

EDITORIAL PAGE



THE ADVANCE

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EDITOR

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"Entered as second-class matter,
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Elizabeth City, North Carolina, under
the act of March 3, 1879."

Our tenant farmers, courageous,
honest, patient and long-suffering,
when shall they see light? When
shall their burdens be lifted? In
the Springtime they go forth, and
with our brothers in black set their
hands to the plow. They bend
their backs to the burden, and when
the frost falls they have added \$1-
000,000,000 to the wealth of the
world. But small, indeed, is their
share, and meager their recompense.
Every two years, according to the
government census, they move
from one place to another.

They build no homes, they live
in rude huts, no flowers about their
dwellings, no trees to shade them
from the sun, consumed by the
summer's heat, and chilled by the
winter's cold, no lawns about their
houses, no garden fences; and with
the accursed cotton plant crowning
the very threshold of their rude
dwellings and thrusting its limbs
into their very windows, their lot
is indeed pitiable.

Their sons and daughters come
to manhood and womanhood, desert
the farms and are lost in some dis-
tant community. Finally when
their pilgrimage is over, they are
laid to rest in the rude churchyards
of the country, others take their
places and continue the fight. They
have established no permanent
homes, their kith and kin are scat-
tered far and wide, and the places
that knew them once know them
no more forever.

I have no word of criticism for
men like these. I know them, I
have lived among them, I sprang
from them. Who shall undertake
to lead these men out of the wil-
derness of their trouble? Men whom
they elevate to high offices in the
State and national government, are
ever ready to teach them politics
but they are not prepared to help
them solve their problems of life.
A fearful responsibility rests at this
time upon men in authority and
men in high offices. Will they
meet it?

—Joseph T. Holman, Presi-
dent Southern Mortgage Com-
pany and Director American
National Bank of Atlanta.

**A STEP IN THE RIGHT
DIRECTION**

"We urge upon the presiding
elders and pastors of rural churches
that for the future wherever prac-
ticable, in the location of church
buildings, they be placed adjacent
to school buildings, and that in the
location of parsonages, we join with
the school authorities in placing the
homes of the teacher and preacher
alongside church and school build-
ings. We recognize that these two
institutions—the church and the
school—should together form the
center of community life, and that
preacher and teacher should be the
natural leaders and moulders of this
community life.

This quotation is from a report
adopted by the Western North Car-
olina Conference of the Methodist
Episcopal Church, South, appearing
in last week's issue of the Univer-
sity News Letter. It is in line with
the idea which The Advance has
put forward time and again, that is,

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February 8, 1916.
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Hen Eggs per dozen 23c.

SELLING TODAY

FLOUR

Patapsco, best patent \$6.90

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Oats per bushel 58c.
Corn, White, per sack \$1.55

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Meal, per ton 38.00
Hulls per ton \$15.00

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Ground Alum, per bag 65c.

that country churches should be
served by country preachers—
preachers who live in the country
and know the needs of the rural
people whom they serve.

The preacher and the teacher are
the natural leaders in their commu-
nity, and if either of them is not
equipped for this leadership it is
time for the church to get a new
preacher and the school a new
teacher. But however well equip-
ped he may be, it goes without say-
ing that no man can lead in a com-
munity without living in it. When
a church is served by an absentee
preacher, a preacher whose service
to the church is nothing more than
a once a month or twice a month
sermon, what vital interest has that
preacher in the school which serves
the community in which the church
is situated. And what prerogatives
of leadership can the teacher exer-
cise who runs home to spend every
week end as soon as his school
work is finished on Friday after-
noon?

We have preached this sermon be-
fore and we are likely to preach it
again, even at the risk of the sub-
ject matter becoming wearisome
to our readers. But when we see
our country communities building
their preacher a home beside the
church and building their teacher a
home beside the school, we will de-
sist.

**THE OPPORTUNITY OF
THE CITY**

It was Professor Branson who,
in his address here on Community
Service Day, called our attention to
the fact that Pasquotank has 93,-
000 idle wilderness acres within
its bounds—that three-fifths of the
county's total area is a total waste.

It was The Advance which, fol-
lowing Professor Branson's address
and commenting on it, pointed out
that these lands were waste not
on account of lack of fertility but
on account of lack of drainage. By
incorporating these waste lands
in drainage districts and digging
canals to take off the surface wa-
ter, not only would the area of
tillable land in the county be dou-
bled but the productivity of much
cultivated land which now in wet
years is water soaked would be
vastly increased.

It was The Advance, too, which
called public attention to the
fact that though drainage districts
have been formed and wilderness
acres reclaimed in other counties
in this section, in Pasquotank not a
single community has formed such
a district.

We are glad to hear that there
is now talk of forming such a dis-
trict in Newland township. We
hope sincerely that the matter will
not rest at talk. We urge the busi-
ness men of Elizabeth City to
show themselves interested in this
movement; we urge the banks to
lend their influence to foster it.

Incidentally, it is said that the
formation of the proposed drainage

district will pave the way, or
rather ditch the way, for the open-
ing of a direct road from Tadmire
to Gates county. Here is some-
thing about which people have
been talking for a generation, and
we do not know how much longer,
here is a project which would
unite farming lands only a few
miles apart as the crow flies; but
which, under present conditions,
are as far apart commercially as
if they were in different states.

Elizabeth City is interested in
both these propositions. We want
more farmers and better farmers
and bigger crops in Pasquotank
county. We want closer and
quicker communication with Gates
county.

The opportunity of the city lies
in the country.

A BETTER OPPORTUNITY

Some time ago an announcement
appeared to the effect that the early
opening of a new banking house in
Elizabeth City was probable. Hav-
ing heard nothing further of the
movement, we infer that it has
come to nothing.

A citizen of the city in whose busi-
ness judgement this paper and the
people generally have great confi-
dence remarked to the editor, after
noticing the news item, that a
better proposition in Elizabeth City
would be the establishment of a
building and loan association. Com-
ing from any one, the suggestion
would probably have impressed us
favorably; but from a man already
in the business of building houses
for other people it appealed to us
with peculiar force.

Would not the organization of
some such company here tend to in-
crease the percentage of home own-
ers among us? Would it not tend
to improve the appearance of the
city's residence streets? Would it
not afford an outlet for capital now
comparatively idle? And could not
an organization of this kind be
speedily effected in Elizabeth City?

The Advance will be glad to put
any person genuinely interested in
this proposition in touch with the
man from whom this paper got the
idea.

**MORE WORKERS AND FEWER
TALKERS THE NEED**

The annual rumor, that the
Y. M. C. A. will open in
the Spring has repeated its
annual debut and the matter is
being mildly agitated on the street
corners, in the drug stores and ho-
tels, lobbies and wherever young
men are in the habit of assembling.

As usual there is no announce-
ment of any definite plan of action
unless it is expected that a Young
Men's Christian Association can be
talked into life. That has seem-
ed to be the idea of some of those
who have continually urged this
paper to boost the Y. M. C. A.
without giving us any data from
which to take a text. Continual
talk, unless it is followed by some
sort of action usually does more
harm than good. It is conceivably
possible to talk a live man to
death; but it is inconceivable to
think of talking a dead one into
life. And frequently when popu-
lar interest in a public movement
has waned, the continual effort to
talk it up makes the people the
more weary of it and less favorably
disposed toward it. Better to say
nothing whatever about the Y. M.
C. A. unless what is proposed can
definitely and decisively and vig-
orously and promptly undertaken.

This year there is one hopeful
sign, however, in the talk of the
movement to raise the needed
funds. It is stated that the young
men will undertake the canvass for
funds. The Advance believes that
if the young men will enlist them-
selves for active service in this
movement that something definite
will be accomplished. The young
men realize more clearly than any
one else their need of what a Y.
M. C. A. would give them. An
appeal from a young man, when
he can overcome his natural timi-

dity so far as to make one with
his whole heart, is the most irri-
table appeal in the world—also
surely the majority of the world's
women would remain unmarried.
Then, as those who would be most
benefitted by an active Y. M. C.
A. in the town, it behooves the
young men to show their interest
in the movement by their works.
If they will give their time and
their talent and their enthusiasm to
raising money for a Y. M. C. A.
they will show their interest and
their need ten thousand times more
forcibly upon the heart of the city
than they ever will by making a
great lamentation to the effect
that Elizabeth City does nothing
for its young men.

In connection with the sugges-
tion of mapping out a definite plan
of campaign, an idea has occurred
to us that we pass on for the young
men's consideration. One of Eliza-
beth City's citizens who is not so
very old made us his confessor in
a moment of confidence and acknow-
ledged that the two desires of his
heart were to see the opening of
Elizabeth City's Y. M. C. A. and
the reorganization of Elizabeth
City's chamber of Commerce. Now
would not the reorganization of a
chamber of commerce be the one
best first step toward the opening
of a Y. M. C. A.? Could not a
chamber be organized with the un-
derstanding that its first step would
be a campaign to open a Y. M. C.
A. in Elizabeth City? Would not
a chamber of Commerce organized
on this basis be sure of enrolling
young men as its members—a con-
summation long devoutly desired
by some of us?

In order to plan a successful
campaign for a Y. M. C. A. fund
the young men must have organi-
zation. What better organization
for this purpose than a Chamber of
Commerce? Then when the Y. M.
C. A. had been made an active
force in the city's life, the cham-
ber of Commerce could find other
worlds to conquer.

MRS. C. N. HOBBS DEAD

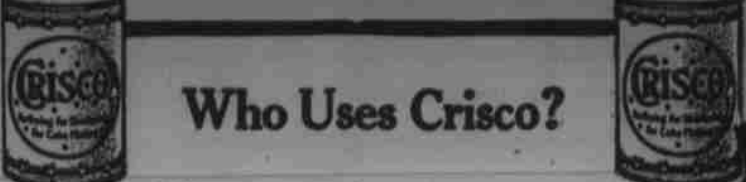
Mrs. Charles Norman Hobbs
died Monday morning at the Eliza-
beth City Hospital at twenty-
three minutes to five o'clock from
blood poisoning. Mrs. Hobbs
home was at Durants Neck and
she entered the hospital here last
Wednesday after a ten days illness.
The funeral will be conducted at
two o'clock this afternoon by Rev.
J. Y. Old at the home of Mr. and
Mrs. B. L. Banks on Main Street.
Mrs. Hobbs was about thirty
years of age and is survived by
her husband and three small chil-
ren. Before her marriage she
was Miss Lizzie Relf, and a broth-
er, Nathan Relf of Perquimans; a
sister, Mrs. Walter Newbern of
Powells Point; and an aunt, Mrs.
B. L. Banks of this city, also sur-
vive her.

FUNERAL ELBERT GREGORY

The funeral of Elbert Gregory
was conducted from the home Sun-
day afternoon at four o'clock by
Rev. J. N. Loftin. The Odd Fel-
lows of the city of which order he
was a member attended in a body.
Mr. Gregory died Saturday even-
ing shortly after six o'clock at
his home on North Road street,
having been a victim of tubercu-
losis for a number of months and
confined to his room for the past
two weeks. He was twenty-eight
years of age and a painter by trade,
the son of Mr. M. D. Gregory of
this city. Besides his father he
is survived by four brothers; Hen-
ry, Edward, Frank and Richard;
and by two sisters; Miss Beasie
Gregory and Mrs. M. G. Wright.

WEAK, AILING CHILD

Made Strong By Delicious Vinol
Lakeport, N. H.—"Our little girl 8
years of age was in a debilitated, run-
down condition and had a stubborn
cough so she was weak and ailing all
the time. Nothing helped her until
we tried Vinol. Then her appetite
increased and she is strong and well, and
I wish other parents of weak, delicate
children would try Vinol."—Geo. A.
COLLINS.
This is because Vinol contains the
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elements and the tonic iron which a weak
and run-down system needs.
Standard Drug Company, Elizabeth
City, N. C. A. L. Pendleton Prop.



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CRISCO is not a new,
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in thousands of homes, ho-
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the country.

It is taking the place of but-
ter, lard and other cooking
fats because it is better and
purer and more economical.

Each year the amount of
Crisco that is used is greatly
in excess of that used the
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That shows what women
think of it.

15c per can

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Norfolk Southern

.....to.....
GREENSBORO, N. C.

February 9--13

.....account.....

**North Carolina Convention
Laymen's Missionary
Movement**

Tickets on sale 8-10, bearing final return lim-
it February 14th.

For additional information consult Norfolk
Southern Ticket Agents or address the under-
signed.

H. S. LEARD, G. P. A.
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Watch the time made by their package cars.
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Money,"



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ADVANCE SHOP
CONTENTMENT**

