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RACER JOHN CARPENTER.

He always outran everybody he raced with. He was known as Racer John. He won quite a lot in racing. There was a secret to his success that only those who raced with him knew. They ran together until just before the goal was reached, then he elbowed his opponent. Struck him in the side hard enough to slow him up a little.

He would run against a horse. He would bet a good sum that he could outrun a horse for a hundred yards, and he did. He would be half way to the end of the distance before the horse could get started. He won. Say, do you not think less of the man who loses than you do of the one who wins? Racer John found that out in his day. People think little of those gamblers who lose. Winners are respected until this day.

Racer John was a remarkable hospitable man. He entertained all who came his way. He often quoted that Scripture about entertain angels unawares. He had a host of friends. He had a knack at making friends. Any man will get along very badly without friends, and any kind of a man can get along well who has plenty of friends. There were those he treated as fair and honest as a man could treat another. So he had a strong following.

He often tricked his neighbors out of their property. He was their friend and advisor. He pretended to know the law, so he advised, and often his advice was taken to the undoing of the neighbor.

On his suggestion got him self into the toils of the law, he was advised to deed his property over to his friend and advisor, then flee the State until the statute might be pleaded to bar an offence against the State, and when the man was allowed to return he was never again seized of his property rights. He thus came into possession of hundreds of acres of good land. He would ferret out old claims, or notes, &c., against the property of his neighbors, particularly those who were not friendly with him, and start suit in court against him or them as the case might be. He had from one to several suits on the civil docket of his county courts almost as long as he lived.

It is but justice to the subject of this article, that he discovered wherein he was doing wrong in many ways, and was later a changed man. He loved mercy before he learned to do justice. Many persons try this method of living. Self interest rules.

There was a good side to this man as well as the troublesome one, as we will now see. No man could do more kind acts. He was the most obliging of men. At any hour of the day or night he was ready to do a neighborly kindness. He lent. He went for the doctor. He visited the sick. He helped the poor. He was a prince of entertainers. It was a delight to visit in his home and people flocked thither.

It is a hard matter to bring yourself to the point of believing a man like that would have wrong motives. He was an argumentative man, a man of charming personality, and with a fairly intelligent. You can not judge a man by one act, nor several. You take a good long period of his life to learn what manner of man he is; and when a man prospers at the expense of others, when you see that there is questionable methods used, be aware.

Some incidents will be amusing. Two brothers living in the same neighborhood formed a partnership in the year 1860 to do a general merchandise business. One attended the store while the other taught school. The school teacher, in fact, had nothing to do with the store, and only stood sponsor for his brother to enable him to start in business. He was merely endorser for the man who opened the store.

There was no homestead in that day, and any man, who could put up collateral had credit for all he was worth. These young men had but little in their own names, but they were of a good family and credit was easy for them to obtain. So the store was opened, but did not prove to be a success, as most of the goods were sold on credit, the war came on, the notes were never paid by the man who really owned them, neither were the goods let out on credit. In the seventies the Supreme court of the State decided that the homestead law did not apply to debts made prior to its passage, that is, the State could not pass retrospective legislation, and Racer John bought up several old notes and accounts made prior to the war and thought by most people to be worthless, and entered suits for their collection; and one suit was started against the school teacher endorser whose brother had opened a store a number of years before, which was tried in Superior court, carried to the Supreme court by first one party, then the other for more than twenty years.

The Racer knew that possession is the strong point in law, and he wanted to gain the inside track by gaining possession of the property in litigation; so a family who had occupied the house on the place moved out one day and the owner being there to lock up when they had gone, was surprised to see the Racer rushing into the house carrying a mattress, and he dived into one of the rooms, and spent the afternoon lying on his bed. Night and hunger drove him home late that evening, but he locked the door of the room before he left, taking the key with him. The owner of the house nailed a board over the key hole, and moved his own family into the house the following day, and occupied all the house except that room. That room remained closed and that bed stayed there until it rotted, and was thrown out after the lawsuit was settled. The endorser paid the note and retained ownership of the property.—To be continued.

Mrs. Harry D. Green died suddenly at her home on New York Avenue Wednesday evening, July 6th. Mrs. Green has been in her usual good health this summer and was up and around as usual on Wednesday. Mr. and Mrs. Green entertained callers during the evening and after the guests departed she lay down. When Mr. Green went to arouse her he found to his horror that his wife had passed away.—Sandhill Citizen.

Dr. Cromartie says crops look only tolerably good along the road all the way into Georgia. The Men of the Church will meet in the Presbyterian church tomorrow, Friday, evening at 8 o'clock. All members, Men of the Church, or any others, are requested to attend.

LOCAL NEWS.

Hoke's next Superior court meets August 22.

Mr. Julian Blue was sick in bed for several days last week. He is improved.

The Laurinburg Exchange reports a tomato last week that weighed 18 ounces.

Mrs. J. L. Popé, who has been precariously ill, is reported not improving we are sorry to learn.

W. E. Brothers of Fayetteville after 25 years in the furniture business in that city retires.

Needless honking of auto horns is now a violation of law, but proving when it's useless!

The county commissioners meet in extra session next Monday to hear complaints of overvaluation.

Little Miss Alworthy Upchurch is recovering from a right serious illness during the past two weeks.

Cotton is fruiting up very well now, and a good crop will be made if the boll weevil will let it alone.

The weather was so dry the past spring wheat did not do so very well, the soda used on it did very little good.

Mr. Clarence McBryde of Raeford, R. 1, was operated on for appendicitis Sunday at Highsmith hospital. He is recovering.

Miss Elizadeth Sessoms, who holds a position in Charlotte, spent the week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Sessoms.

Several of our good country gardeners are bringing some very fine tomatoes to market here, and the ready sales so far.

The usual trouble is coming to a number of people who are trying to get licenses to drive their cars on account of a title that is often hard to keep straight.

Mr. Arthur Kennedy, an aged township, Cumberland county, and the oldest member of Galatia church, died ten days ago.

There are more chickens in Hoke county now than we have ever known before, and the prices are better because the people have learned how to market them.

Robeson has only five times the population of Hoke, and it has about four times the wealth, but it gets twelve times the amount of that State school fund. They certainly got part of ours.

Mrs. and Mrs. L. B. Brandon and little daughters went over to their old home town, Chester, S. G., last week. Mrs. Brandon and the children remain. The older, Elizabeth, had her tonsils removed while there.

The government puts the average condition of this cotton crop at 79 per cent of an average. But when the report of a reduced acreage came out last Saturday the price of cotton advanced nearly 50 points.

Mr. B. F. Polston has been appointed adjuster of automobile lights. The law requires that lights be adjusted—another law this writer voted against. However, it is law, and you are in dictable if you fail to have your lights adjusted.

Mr. W. F. Walters, who farmed all his life, and is a close observer, says this year's cotton crop is at least 25 per cent behind normal, that there is not more than 80 per cent of a stand, and he has the idea that this crop will be short of last year's yields.

When the commissioners adopt a budget, the law requires that it be published. If the commissioners comply with the law, the people will know from the first how much will be spent for everything, and no more can be spent, nor the commissioners cannot issue notes nor bonds for any reason. It's iruo clad.

John Morrison, colored, of Stonewall township is the champion hawk killer. Hawks were playing havoc with the chickens of the Misses McGoogan near Antioch, and John came and told them if they would give him some loaded shells, he would kill some of the hawks. They handed him four loaded shells and he went down by the swamp, and after a short while he came to the house with four hawks.

Miss Josephine Hall spent last week with her college room mate, Miss Elizabeth Hughes of Parkton.

We are sorry to hear of the serious illness of Mr. T. J. Conoly. He is reported improved at last account.

Corn was heading rain, and the showers of Friday night will almost make a match crop, if no more comes on.

The new Red Springs road looks like it would grind out automobiles if left with a crushed stone top dressing.

For the first time since it was built, the water that turns Mr. Fred Johnson's mill on Puppy Creek falls last week.

A gentleman who observes closely informs The Journal that the more prudent among the girls have not been painting.

That is no longer equalization school funds, but an equalization school, and the way that commission apportioned it.

Mrs. John Ellington and small children, son and two daughters, are visiting her mother, Mrs. Sarah Chisholm.

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Middling cotton is now 17c.

Mrs. G. W. Brown and little daughters are visiting relatives in Ellerbe and vicinity.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Albert Wilson of Taft, Cal., are visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wilson.

Mrs. Max Heins and little daughter, of Sanford are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Blue.

L. B. Brigman of Scotland county made 124 bushels of wheat on a little less than four acres of land this year.

It is said prohibition is better enforced in Hoke than anywhere else, and that is no bad recommendation of the county officers, eh? It surely does.

After spending a week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. S. McKeithan, Mr. and Mrs. John McKeithan have returned to their home in Greenville.

We are sorry to hear that Mrs. J. R. Hampton had to be carried to Highsmith's hospital last week. She underwent an operation for appendicitis Monday.

The Gridley Art Pageant.

The Gridley Art Pageant, of unusual interest and beauty, will be given at the school auditorium on Friday night, the 15th, at 8:30, under the auspices of The Woman's Club of Raeford.

This entertainment comes to us highly recommended for its educational value with music, art and beauty combined with a splendid home talent.

The pageant consists of thirty local boys and girls, a reader, Raeford's Male Quartette, and the quartette from the Music Club with Miss Marv Poole as director.

You will find this Art Pageant, an entirely new form of entertainment, each of the ten scenes tell a complete story in itself, depicting interesting historical events of American life, from the landing of the Pilgrims to the landing of our victorious troops from France.

The large oil paintings used in this Art Pageant, are all original. Each one is said to be worth several thousand dollars, to see them is alone worth more than the price of the admission.

The following is a list of the paintings that will be used in pageant form:

Landing of The Pilgrims,
Drawing Electricity From The Clouds,
Return of Hiawatha and Minnenaha,
Fishin',
Way Down Upon De Swaenee River.

The Farmerettes,
Pickin' Cotton,
Dixie Land,
Panning Gold In The Rockies,
The Old Swimming Hole,
The Birth of The Flag,
Our Heroes Returning From France,
Painting Liberty.

The proceeds from this entertainment will go towards the financing of the lunch room of the Raeford school.

This work needs no comment, as to its real value to the school and community.

The Woman's Club is still active, while many are taking their vacation. We are still working for our town and community. We sincerely ask your co-operation, not only members of the Woman's Club, but members of the Kiwanis Club and the town as a whole.

The Woman's Club of Raeford, Mrs. T. B. Upchurch, Pres.

Keep the Garden Going.

Everybody in the country should keep the garden going during the whole growing season. Probably everybody knows this; but somehow or other farmers get busy and continuous planting is not carried out in the garden as it should be. Here is what a little editorial in the Southern Agriculturalist says of this most important matter.

Most farmers plant a spring garden, a good many plant a fall garden; but on many farms there is a tendency to let the garden planting go during mid-summer. This is a great mistake, and one likely to result in unnecessary lack or scarcity of some good things to eat later.

The planting of corn, for example, must go on through the summer if the roasting ear supply is to be continuous to frost, as it should be. So with the planting of snap beans. In some sections the late supply of tomatoes can be assured only by putting out plants about this time. June planting of cantaloupes is called for in places. In other localities this is just about the time to be sowing seed for the late cabbage crop, or planting the late cucumber patch. Other sections may plant these things, and others, next month, even later. The point is, the garden planting and the garden tending should go right on through the summer months. Only so will the garden be made to yield its full return.

Notice to Taxpayers.

On Monday, August 1st, 1927, I shall proceed to advertise all lands in Hoke county on which the taxes for the year 1926 have not been paid. Please come to the office and settle these taxes before that date, so I will not have to perform this very unpleasant duty.

EDGAR HALL,
Sheriff.

Board of Equalization Meeting.

Notice is hereby given that the Hoke County Board of Commissioners will meet at 10 o'clock A. M., July 18th, 1927, in the court house at Raeford, as a Board of Equalization and Review, to equalize tax values. At this meeting the Board will hear complaints as to undervaluation and overvaluation of property. This is the only meeting of the Board provided by law for hearing such complaints.

D. K. BLUE,
Clerk of Board.

LOST OR STOLEN—One red and white spotted bound pup 10 months old, nicked tail. Liberal reward for proper information.

M. L. McKEITHAN.

LAKE WAUCAMAW, N. C. furnished cottages rented by the week. Write, wire or phone Oscar High, Whiteville, N. C.

Good Chicken Feed is paid for in more eggs, and Good Cow Feed increases both milk and butter. None better than mine. McLean Campbell.

Expert Hemstitching and Dress making. Satisfaction guaranteed. MRS. E. R. WILLIAMSON. In The Kash Store. Phone 223 Raeford, N. C.

EYES EXAMINED Glasses Ground and Fitted Same Day. DR. JULIUS SHAFFER, Phone 541 Fayetteville, N. C.