton said he came to Smithfield in 1900, "when he was a young man." (He looks like one still). He immediately began trying to sell pianos and organs. He said he didn't know one thing about music, except that he loved it. He could sing in the choir, when the organist would teach him the song, but he never attempted to play any instrument, until the self-player piano was introduced. Since then, he says he has a good time, expressing his feelings in the finest music, without knowing a single note.

Since 1900 his little store has grown to be one of the largest music houses in the state. At that time, Mr. Thornton had the only music house in the county, but a short while ago, another was opened by Mr. Hall in Benson and Mr. Thornton says this is a good house too, though of course, it is still young. In twenty-one years, Smithfield has grown from a sleepy little village to a large and bustling town, and the music house has kept abreast of all the improvements. It is now one of the largest establishments of the kind in the state, and Mr. Thornton told us some of the comparisons which the traveling men draw between his house, and those in the larger cities; but he made us promise not to print them, for fear somebody might accuse him of exaggeration.

He has sold somewhat over 2100 instruments, most of them in his own county but many in other counties, and an appreciable number in other states. He has supplied many churches and schools with suitable instruments. We got to talking about how he had cultivated the taste of his county by providing musical instruments in the homes. And we both grew almost poetical, as we talked of the family "gathered round the Christmas fire," or "on a Summer's balmy evening," singing together, some favorite song, to an accompaniment, played upon one of his instruments. A sweet picture rose before our mental gaze, familiar to us and to every reader of The HERALD.

We can count on the fingers of one hand, the persons whom we have ever known who declared that they were not fond of music. We have never known a company of young people which didn't respond to the effect of some simple air, they could all sing, or maybe dance. When a family is fond of music, and some member of it can be an amateur, that family will like to stay at home in the evenings instead of wandering over town.

Among all the branches of education, none furnishes a bond of sympathy stronger and none exerts a greater influence for the mental and moral uplift than good music. But it is well nigh impossible to express a love of music, without some sort of an instrument. Therefore we told Mr. Thornton that other folks thought he had done a great work

DRUGGISTS HAVE A MEETING IN SELMA

Johnston and Harnett Ass'n Retail Druggists Hold Important Session

Selma, Jan. 24.—A meeting of the Johnston and Harnett Association of Retail Druggists was held here on Friday, January 21, in the Masonic Hall. The convention was called to order by the president, Mr. C. P. Harper, of the Selma Drug Company, at three o'clock. A large number of enterprising druggists from the two counties were present. The president made a brief address outlining the condition of the drug business to-day, and making suggestions as to the policy to be pursued in the future.

It was the pleasure of the members to have with them, F. O. Bowman, attorney for the State Board of Pharmacy. Mr. Bowman made an interesting and instructive talk which was enjoyed by the druggists. Many subjects were discussed which are of vital interest not only to the druggists but to the public as well. The association went on record as being opposed to dispensing anything which might be used as an intoxicating beverage. It was the sense of the meeting that the people should be given the benefit of declining prices and that the cost of drugs and merchandise would become less in proportion to the price charged by the manufacturer and jobber.

Election of officers took place, C. P. Harper, being re-elected as president, and P. A. Lee, of Dunn, being re-elected secretary. The Association adjourned to meet again in April, the date to be determined later.

Makes His Own Coffin

The Philadelphia Record publishes a dispatch from Allentown, Pa., which says that a casket that Walter E. A. Ziegler, of that city made for his funeral more than 25 years ago will now be utilized he having died at a hospital, following a long illness. He was 71 years of age and an expert coffinmaker.

For many years he was employed by an undertaker and, before retiring more than a quarter of a century ago, he made a solid walnut casket in which he expressed a wish to be buried when his death should occur. It has been stored all these years in his former employer's establishment.

for the county, though he might not have been convinced of it. He laughingly admitted that there might be some grounds for their opinion, and he mentioned one instance to support it. Some years ago he received a letter from a gentleman in a neighboring county, asking if he could not do something to awaken a musical consciousness in his section. The writer said that they had a good school, but he had never been able to employ a music teacher, as no one seemed to care for music, and the young people were growing up without an opportunity to develop that phase of their intellectual life. So Mr. Thornton went. He sold two pianos to the school, and also sold to two of the committeemen, and came home. The next year he got another letter, asking for more pianos and in response, he took a carload and sold them all in four days. The school had employed a good teacher of music, and the people had discovered that life held a brand new pleasure, which they had not known before.

Mr. Thornton sells the Hobart M. Cable, and the Marshall Wendell pianos. Both manufacturers furnish the self-player piano also, and he sells the famous Estey organs. He also sells records for the self-players, of all the standard music, so that anyone can sit down, and without any technical skill reproduce the most famous music of the world, just as it falls from the fingers of the most renowned pianists.

The new quarters of this interesting establishment, have all the necessary modern improvements, among others, an equipment of Arcola heat, which was very grateful to the cold and weary, wandering reporter on a raw January day. The HERALD hopes that the good work of this house in the past, may be overshadowed by the great success which awaits it in the future.

GOV. HARDING AT WINSTON SALEM

Delivers Address to Business Men—Says Times Are Now Improving

Winston-Salem, Jan. 21.—Gov. W. P. G. Harding, of the Federal Reserve Board in his address at a luncheon in his honor at the Zinzendorf Hotel at noon today by the Chamber of Commerce and a brief talk at a dinner given this evening by Col. F. H. Fries at the Twin-City club, made a fine impression. Colonel Fries, president of the Wachovia Bank and Trust company, declared that the message of business men of this community was both instructive and convincing.

Governor Harding spoke optimistically as to the future, declaring that the developments of the past thirty days must convince those who have possessed doubts heretofore that all danger of a great financial or money panic has been passed and that business generally is safely over the most critical and trying stage of readjustment period.

"Heretofore," he said, "following periods of artificial expansion the reactions that have come have usually been sharp and sudden, accompanied by money panics. Nothing of the sort has occurred in the present readjustment period. While many predictions were made that an old-fashioned panic was inevitable, I never once doubted the ability of the Federal Reserve System to prevent any such condition.

"The decline in prices was necessarily disastrous to those producers who had gone heavily in debt, with the expectations that the prices which existed a year ago would be sustained or even advanced, and in many individual cases great losses will be suffered, but so far as the community as a whole is concerned there is no question of solvency.

"In working out the situation, it is necessary that those who have extended credits should exercise patience and moderation and forbearance. In cases where debtors show themselves to be worthy of confidence and are willing to meet reasonable requirements.

"I have observed no disposition on the part of the banks to force collections by foreclosures or other drastic means except as a last resort. There are signs everywhere of a revival of business in the spring," declared Governor Harding.

Farmers Take Notice

At the Banner Warehouse tobacco is selling much better than it did before the holidays. Especially the better grades. We advise you to cut your tobacco crop the coming season and be sure to get good tobacco seed and make it good and we feel sure you will get a good price for it. We have the following seed: Hickory Pryer, Warno, Gold Leaf, Tillie, White Stem, Orinoca and Crutch. If you want any drop us a card stating the kind you want and the number of yards you want to sow. Bring us your tobacco and we will get you a good sale.—Skinner & Patterson.

Program of Central Union Meeting

The following program will be rendered at the Baptist Center church on Saturday and Sunday, January 29, and 30th, 1921.

SATURDAY

10:30 to 10:45—Devotional service.
10:45 to 11:15—Christian Loyalty, Rev. J. W. Smith.
11:15 to 12—Loyalty to the church, Rev. M. P. Davis.
12 to 1:15—Dinner.
1:15 to 1:30—Devotional service.
1:30 to 2:00—Religious Indifference, S. J. Kirby.
2:00—Enlistment for Service, S. H. Averitt, followed by short voluntary talks.

SUNDAY

10:00 to 10:15—Devotional service.
10:15 to 11:00—Sunday School work, Prof. W. H. Hipps.
11:00—Doctrinal sermon, Rev. M. P. Davis.
12:00 to 1:15—Dinner.
1:15 to 1:30—Devotional service.
1:30 to 2:00—B. Y. P. U. Work, Perry Morgan.
2:00—Moral and Spiritual Revival Needed, F. H. Brooks, followed by short voluntary talks.

APPROPRIATION OF \$185,000 FOR N. C.

Money in Rivers and Harbors Bill Continues Work Now Underway

Washington, Jan. 21.—Advance report concerning the rivers and harbors appropriation bill soon to come from the house committee indicates that North Carolina will get a very small slice of federal appropriations for its streams and harbors during the next fiscal year. The new bill will carry only about \$185,000 for North Carolina projects, although there are unexpended balances which will still remain available.

The report of the army engineers recently submitted asked for more than a million dollars for North Carolina projects. The economy regime, however, will hit the state, like all others, and practically the only sums allotted will be for maintenance work on existing projects.

Specific appropriations which it is understood will go in the bill are:

East branch of Cape Fear \$3,000; Black river, \$2,000; waterway connecting Core sound and Beaufort harbor, \$2,500; Contentnea creek, \$1,800; Trent river, \$1,750; Swift Creek \$1,000; Pamlico and Tar rivers, \$8,500; Neuse river, \$15,500; Manteo bay, \$4,500.

All of this is to continue work under way. For the inland waterway from Norfolk to Beaufort there will be an appropriation of \$50,000 for maintenance. There is an unexpended balance from past appropriations of about \$550,000 so this project will not suffer.

The engineers recommended \$695,000 for dredging the Cape Fear river at and below Wilmington, suggesting that \$600,000 of the amount be used in the construction of a dredge to be assigned to that river. Instead the house committee has decided to authorize the construction of four sea-going dredges to be used on the Atlantic coast and it was decided not to authorize a special dredge for the Cape Fear river.

One of these dredges may be assigned from time to time to that river and the committee has decided to allow an item of \$95,000 for maintenance work on the Cape Fear. This is the biggest appropriation for North Carolina.—Theodore Tiller in Greensboro News.

Lyric Gives To The Starving

In response to an appeal through the local Red Cross of H. A. Page, who has charge of the Relief work in North Carolina, for the starving children in Europe, the Lyric theatre will give their entire proceeds Wednesday, January 26, for that purpose. Good pictures will be put on at the usual prices, there being a matinee at 3:30 o'clock. Everybody is invited to attend the pictures and help a worthy cause.

House Burned in Cleveland

Thursday about two o'clock in the afternoon, the dwelling and smoke house of Mr. C. C. Williams, of Cleveland township were totally destroyed by fire. No one was at home at the time, and Mr. E. S. Edmundson who happened to be passing the road, discovered the fire first. Other assistance soon came, and an effort was made to extinguish the flames, but the fire had gained too great headway. About half the furniture, however, was saved and also the meat from the smoke house. About 300 pounds of lard were lost.

Mr. Williams' insurance had just run out and he had failed to renew. About twelve years ago, Mr. Williams had a similar misfortune losing his dwelling just after the expiration of his insurance policy. The fire was thought to have originated from a defective chimney flue.

Miss Martin Entertains

On last Friday evening, Miss Retta Martin delightfully entertained the D. G. S. Club and a few friends at the home of Mrs. W. N. Holt. Three tables of ruck was indulged in and toward the close of the evening, delicious fruit salad and punch was served. Those present besides the club members were: Misses Sarah Kennedy, Lillian Sefton, Margaret Moore and Vara Sanders.

ANNUAL REPORT OF CHILD WELFARE

First Report Gives 750 Violations in 17 Months—Commends Commission

Seven hundred and fifty violations of the North Carolina Child Labor law were discovered in the 3,935 inspections conducted under the direction of the Child Welfare Commission for the seventeen months' operation of the commission ending November 30, 1920 according to the first report of the commission submitted by Mr. E. F. Carter, executive secretary.

The report of the activities of the executive officer of the commission for the seventeen months, of which the enforcement of the child labor law was the outstanding feature, was the revelation to the members of the commission, who knew in a general way that the department was functioning, but who were not prepared for the volume of labor involved.

In a statement from the commission most emphatic and appreciative endorsement is given to the work of the executive officer in carrying out the child labor law and the policy of the commission.

"This report places before the General Assembly facts upon which it may base any further action on the subject of child labor, and the policy which the State may adopt for any enlarged or more useful program relative thereto."

The commission is composed of Mr. R. F. Beasley, Commissioner of Public Welfare; Dr. E. C. Brooks, Superintendent of Public Instruction; Dr. W. S. Rankin, secretary of the State Board of Health.

The child labor violations, discovered by the inspections, were in the main corrected without prosecution in accordance with the policy of the commission, though in some cases, because of persistent violations, prosecution was resorted to.

The mercantile establishments lead the list in violations, then follow barber shops, boot black stands, places of amusement, lumber yards, messenger and delivery service.—News and Observer.

NEW HOPE ITEMS

Messrs J. H. Wiggs and W. M. Gaslin visited at the home of Mr. R. E. Lee and Mrs. Annie B. Sanders Sunday.

Messrs Ferle and Rena Lee visited in Pine Level last week-end.

Rev. Mr. Biggs preached an able sermon at Antioch fourth Sunday.

We have three good churches in our community and yet on Sunday we have very poor Sunday School attendance. We would be pleased to have every man, woman and child take part in one of these Sunday Schools. Come, make it your Sunday School.

On Friday night, January 28, the Community Literary society will give the following mock trial.

"The Grea. Chewing gum case." Plaintiff—Fred Lee.

Defendants—Snead Sanders, and Henry Lee.

Witness for state—Blake Denning. Witness for defendants—Holland and Bryan.

Lawyer for state—Jerry George.

Lawyer for defendants—Albert Graham and Preston Coats.

Jurors.—Johnson, Rena Lee, Bessie Sanders, Luby Royall, Willie Grady, Clarence Upchurch.

Judge—Roland Hayes.

Harding Enjoys Vacation

The house boat, Victoria, on which President-elect Harding is taking a vacation, attempted to go through a drawbridge at Ormand beach, Fla., Sunday, at too shallow a point, and stuck in the mud. The boat was held up for more than an hour. During the tie up, the passengers disembarked, and went on an auto ride along the Florida east coast boulevard.

Wilson To Improve House

Washington, Jan. 22.—President Wilson plans to spend \$4,000 in repairing the \$150,000 house in the fashionable Sheridan circle section which he purchased recently as his permanent residence after March 4. A permit for this amount of repairs was issued today by the District of Columbia government.

GREAT COMMUNITY MEET AT NEW HOPE

Good Pictures and Music; Fine School; Enrolled Over 100—90 Attend

Certainly one of the finest community meetings of any name or order that has been held in Johnston county for many a day, was the Community Service program held last Saturday night at New Hope school house in Ingrams township and directed by Miss Lucy Lawley, Director of the Community Service for this county.

The regular program consisted of a six-reel picture show, the first part of which was purely educational, showing first rate glimpses of rural life in Russia and scenes in some of our western states where sheep-raising is one of the leading industries. This was followed by a play in which a little girl was the star and an old army officer and a fitter of children clothes got sentimental. Following this romance came one of Bud Fisher's comedies, "Mutt and Jeff in the Trenches".

In addition to the regular picture show, an especially pleasing and attractive part of the entertainment was the splendid music that was rendered by Mr. Percy Smith, violinist; Miss Lucy Wellons, piano accompanist; and Mr. Walter Benson with guitar. Somewhere from out of the audience Miss Lawley lifted a little three-year-old boy, whom she introduced as "Bobby." Bobby, not a bit abashed, took his stand upon the rostrum, and in one of the sweetest of little baby voices sang "Old Black Joe," and "Merrily, Merrily."

More than the entire New Hope community were present. The house was indeed a packed house. Every available seat was taken and many were compelled to stand throughout the program. A solid hour and a half of pure, clean entertainment was enjoyed by the large audience. Every one present showed his appreciation of the entertainment by the closest attention and the hearty applause which the music and the pictures acquired.

The school at New Hope this year is under the excellent management of Miss Lillian Snypes, principal; Miss Annie Holland, primary teacher; and Miss Blake, intermediate teacher. The school has enrolled over 100 pupils and last month report showed an average daily attendance of over ninety.

A Language Test

"There isn't much I don't know about the English language," boasted the long-haired man in the club.

"I'll tell you," a friend picked him up quickly. "I'll dictate a paragraph to you."

With an assured air, the boaster seized his pencil, but his jaw dropped as he heard. "As Hugh Hughes was hewing a yule log from the yew tree a man dressed in clothes of a dark hue came up to Hugh and said: 'If you will wait until I hew this yew tree I will go with you anywhere in Europe to look for your ewes.' said Hugh."—The Argonaut.

Smithfield Ahead of New York

The New York dailies which come to this office have carried several comments in their Art Departments, during the past fortnight, upon the film play of "Polly With a Past" with Ina Claire as the star. When we were passing by the Lyric recently, we saw the billboard with an ad, for this same much talked of picture. We thought our up-to-date Movie manager had probably procured the New York attraction for a date, maybe in the Spring. But to make sure, we went in and Mr. Williamson told us our surprise, that we were a few weeks too late, that he had shown the picture at the Lyric, some time in December. So it would seem to be proved that in the movie art, at least, Smithfield is ahead of New York.

Box Party at Corinth

Next Saturday night, at the Corinth school, there will be a box party for the benefit of the school. A good string band will be present and furnish music. Everybody invited.

C. B. Thomas, Teacher.

Watch the date on your label and renew when your time is up.