

Historical Outline of Dobson Is Given

By GRADY BURGESS
In the year of 1850 the site of the rapidly growing county seat of Dobson was an insignificant cross roads surrounded almost entirely by forests where wild turkeys and deer were often seen and where next-door neighbors would often count the distance between their homes in miles, and where travelers were so infrequent that they were almost always noticed and observed by the residents of the thinly settled countryside as they toilsomely made their way over the hills and through the forests in their buggies, wagons, hacks or surreys, or by whatever means they might be traveling.

But this sylvan quietude and rural seclusion, where no lights except fireflies and the dim flicker of a distant tallow candle were seen as the shadows thickened on late summer evenings, was to last no longer, for already there were rumors and deep rumblings of other things in store for the little country cross roads lapped

midway between the Yadkin river and the Blue Ridge mountains. Surry county, which at one time, in the early colonial days, had extended, theoretically at least, all the way to the Mississippi river, was again to have a slice taken off it. Already the counties of Alleghany, Wilkes, a part of Ashe, Iredell, Davie, Forsyth, and possibly others had been lopped off the boundaries of Surry and now the county itself, which embraced present Surry and Yadkin counties, was to be divided along the line of the Yadkin river and two county seats, with their respective court houses were to be established. One of these county seats, with its necessary court house and jail, was to be located about the center of the very much shrunken boundaries of Surry county.

A survey was made for the site of the county seat by running two lines through the center of the county, one from east to west, and the other from north to south. These lines crossed at a

point about three miles north of the Dobson, but the present site of the county seat was selected from this survey, probably because it was thought to be a better location.

Then the work of moving the county seat from its former location at Rockford was begun. Two court houses were constructed along similar architectural lines, one at Yadkinville, which is the present court house of that county, and the other at the country cross roads, which is now Dobson. After the completion of the Dobson court house all the old records of Surry county, some of them dating back to the constitution of the county in 1770, were moved from the old Surry county court house which was located at Rockford at that time. And Surry county, having been one of the frontier counties of the colony of Carolina, dates its beginning back before the Constitution of the United States and before the Revolution, and has in its possession some of the oldest records to be found in this part of the State. Among these records are some of the original land grants for this section of the nation which bear the signature of His Majesty, the King of England. They are said to be on file in the office of the register of deeds.

Another item of interest in the establishment of the county seat

at Dobson is the moving of the huge safe from its old place of service at Rockford to its present place. A team of six horses was said to have been necessary to pull it over the hills to its new location. It is still to be seen in use in the office of the clerk, where it holds forth the awkward contrast of one shining new door against the aging and rusty background of its mate and the frame of the safe. This new door was made necessary by a burglar who blew the old door to pieces a few months ago in a burglary blast which almost wrecked the office of the clerk of court.

The date of the establishment of the county seat at the place now called Dobson was 1851. Since that time many things of interest have happened at the site of the former country cross roads. Soon after the coming of the court house there began to spring up various other signs of civilization. Stores were opened, homes were built, shops established and churches organized to take care of the needs of the growing hamlet. A county jail was also built in the year 1851 to accommodate the prisoners of the county. The front part of the present fire proof, steam heated jail was the original jail of the county. The county home, however, is not housed in its original building. The first buildings of the county home, located just west of its present site, were of wooden construction. The present building was erected about the year 1900.

The old court house, though a 25 foot addition had been built onto the north end of it in the year 1900, was found to be inadequate to the needs in 1917, and was therefore torn away in that year and the present building erected. The cost of the present court house was approximately \$125,000 for both building and equipment, and was first used to hold the February term of court in 1918.

Home Demonstration Club Meets
The Union Cross Home Demonstration club met with Mrs. Shepard Dobbins, Tuesday, Aug. 11, at her home. Miss Verna Staunton, county home demonstration agent, present and demonstrated canning by the hot bath method, also steam pressure method.

The women present were very much interested in the work done by Miss Staunton, especially some who were present for their first time to attend a demonstration.

The attendance was the largest since the club was organized. After the business session Mrs. Dobbins served delicious watermelon to more than forty guests.

The next meeting will be held with Mrs. Alvin Dockery the third Tuesday in September. All women and girls of the community are urged to attend

and especially the next meeting to plan fall and winter gardens.

Freedom isn't possible for all at once, for we feel free only when one of our own crowd is doing the bossing.

If he can't bear kidding, he is a stuffed shirt. A little prick is fatal only to things like balloons.

How sordid and ugly the struggle for a profit seems, when you have a nice soft government job.

To The Democrats Of Surry County

I wish to announce my candidacy for the nomination for Sheriff of Surry County, subject to the action of the County Democratic Convention. I served six years as commissioner of the Town of Mount Airy and my record as an official stands for itself.

If nominated for Sheriff I shall do everything I can for all the people. The support of the Democrats in the Convention will be appreciated.

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RUSK

Rev. A. B. Hayes of Mountain View and pastor of the Union Cross Baptist church, has just closed a successful revival at that place.

Thirteen were added to the church, eleven by baptism, two reinstated. The church was filled to overflowing at the evening services and much interest was manifested throughout the series of services.

Little Miss Joap Marie Olsen returned Thursday from a two months stay in New York City.

Mrs. U. V. Burch spent last week at Mountain Park with Mr. and Mrs. Paul Burch.

Mrs. Nannie Rumley and sons, Albert and William, Jr., also small nephew, Master R. L. Jones with Mrs. Poole, all of Greensboro are spending a few days with A. Z. Phillips and family.

Miss Edna Jenkins spent last week at State Road with her brother, H. C. Jenkins and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Stanley and children, Miles and Mildred, of Winston-Salem, spent the weekend here with friends and relatives.

Miss Ethel Wood with Mrs. Burrus of Boonville, spent the weekend in Raleigh.

Mrs. E. J. Burch of Asheville, visited friends and relatives here a few days last week.

Mr. A. W. Shinalt and son, Ivanson, of Dobson, Route 2, visited Mr. Shinalt's daughter, Mrs. Alvin Dockery, Sunday.

Mr. S. G. Dobbins will leave for Fairmont this week where he is connected with the tobacco market.

Mrs. H. S. Olsen and brother, John H. White of New York City spent a day or two in High Point last week.

Billy Burch spent the week-end in Greensboro with his sisters, Misses Sue and Rachael Burch, a visitor here Friday.

Wendell Wilmoth of Elkin was Mrs. J. W. Martin and children, Lucile and Ben, spent several days last week at Salem Fork with relatives.

Little Miss Irene Sloop and brother, Master Edward, of the Friendship section, spent last week here with their aunt, Mrs. Kermit Corder.

Mrs. Vance Burch, accompanied by Mrs. E. J. Burch of Asheville spent the week-end in Bristol, Tenn., the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Burch.

Gilmer Dockery spent the week-end with Rev. and Mrs. T. S. Draughan at Crutchfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Groce of Cycle were among the Sunday guests here.

C. E. Norman and family of Winston-Salem were week-end visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Dockery at Union Cross.

P. G. and R. F. Jenkins spent several days last week in Virginia on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Dockery spent the week-end with Mrs. Dockery's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emory White near Dobson.

Miss Mary Dott Sneed of Winston-Salem returned to her home Saturday after visiting relatives here for a week.

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4.75-19 6.40	5.00-19 8.80
5.00-19 6.85	5.25-18 9.75
5.25-18 7.60	5.50-17 10.70

GOOD YEAR 1936 BLUE RIBBON VALUES	
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5.50-17 11.90	
6.00-16 13.25	

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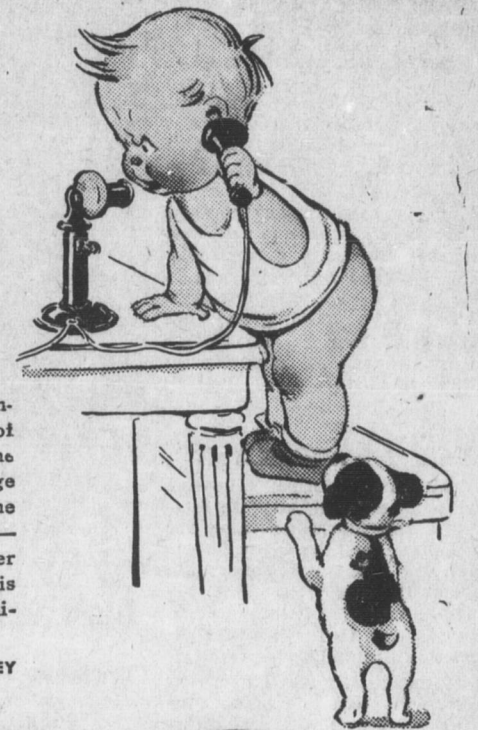
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