

Womans Club Holds Its Regular Meeting

Interesting Report Made By The
Welfare Department; Much
Work Being Done

The Woman's Club met on Friday afternoon in the High School auditorium with Mrs. J. M. Hobgood presiding. The report of Mrs. W. M. Wiggins, chairman of the Public Welfare department, which evoked favorable comment was as follows: 1 can hominy, 1 can pork and beans, 1 sack of flour, 5 lbs. lard, sausage, cracklings, 5 gallons oil given a needy woman; 5 gallons oil and 8 loads wood to a needy person; 1 sack flour, 1 sack sugar to a needy man; fruit and other articles to a sick woman; clothes and blankets for a baby; to a pellagra patient, steak and fruit; to a sick colored man fruit and sugar; suit of clothes and a shirt to a needy boy; dolls and toys at Christmas to children and a bathrobe given to ex-servant man in Asheville. Secured nurse for a sick woman, this bill to be paid by the local Red Cross; \$7.50 community money spent. The Literary and Art Department also made a creditable showing.

The need of a drinking fountain on the school grounds as seen by teacher of the primary grades was given by Miss Annie Perkins and a committee composed of Mesdames Annie Lang, J. H. Darden and F. M. Davis were appointed to investigate the cost of a fountain. A get-together dinner was discussed and the following arrangement committee appointed: Mesdames J. C. Spencer, G. A. Jones and H. W. Turnage. Plans for paying the debt on the piano were considered and a community dinner to be held in March was agreed upon. Mrs. J. W. Harrell was appointed Bulletin reporter. Her duties will be the bringing of a digest of the Bulletin to the meetings and reporting activities of this organization. An enthusiastic talk on a Garden Club by Miss Tabitha De Visconti resulted in the immediate organization of this department with a number of members enrolled and Miss De Visconti elected chairman.

After adjournment delightful refreshments were served in the Domestic Science rooms by Mesdames F. M. Davis, J. H. Darden, J. W. Harrell and Miss De Visconti.

THE PRESIDENT ON THE PRESS.

President Coolidge, in a recent address at the dedication of the National Press Club's new magnificent Washington home, gave it as his opinion that the American press has become invaluable to business, but has lost much of its power in molding public opinion.

The press "appears to have lost much of its power as a director of public thought," declared the President, and since he made the declaration newspapers throughout the country have been debating the question.

We do not share the alarm evidently felt by the nation's leaders. We think the small town press, at least, has always been, is, and always will be a moral and political guide to its readers as well as an ever-increasing force for the betterment of business.

The Power of the Press as a formative instrument in directing the public can not, shall not die. Other we hear persons assure the good old days, when Dana and Greeley and others, with their so-called personal journalism, had a tremendous influence. Today there are new Danas, new Greeyes, new Bennetts, but they have not about them the halo of romance which makes heroes about the past and makes it seem somehow more glorious, more colorful than the present.

When the hands of the dial have turned once enough, and this present generation becomes a past and fondly remembered, these persons will point to the editors of today, as now they point to the editors of yesterday, and declare loudly: "In these days newspapers were newspapers. They had real influence."

DUEL IN THE AIR

Like most others, we had supposed that fighting in the air first occurred when the advent of the planes, which were first used for combat on a large scale during the World War.

A recent writer who has been digging into French archives, declares however that at least one aerial battle was fought on the bank in 1693.

According to the story, in that year two Frenchmen named Gaspard and Le Page quarreled over a lady who had been betrothed to each, and each vowed to fight a duel in the air.

It was arranged that each should ascend in a balloon and shoot at out of range of the other. The balloon of the victor was shot in the air, and the other was forced to descend.

At the time of the duel, the balloons were filled with a mixture of gunpowder and feathers, and the victor was the one who was able to keep his balloon aloft the longest.

The duel was a complete success, and the victor was the one who was able to keep his balloon aloft the longest.

To Head Farm Loan



As a step toward new relief measures for farmers, President Coolidge has appointed Mr. Eugene Meyer, Jr. of the War Finance Corporation to head the Farm Loan Commission, and will be entrusted with developing the Administration farm plan.

Billy Sunday To Be In Greenville

Noted Evangelist Will Conduct
Series of Meetings In Our
Neighboring Town

Rev. William A. Sunday, more popularly known throughout the country as "Billy" Sunday, will open an evangelistic campaign in Greenville Sunday, April 22, according to information recently given out by Rev. W. S. Harden, pastor of the Greenville Presbyterian church, who has charge of tentative arrangements for the coming of the great evangelist.

Mr. Sunday indicated that he would continue the series of services through the last Sunday in May so there will be no conflict with commencement exercises of the city schools and the East Carolina Teachers College, which take place during the early part of June.

Arrangements for the coming of Mr. Sunday continue to assume more definite and concrete form with each succeeding day, Mr. Harden said, and it is expected every little detail of the campaign will be worked out by the time of the opening services.

Mr. Sunday is in Saint Louis at the present, and reports emanating from that city are to the effect that the campaign is meeting with more than general interest.

MAIN STREET

Life is full of paradoxes, and among these may be listed the fact that the noted ballyhooser Sinclair Lewis, who some years ago made himself famous by punching Main Street in the jaw, so to speak, is himself a product of that very "Main Street" for which he expressed such contempt. This in itself would not be significant. But one could string a list of names across the continent, and every name would be that of a successful and worthy man whose birthplace was some Main Street or other.

Main Streets are not only charming places, American artists to the contrary, but they are breeding spots of genius. Our small towns, aided by the little red school-houses, have turned out many men who are shaping the destinies of America today.

Colonel Lindbergh, our aviator extraordinary and Ambassador of Good Will, first saw the light of day in a small town; Calvin Coolidge, the President of these United States, is another of many examples of Main Streets that might be given; and there are, too, John J. Pershing, Henry Ford, James A. Reed, Charles G. Dawes, and William E. Borah.

And so Main Street has much of which to boast. True Main Street is not inhabited entirely by millionaires, but neither is Broadway.

Main Street needs no defense. The calling of its children, both those who will live on it and those who have left it for larger spheres, speak for itself. Hold your head high, Main Street! You are the place your falling are too good to be your victims.

MISS ROYALTY RUSTESS

Miss Dora De Graa Rustess celebrated her fourteenth birthday with a delightful Valentine party on Tuesday evening. Partners were found by exchanging hearts and dancing and games were enjoyed. Miss Dora was winner of a word contest and was presented with a large Valentine. The dining room was decorated with Valentine decorations and was a most charming affair.

Miss Rustess was accompanied by her mother and sister, and the party was a most successful one. The Valentine party was a most successful one.

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W. E. Hickman Sentenced; Hang

Will Face Trial For Another
Murder; Appeal Expected In
Kidnapping-Murder Case

Los Angeles, Feb. 14.—A criminal career, starting with petty robberies after graduation from high school, brought William Edward Hickman into the shadow of the gallows today for the kidnapping and slaying of Marian Parker, Los Angeles school girl.

Hickman was sentenced in Superior Court by Judge J. J. Trabucco to be hanged Friday, April 27, for the heinous offense that culminated his search for "easy money."

Tomorrow the youth who graduated from Central High School in Kansas City in 1926 with a brilliant scholastic record, is scheduled to go to trial for another murder, the slaying of C. Ivy Thomas, druggist, in the State's effort to make doubly sure he will not escape the noose.

An appeal which counsel for Hickman have announced will be filed is expected to delay carrying out of the death sentence pronounced today. Attorneys said it might be six months before a decision is handed down by the States Supreme Court. The case may reach the United States Supreme Court.

Meanwhile, the State will ask the death penalty in the trial for the Thomas killing, and District Attorney Asa Keyes said there was a possibility Hickman would be executed for that offense before the final decision is rendered in the Parker slaying.

Welby Hunt, 19, formerly of Kansas City, will be called to trial tomorrow with Hickman, but his attorney announced a plea of guilty would be entered with a request for mercy. Under the law Hunt is too young to be hanged.

Both Hickman and Hunt have confessed to participation in an attempted robbery of Thomas' store at Ross Hill Christmas eve, 1926, during which the druggist was shot to death. The two youths were armed but disagree as to which one fired the fatal shot.

Hickman came into court today anticipating the sentence to be meted out by Judge Trabucco, who sat in the recent trial in which the killer was found sane by a jury.

The slayer nonchalantly stood erect as sentence was passed. "You shall suffer the penalty of death. . . . In the manner provided by the laws of the State of California, and may God have mercy on your soul," Judge Trabucco intoned.

Judge Trabucco ordered that the defendant be delivered to the warden of San Quentin State Prison "to be by him executed and put to death on Friday, April 27, 1928."

On the charge of kidnapping the Parker girl, Hickman was sentenced to be confined at San Quentin for a term to be fixed by the Board of Prison Directors.

The voice of Judge Trabucco quavered as he finished with "and may God have mercy on your soul," but the condemned youth only dropped heavily into his seat. As he put out his hands to a guard who snatched on the handcuffs, Hickman remarked: "Your hands are shaking, but mine are not."

The slayer was in his usual jaunty appearance and he smiled while posing for photographers a few minutes later.

Alfred Hickman, brother of the convicted youth, was among the courtroom spectators. His face was downcast and he refused to talk to interviewers. The gray-haired mother, Mrs. Eva Hickman, had steered herself to the announcement of the expected punishment, which she received from Alfred at her hotel room. She calmly said it was what she expected, but that, with the aid of her son's attorneys, she would "fight for my boy until every means have been exhausted."

WAR OVER LOST CAT

According to a recent writer the war between the French and the Druze tribesmen of Syria in 1925 was caused by a lost cat, whose disappearance in turn resulted in some lost whiskers—but not the cat's whiskers.

As the story goes, a favorite cat belonging to the French governor of Damascus was missing and he accused the tribesmen of stealing the animal. He arrested six sheiks and warned them that unless the cat was returned within 24 hours he would cut off their whiskers. They pleaded innocence, but at the expiration of the time limit the heads were snapped off.

Failing to get satisfaction for this indignity from General Sarrail, the French commander, the Druze went on the warpath in a campaign which cost many lives on both sides.

Whether this was the real cause of the revolt we can not vouch, but it is more delicious than some other incidents which have led to war.

What I want you to remember is that pictures have been in the papers.

What's your name? "What's your name?" "What's your name?" "What's your name?"

Tobacco Crop Is Bigger Than Ever

Average Price For The Season
About 23 Cents, Two Cents
Lower Than Last Year

Raleigh, Feb. 15.—The sales of bright leaf tobacco in North Carolina to February 1st, 1928, aggregating 458,030,000 pounds with about 10,000,000 pounds yet unaccounted for, give this State a close approach to the largest production of tobacco that any state has ever made. The nearest approach was to that of Kentucky in 1919 when she made 512,000,000 pounds. The average price of the tobacco for the current season will be in the neighborhood of 23c, while the January average was 19.07c per pound.

There is quite a remarkable jump from last year's 364,009,000 pounds to this year's 458,030,000 pounds sold to February 1st. While last year's total crop was reckoned at 386,000,000 pounds, this year's will probably total more than 475,000,000 produced by the farmers. At 23c average, this will give about \$110,000,000 value for the crop. When the manufacturers get hold of it they will increase its selling value several fold.

Six markets of the Old Belt showed twice the farmers' sales that they did for the preceding year. While the average price is about 2c per pound less than last year, the increase of about 90,000,000 pounds in production makes quite a sizable increase in the aggregate value of the crop. The way the price has held up is evidence that there has been a terrific demand for this type of tobacco. According to the Federal Department's "Agricultural Outlook," farmers should think twice before planning for further expansion of this crop. It is inevitable that Georgia will increase her acreage.

Sixty-six warehouses operated in the Old Belt and thirty in the New Belt during January, with total sales from farmers amounting to 25,344,667 pounds, aggregating \$5,527,065. The Old Belt average was \$19.13, while that for the New Belt was \$13.75 per hundred pounds.

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Hartness Takes Oath Of Office

Pat H. Williams Also Begins
Budget Duties Without
Any Ceremony

Raleigh, Feb. 15.—James Alexander Hartness, of Statesville, yesterday became Secretary of State of North Carolina.

In the governor's office which was crowded by State Department heads and employees and friends of the former Iredell County Superior Court clerk and Anti-Saloon League leader of North Carolina, Chief Justice Stacy administered the oath of office to Mr. Hartness. The ceremony was brief, yet impressive. Governor McLean spoke briefly of the new official's fitness for the office to which he had been appointed on Monday.

Mr. Hartness went to work in the late William Nash Everett's office at once, faced with a pile of commissions to be issued and charters to be granted.

Secretary Hartness' first act, however, was his re-appointment of Max Dudley Abernathy, corporation clerk under the late Mr. Everett, Mr. Abernathy, too, had been a candidate for the appointment which went to his new employer. The clerk and the young women assistants who worked under the late secretary, were all retained.

Mr. Hartness yesterday disposed of the huge stack of charters of corporations which had accumulated on account of the death of Mr. Everett and the subsequent suspension of activity in his office. A large number of commissions for notaries public and justices of the peace, which are issued by the Governor but requires the signature of the Secretary of State will be issued today, as soon as a rubber stamp with the new secretary's signature can be obtained.

Senator Pat H. Williams, aspirant for Secretary of State who was appointed instead to the position of assistant to the Director of the Budget, will assume his duties today without any formalities. The position was created by the General Assembly of 1925 but has not been filled before.

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Plans Big Bond Fund; No Increase In Taxes

JR. O. U. A. M. TO PRESENT
BIBLE AND FLAG TO LOCAL
GRADED SCHOOL TODAY

The Farmville Council No. 141 Junior Order United American Mechanics will present a Bible and Flag to the local Graded School this afternoon (Friday) at three o'clock, at the regular meeting of the Parent-Teacher's Association.

Dr. J. W. Harrell, pastor of the Methodist church, will present the Bible and W. R. Hooper will present the Flag.

The public is cordially invited to attend these exercises.

WALSTONBURG P. T. A. MEETS.

The Walstonburg Parent-Teachers Association, on Thursday evening, February 2, 1928, presented a most interesting educational program. The meeting was opened with the singing of the state song "Ho, for Carolina," after which a piano duet was rendered by two of the high school girls.

Mr. J. E. Debnam, Chairman of the county school board, in his very impressive talk on "What Progress North Carolina Has Made in Education," discoursed on her wonderful school system, comparing the conditions now with those which prevailed about twenty-five years ago.

Next, Supt. H. G. Robertson discussed "What Greene County Has Done in Education." He gave some very enlightening facts and statistics in tracing the progress of the county during the last three years, since his administration and that of the present school board began. Greene county has risen from a county backward in education to a county equal in educational advantages to any of the surrounding counties, and her schools have been operated at a smaller cost than those of any of the adjoining counties. Her record is unequalled and unparalleled.

Mr. C. T. Hicks, president of the P. T. A. then outlined the rapid progress of the school of Walstonburg. Through the cooperation and earnest efforts of the people of the community, surrounding schools have been consolidated with it, a nice brick building has been built, and the school has risen from a two-teacher school of 1917, to a twelve-teacher Standard Elementary and High School.

The roll of the parents was next called and as usual the room having the largest percentage of its parents present, which happened to be the eleventh grade, was given a prize of two dollars.

Plans for beautifying the school grounds were discussed and it was decided that work toward that end should begin right away.

A COTTON QUEEN

For many years we have heard of King Cotton, a sovereign who has at various times nearly ruined his subjects, who by raising enormous crops have been forced to sell them at less than the cost of production. The periods of depression which have resulted throughout the cotton belt on this account have led to movements for less cotton acreage and more production per acre, the idea being to devote a larger portion of the land to other crops, so that the farmer would not be dependent upon cotton alone.

In connection with this movement prizes have been offered from time to time to encourage more intensive and effective cultivation of the soil, and these competitions have been open to club boys and girls as well as adults.

During 1927 the champion cotton raiser was Miss Ruky Lee Williams, 17-year-old daughter of a tenant farmer of Nacogdoches, Texas, who raised three bales of cotton on her one-acre plot of ground. In company with a number of state champions she will be given a trip to Florida and Cuba next month as the guest of a fertilizer concern.

Her accomplishment in cotton production has seldom if ever been equalled and she is justly entitled to the title of America's Cotton Queen.

LITERARY CLUB MEETS

An interesting meeting of the Literary Club was held at the home of Mrs. Annie Lang Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. After a short business session the following program with the general topic of "Fact and Fantasy" was presented by Mrs. J. H. Darden, who gave a splendid review of Burd's "Delectable Mountains," and by Miss Tabitha De Visconti with a paper on the revived Shelley as portrayed by Elmer Wylie in her romantic book "Orphan Angel." A prose marshmallow salad course with ribbon sandwiches and tea were served, hatched fawns being reminders of the approaching birthday of George Washington.

Mesdames J. M. Hobgood, H. S. Lang, B. S. Smith and T. E. Joyner were special guests.

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