

HOKE COUNTY JOURNAL

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RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MAY 12, 1927.

\$1.50 Per Year.

Install Burglar Alarm.

In keeping with their progressive policy the Bank of Raeford has let contract with the McCotter Burglar Alarm Co. for the installation of one of their electrical Burglar Alarms. This is the very latest in safety methods against burglars. This system has already arrived and will be installed shortly by an expert from the factory. At that time a public demonstration will be given all day long and the public will be cordially invited to come in and see the workings of this alarm. The exact date will be announced later.

U. D. C. Meeting.

The Raeford chapter U. D. C. met at the home of Mrs. C. W. Seate Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. Clyde Upchurch and Mrs. Benton Thomas were joint hostesses.

Mrs. W. B. McLaughlin, president, presided over this very interesting meeting. The most important feature of the meeting was the perfecting of plans for Memorial Day. After the business meeting, the following program was carried out:

Report from Tampa, Reunion. Mrs. Wallace McLean;

Story of the Swannee River, Mrs. W. M. McFadyen;

Why We Should Mark The Battlefield of Bentonville, Miss Jeanette McNeill

The hostesses served refreshments to the thirty members present.

John S. McNeil Dies Suddenly in His Home.

John S. McNeill, aged 67 years, died suddenly yesterday morning about 11:45 o'clock in his home on Adams street. Mr. McNeill was born in Cumberland county, and for several years lived in Spencer. He came here about 7 years ago and has been working as watchman at the Summit avenue crossing of the Southern railway.

Surviving are the wife, who was Miss Sallie Jordan; 5 daughters, Mrs. J. G. Harrison, of McAllen, Texas; Mrs. C. R. Weathers and Mrs. T. C. Johnson, of Spencer; Misses Grace and Florence McNeill, of Greensboro; five sons, J. D., G. L., J. T., Lee and Andrew, all of Greensboro; two sisters, Mrs. Annie Rackley, of Roseboro, and Mrs. J. G. McDuffie, of Raeford, and one brother, C. A. McNeill.

He was a member of the Woodmen of the World and the Jr. O. U. A. M. of Spencer.—Greensboro Daily News May 5th.

Mrs. J. G. McDuffie, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Harris and Lacy McNeill attended the funeral service.

A Card of Thanks

We wish to thank our many friends for their sympathy and kindness shown us during the illness and death of our wife, and sister, Mrs. S. L. Dowlin.

S. L. Dowlin,
N. W. Campbell,
W. C. Campbell,
S. A. Campbell,
Alberta Campbell.

List Takers.

Allendale, W. J. McLaughlin;
Antioch, P. McN. Gibson;
Blue Springs, R. J. Hasty;
Little River, Daniel McGill;
Quewhiffle, W. L. Thornberg;
McLaughlin, M. G. Ray;
Raeford, Frank Cameron;
Sponehall, A. A. Conoly.

Mother's Day was observed generally throughout the country last Sunday. They wrote, sent telegrams and flowers. Mother is the best loved woman in the land.

Incidents of The Reunion.

Although some time has elapsed since our return from the reunion in Tampa, Fla., I feel I should write something of the delights enjoyed and the wonders seen on that trip.

We made the via the Seaboard leaving Aberdeen at 7:43 p. m., the 4th, and arriving in Tampa at 9:30 p. m. on the 5th, six hours late, and were assigned homes on Siminale, three miles from Tampa Hotel, the largest hotel in the city and reunion headquarters, but there are a number of hotels in Tampa.

Everything was done for our comfort that possibly could be, automobiles free, to ride over the city and visit points of interest. We visited the largest cigar manufactory in the U. S., where five hundred employes find work. We crossed Tampa Bay over Gandy Bridge, seven miles to St. Petersburg, a toll bridge to others, but free to us. St. Petersburg with its palm trees and innumerable flowers is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Before the bridge was built it was 75 miles from Tampa to St. Petersburg around the head of the Bay; now it is only twenty or three miles.

We went over to Davis' Island that is being built by dredgeboats from the sand from the Bay. It now contains over six hundred acres, and they have a two million dollar hospital on this island also the coliseum where they have their fashionable dances. At St. Petersburg they have a driveway built by dredgeboat out to the pier, and five hundred cars may park around that building.

On returning our train was late in reaching Aberdeen, and the A. & T. train had gone, and we were left, so Mr. W. A. Blue, the president of the road, 'phoned to Montrose, had his train to wait for us, while he sent us there by automobile, and that without compensation for the kindness. We appreciate the courtesies of the Seaboard people, and the numerous and varied kindnesses of the citizens of Tampa, but if a showdown comes, no people in the world can beat our home people.

Notwithstanding our camp has dwindled to a few members, our board of county commissioners has provided for our camp to be represented at the reunion of the North Carolina Division United Confederate Veterans, which will be held in Raleigh in May.

ALEX. McMILLAN.

The price of cotton is crowding 15c a pound.

We've had nice, much needed showers of rain.

Moore county tripped its quota for the Mississippi flood sufferers.

Let's ship a good many porkers next fall, and leave enough for home use besides.

The tax listing time has come around again, and many have not paid last year's taxes.

The ground has not been wet to much depth here since the big snow. The rains have been light.

A few cars of dewberries will help these dull times. We should have had some strawberries also.

The city election in Raleigh set a bad precedent. And Raleigh should set a better political example.

The annual commencement exercises of the Spring Hill high school at Wagram will begin Sunday, May 15th.

The Fayetteville Lumber Co. of Fayetteville lost its entire plant and stock last Friday, a loss of \$35,000 or \$40,000.

Dr. B. R. Lacy, Jr., Commencement Speaker At Elise High School.

The twenty seventh annual commencement of the Elise High School will be held in the school auditorium on May 17, 1927. The annual address will be delivered by Dr. Ben R. Lacy, Jr., President of Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va. The school is fortunate to secure the services of Dr. Lacy for this address, and it is expected that many of his friends throughout this section will be present to hear the "Fighting Parson" of the war days give a parting message to the Senior class. It goes without saying that the address will be well worth hearing. The address will be at 2:30 p. m.

Sunday, May 15th, the Baccalaureate Sermon will be preached by Rev. J. I. Knight of Bristol, Tenn. Mr. Knight is a graduate of the Elise School and will receive a cordial welcome back to alma mater. Rev. A. D. Carswell of Raeford, N. C., will deliver the address before the Christian Endeavor Society on Sunday evening of May 15th.

Monday, May 16th, is Alumni Day. All former students are invited to be present for this big event. The Alumni Association has planned an interesting program for the day. There will be a business session at 11:00 a. m. The Alumni Luncheon will be held at 1 p. m. Plans are on foot to make this the biggest home coming ever held by the Elise boys and girls and it is hoped that those living in the vicinity of Raeford will take advantage of this big family gathering. The old Elise spirit is still alive. Come back for a day's refreshing. The Senior class exercises will be held at the evening hour. This will be in the form of a play and represents an unusual and interesting class program. All old students should plan to stay over for this program.

The year just closing marks a high point in the history of this school. The enrollment has reached the high water mark of one hundred and twenty-seven. The Senior class is the largest in the history of the school. It also marks the beginning of a separate department for Bible instruction. The Bible has been taught at Elise from the beginning of its organization, the work being done by members of faculty teaching other subjects. At the last annual meeting of the Trustees arrangements were made for a separate department for the Bible with a teacher in charge who does not teach other subjects. The experiment has proven that the Trustees were wise in their action. It gives Bible study a prominence and an emphasis that is not possible under the other arrangement, and leaves the other members of the faculty free to devote their whole time to regular high school subjects.

The following is a detailed outline of the commencement exercises:

Sunday May 15th
11:00 a. m.—Baccalaureate Sermon by Rev. J. I. Knight.
8:00 p. m.—Annual Address before the Christian Endeavor Society by Rev. A. D. Carswell.
Monday, May 16th, Alumni Day.
10:00 a. m.—Annual meeting of Board of Trustees.
1:00 p. m.—Alumni Luncheon and Business Meeting.
8:00 p. m.—Senior Class Exercises.

Tuesday, May 17th, Commencement Day.
10:00 a. m.—Musical Recital.
11:00 a. m.—Declamation and

Recitation Contest.
2:30 p. m.—Annual Address by Dr. B. R. Lacy, Jr. Following address medals and awards will be presented and the Seniors will receive their diplomas.
8:00 p. m.—Annual Commencement Day.

JACK FRENCH. (CHAPTER TWO)

Jack French, was John Bruce, lost only the French in his name. He retained the Jack. He was known as Jack Bruce, however, was a popular young man in his neighborhood after he grew up. He was not unlike the other young men of his day, and all days as to that—he was a lady's man, or he thought he was, and at the age of twenty years he married a girl of his own age living in the vicinity. Her name was Kizzie Ragsdale, and was known as Kizzie Ragsdale.

In the good old days young folks married and they worked for a start in life. Jack and Kizzie did this. They tried to seem to find a special delight in telling the story of their poor start in life and in a way bragging of the success they made after years of toil and privation. When they were first married they moved into a small log cabin on a farm, without even a floor, or as they told it, "a dirt floor" and the most meager of furnishings. But they loved each other, and they were industrious, were respected because they were honest.

They worked for a share of the crop for a few years, and saved all they could, and with the money saved bought a farm, unfortunately, one of the poorest in the country, but still even on this poor land, they made more than a support for themselves, and within a few years sold the place and had the money to buy a more fertile piece of land. But this was virgin land—uncleared land—the whole tract was unbroken forest. But they built a shanty on it, cleared fields and cultivated them, and within a few years were considered among the best fixed people in the community, and were known as good neighbors, and where there was sickness or death in the vicinity, Bruce and his wife were sure to be there to render any assistance they possibly could.

They kept an open house, and the itinerant preacher found a welcome within their portals, a Methodist, in this instance, who came to the settlement first and conducted services in the homes of the people, and after laying time held a revival meeting under a brush harbor on the hill a half mile up the big road a road now well known in this state, and as one of the results of that revival John Bruce, Ben Bailey and Jess Thomas built a church of hewn pine logs, covered with shingles they made with axe, saw and drawingknife. The lumber of which the floors and pulpit were made was sawn with an upright saw. The seats were made of the slabs from the sawmill. They bored two inch auger holes in the slabs and drove in wooden pegs for legs, and these were not all the same length, and made them a little treacherous. This served that congregation as a place of worship for more than a quarter of a century, and I have not a doubt that many souls were fitted for Heaven in that rough, unsightly building.

John Bruce grew into greater prominence by reason of his church connection. He attended all the big meetings in all the churches in the circuit, and when

there was a meeting, particularly a big meeting in his church, he was the big cheese. He delighted in having his pastor, or presiding elder as a guest in his home. In fact he notified all preachers to come any time, announced or unannounced, and they came local, circuit rider and presiding elder, and they were accorded a welcome and fed on the best procurable; and in many instances transportation had to be furnished them to other appointments.

In the old days transportation facilities were not so good as they are now, and as preachers moved from one field to another, they moved their families on a buggy and their household effects on wagons, often journeys that required several days, and they all knew the Bruces and several crowds, people and teams, were entertained every winter.

But John Bruce was a deconstructionist. He was an industrious man, and made good crops, but he did this on virgin soil. He cleared land and wore it out; then cleared more, until he cleared and wore out all he had, and his crops were less bountiful in later years, and too, old age and failing health began to tell on him. He was forced to borrow money to meet expenses created in keeping open house. He was taken down with rheumatism, and was helpless, and the faithful Kizzie with added task of waiting on her sick husband literally killed herself at hard work, and one morning she was found dead in bed.

There were no children born to this couple, but they were father and mother to nearly all the children in the community, and besides they took two orphan children and gave them a good home and schooled them, who later married and setup in life for themselves. After the death of his wife, the old man was left alone, receiving only such food and attention as his neighbors could give without organization. Had there been a Ladies' Aid Society in the church he built, this story might well end here—but there follows still a chapter.

The Baby Contest.

The Better Babies Contest sponsored by the Woman's Club held in the Bank of Raeford building May 4th, 1927, was a great success.

Mrs. Shaw, Geddie and Murray were in charge assisted by state nurse, Miss Fuly and Mrs. C. H. Giles, fifty six babies were examined, the doctors and nurses were well pleased with the fine showing made by Hoke County babies.

Most perfect baby Margaret Frances McMillan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. S. McMillan.

Best boy baby 1st division, Daniel James Campbell.

Best girl baby 1st division, Edith Marie Black.

Best boy baby 2nd division, Malcolm McNeill.

Best girl baby 2nd division, Margaret McVicker.

The Woman's Club wish to thank the doctors and nurses and others who helped to make contest a success.

The Club also wishes to express their appreciation to the Bank of Raeford for use of their rooms and to Dr. Geddie for use of his office.

The Club intends to hold an other contest next year.

MRS. T. B. LESTER,
Chairman.

Hudson Maxim, the inventor, is dead. He was a self educated man, and invented more things to kill people than anybody.

NOTICE.

The city truck will collect garbage on Monday and Friday during the summer months.

If you have anything you wish carried away. PLEASE HAVE SAME IN BOXES, BARRELS OR SOME CONTAINER PLACED AT EDGE OF STREET convenient for collecting.

Hope everybody will cooperate to this extent, as driver will not have time to go to back yards to look for garbage and he will be instructed to collect only what he finds placed as requested.

Please remember the days, MONDAYS and FRIDAYS, and have your trash ready and placed early.

Let's every body cooperate for the sake of health and a better and cleaner town.

W. B. McLAUCHLIN,
Mayor.

Memorial Day Observed.

The Memorial Day exercises conducted in the school auditorium Tuesday morning were very good. The devotions were led by Dr. W. M. Fairley, and short but appropriate speeches were made by Messrs. Wm. L. Poole, J. W. McLaughlin, and Edwin S. Smith; Prof. J. M. Stackhouse was master of ceremonies; patriotic songs interspersing the program throughout.

Immediately after the close of the exercises in the school auditorium the Daughters of the Confederacy drove to the various cemeteries of the county and decorated the graves of veterans.

The Confederate veterans and the editor of The Journal were entertained at luncheon in the home of Mrs. W. B. McLaughlin by the Daughters of the Confederacy. It was a sumptuous meal, which was greatly enjoyed by the veterans.

Attention, Cotton Cotton Growers!

The Hoke County Cotton Growers Association members will meet in the court house in Raeford Friday, May 13th, at 2 o'clock to elect delegates to the District Convention, which meets in Rockingham Tuesday, May 17th. A full attendance is desired. Mr. J. W. McLaughlin will preside at this meeting.

Notice.

The picnic of the Philathea class of the Presbyterian Sunday school has been postponed from Thursday, May 12th, until Monday, the 16th.

MRS. CLYDE UPCHURCH,
Chm.

Mr. C. W. Seate received for the Raeford Cotton Mill Friday two truck loads of cotton, 52 bales, from McColl, S. C. Pretty good loads, don't you think?

Sunday was Children's Day at the Presbyterian church, and an interesting program on Mexican Missions was given. A collection amounting to \$36 was taken.

Well, the editor's corn is no bigger than Smith's, and he has worked it twice. It doesn't pay to work truck during a cool, dry season, but you DO hold the grass in control, and the grass that joints will seed next fall. But Mr. Smith has had his whole garden well worked since we started throwing off on him.

PROGRAM DIXIE THEATRE

Thursday and Friday—"The Sea Beast," with John Barrymore and Dolores Costello Matinee Friday at 3:30.

Monday and Tuesday—"Spaniards," a wonderful picture of circus life.