

THE POLK COUNTY NEWS

Published every Friday at
TRYON
the most populous town in
POLK COUNTY
The Land of the Sky,
NORTH CAROLINA.

GEO. B. COBB, Editor.

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FRIDAY, MARCH, 13, 1914

Now is the time that every farmer should build himself a split-log drag to use on the roads near his home.

A called meeting of The Forestry Club of Tryon township, will be held in the directors room of The Bank of Tryon, Tuesday afternoon, March 17th at 8 o'clock. All interested in the preservation of our Forests, whether members or not are earnestly requested to be present, as matters of much public interest are to be considered.

POLK'S PRESENT PROBLEM.

Now that Polk county has so many pine timber trees uprooted by the recent winds, it is a matter of grave importance to every owner of a pine forest tract that must be given immediate consideration and the utmost concerted action by every owner of these uprooted trees, to prevent the wide spread devastation of the pine tree beetle that will most surely begin its work in every locality where precautionary measures are not taken at once to prevent their operations.

It is also a matter of almost equal importance to determine how all these trees can be cut into lumber or wood and made some profitable use of. Most of these prostrated trees are fit for cutting into good lumber and when cut will represent many thousands of dollars of value to their owners, but there are not enough saw mills in this county to cut out all this lumber in many years, so some systematic method must needs be adopted to save this money value to our property owners.

If neighborhoods and communities can now assemble their logs at some central point and then join together in purchasing a saw mill outfit or hire one, to saw out their logs, it would be a practical method to save this lumber, all of which is needed in every school district in the county.

The public spirited men of the county will render their assistance to finance enterprises of this practical sort, and it is hoped that every section will carefully consider the feasibility of adopting some method to save the thousands and thousands of feet of lumber from its inevitable waste, unless some action is promptly taken to save it.

The News will be glad to hear from any section where they will co-operate together to save their lumber, in the way suggested above or in any other practical way, only be sure to save the lumber and the wood for actual use and keep the beetles out of the forests if we can.

The "American Citizen" recently carried an article entitled "The Brotherhood of Gettysburg" by Chief Justice Stanton J. Peelle, that will brighten the eyes and gladden the heart of every living veteran of the old armies of '61 to '65 both Northern and Southern, for it so admirably and ably advocates that sentiment that binds the old soldiers of the North and the South, insolubly together in the bonds of mutual respect and brotherly love.

Judge Peelle is this winter a guest in Tryon, domiciled at the comfortable Ravenell residence on Godshaw Hill.

The N. C. Forestry Association and the Appalachian Park Association, will hold their 4th annual convention in Asheville, N. C., April 8th-9th, 1914 when an effort will be made to form some definite forestry policy in this State as to forest protection.

For further information regarding this convention address, J. S. Holmes, Secretary, Chapel Hill, N. C.

LYNN.

Mr. R. A. Lenord's mother arrived in New York Wednesday, from London, England on the Steamer Oceanic and is expected in Lynn on Friday 13th.

Rev. Mr. Bowne will preach in the Chapel on Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Everybody cordially invited.

There has been a disagreement over the road between Dock Newman and R. H. Raykendall, but we hope it is settled now never to come up in the future.

W. F. Swann made a business trip to Hendersonville and Asheville, Tuesday.

Miss Clifford Arledge is ill at this writing, her friends wish her a speedy recovery.

The old house on the Columbus Road, known as "Aunt Liza's Cabin," was totally destroyed by fire, house and contents, on Wednesday morning about 10 o'clock. Cause of fire unknown.

COLLINSVILLE.

Since the organization of the Collinsville Literary Society on Jan. 13th, 1914 we have only had two successful meetings.

The last meeting held Jan. 6th was the most successful. The programme consisted of recitations, declamations, local current events and a debate, the question being, "Resolved that country life is more desirable than city life." The affirmative was defended by Ethel Henderson and Maggie Lee Morris, the negative by Cora Collins and Ruby Putman. It was hard for the committee to say which side won but the decision was rendered in favor of the affirmative.

We have forty students enrolled at Collinsville this year.

Miss Irene Hunter, Teacher.

The Poverty Society held at District No. 34 Saturday night, March 7, was a great success.

They had a crowded house, a good time and cleared the excellent net sum of \$47.00.

Prizes Awarded.

To the most poverty stricken gentleman, John Wood, a card of collar buttons.

To the most poverty stricken lady, Miss Bessie Hamilton, a ball of darning thread.

To the prettiest lady, Miss Myrtle Pack, a book, Southern Poems.

TRYON.

The Congregational Church' Evening song service and sermon by the pastor, Rev. P. Campbell Morgan, will be at 7:30 o'clock here-after, instead of at 8 o'clock.

Dr. & Mrs. Taylor of Delaware Ohio, arrived in Tryon this week and are stopping at Mrs. Norman House on Godshaw Hill.

Miss Ruth McFee, who has been in Knoxville, Tenn., returned home last Sunday night.

Miss Louise Suber, who spent a week's vacation with relatives at Newberry, S. C., returned to Tryon on Monday.

Mr. B. L. Ballenger, has gone to Knoxville, on a business trip this week.

Tracy A. Sturges of Elgin, Ill. 21 years of age, died at Tryon, N. C., Monday morning March 9 1914, his body was taken on the Carolina Special train, Monday evening for interment at his northern home.

The Tryon Fire Department tested their new hose on Tuesday afternoon, on Trade St., the water pressure was fine and they threw a stream over John Orr & Co's., store.

The new Tryon Meat Market which opens for business, Saturday morning March 14th in the back part of The Ballenger Co's Store, has an ad., on opposite page, which will be of interest, read it!

The Tryon Water Supply Co., have received their new pipe & will install it in a few days in the hollows where the old pipe was burst by the storm recently. Some time this month the new dam will be built. The tank is now full and running over and water supply good to all customers.

Mr. Ray Shaver, who has been confined to his home for more than a year, with Rheumatism, is so much improved, that he has decided to go to Chadburn N. C., where he has accepted a position as book-keeper, with the Chadburn Motor Car Co., of that place. Mr. Shaver is a young-man of good business qualities and a hustler and is greatly liked by all who know him.

DRAINING FRENCH BROAD.

Congressman Gudger Adopts Mr. Grant's Hobby to Drain River.

The following correspondence from Washington by W. E. Yelverton in the News and Observer with reference to draining French Broad River valley will be of interest to the people of this section affected:

Representative Gudger wants the United States government to remove the final evidences of a dream of navigation on the French Broad river, a dream which was shattered thirty years ago. He asks for an appropriation of \$20,000 for blasting out the channel of the French Broad where years ago jetties were built to hold in water which was never tame enough to float commercial ships.

Two steamboats, each more than 150 feet long, and both resting somewhere in that mountain country to this day, were built by local people to ply on the French Broad, and a dam to check these proud waters was constructed. Jetties were thrown up, but they could never float the ships. The dam was destroyed, but the jetties remained and these and other obstructions

COLUMBUS.

Mr. Clayton Price of Inman, spent the week-end with friends at Sandy Plains.

There are several cases of small-pox near Sandy Plains. Mr. R. R. Horn is very sick.

The many friends of Mrs. Mag Camp will be sorry to hear of her being sick with pneumonia.

Mr. W. F. Greenway was called to near Rutherfordton on Saturday to see one of his grandchildren who is very sick with pneumonia.

Rollie Roach and Cline Cudd of Sandy Springs made a visit here last Sunday.

Mr. John Miller has gone to Washington to make that his home.

Mr. O. E. Wilkins had a hen that was 13 years old, in good health but something caught it last week, this was the oldest hen we know of.

Mr. Lee Cochran is at Melvin Hill now, making pictures.

Success to the News and its many readers.

LANDRUM.

(Special to the Polk County News)

Miss Cordelia Cudd has returned from a visit to Spartanburg.

J. H. Lee spent Monday in Hendersonville on business.

Rev. J. R. Copeland of Campbello was in Landrum Sunday.

Miss Foster has returned from a visit to relatives in Spartanburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Perry Earle of Charlotte spent the week-end with relatives in Landrum.

An effort is being made to get an oil mill for Landrum. If half of the capital stock can be raised outside it is believed that the other half can be easily raised in the town.

It is probable that we will have a newspaper printed here in the near future. Mr. Crews, an experienced newspaper man from Laurens, was here looking over the field and he thinks a paper would do well here.

Recently a meeting of the citizens was held at the graded school building to organize and plan for the community fair to be held here next fall. There was a good attendance and an organization was entered into and the usual committees appointed. Another meeting has been called at graded school building Monday, 16th inst, at 3 p. m. to complete the list of premiums. The fair last year was quite a success and our people are anxious to make the next even more successful.

Conditions have persisted in overflowing the river between Asheville and Brevard, when the idle ships rotted. The appropriation is asked in a bill introduced by Representative Gudger today. The bill specifies that a part of the appropriation is to be used in lowering Duck Shoals.

The government made the channel before; now Mr. Gudger asks that it remove what are now obstructions.

MELVIN HILL.

The stove flue was blown from the old school house where Miss Fiead was teaching and she has had to move her school over into the new church building until repairs can be made.

We regret to report that the condition of Mr. Hoyle Cale is so much worse that his physicians advise an operation which may be performed soon.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Burnett Wednesday, a boy baby.

The baby daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ira Edwards who has been suffering from pneumonia is improving some.

Miss Cora Putnam of Campbello R-4 who has been visiting relatives here for some time, returned home Sunday.

Messrs Atkins and Cochran the photographers arrived here one day last week and have erected their tent at Lawter's store.

Mr Jack Burnett has been down with lumbago and muscular rheumatism for sometime passed.

Mrs. Salena Covington called on Mrs. Lawter Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Jones of Brooklyn, S. C. visited the former's brother, Mr. Jesse Jones last week-end.

We have learned that our old neighbor Mr. T. G. Randolph and family formally of Melvin Hill are at Thonotossa, Florida, instead of Live Oak.

Mesdames Morris and Stacey called on Mrs. Head and her mother, Mrs. Westbrook, Monday.

Elder W. A. Reed filled his regular appointment here last Saturday and Sunday.

You don't hear anything about farming and gardening any more these days, folks are hauling in wood and trying to keep warm.

Success to The News.

districts should be consolidated into one larger district and the two or three one room buildings converted into or supplanted by a modern building of three rooms furnished with approved equipment; the services of two or three capable, well trained teachers secured allowing the work to be divided and classified; to lengthen the school term and to make instruction more thorough and effective in every way.

"Besides, quoting again from the above author, directly improving school instructions, the consolidated school proves itself a vital force in welding the life of the community. The number of pupils and patrons is largely increased, enabling such co-operative endeavors as corn and canning clubs, debating societies, farm life clubs, mothers clubs and betterment associations to be organized and live and grow. The whole community is knit together with the bonds of common interest and pride in the school, which becomes the public meeting place and social centre of the community. And, in addition, American experience proves that the more efficient consolidated school is secured with an actually less outlay of money than was required for the several inefficient one teacher schools serving the same territory."

(Continued next week.)
E. W. S. Cobb, County Supt.

OUR SCHOOLS
E. W. S. COBB
Polk County Superintendent
Columbus, North Carolina

CONSOLIDATION AND LOCAL TAXATION.

In reviewing rural school conditions in Polk county there are several things that seem to indicate a forward movement: (1) teachers are becoming more active in the community life; they are reading and studying professional literature; (2) they are studying the subject matter that they are required to teach; (4) they are studying the children and how they may best lead into proper habits of study and life; (5) as a result parents are coming more interested in the educational welfare of their children. All these things savour good for the educational future of Polk county. But, there is thrown across the gateway of future educational possibilities in our country, a grim spectre, which will forever render, practically hopeless our further advance, unless we, as a county rise up and displace it, and that spectre is the little one room school house with from 30 to 90 children and one teacher.

Why is this one teacher school so formidable and insurmountable a barrier to our real educational progress? I here quote from S. Alderman in N. C. Educational Review: "Here we have one teacher, usually a woman, endeavoring to give 30 to 90 pupils instruction in all the subjects and frequently with as many grades as there are children in the room. This condition precludes the possibility of an adequate division of the pupils into grades, in spite of the fact that the average number of recitations, held by the one teacher is 25 with an average of less than 15 minutes for each recitation. There are teachers in this county who hold many more than 35 recitations a day with less than ten minutes for each recitation.

"Such schools cannot attract and hold the best trained teachers. Such schools cannot have a course of study enriched with such studies as domestic science, manual training and agriculture. And the one teacher school is incapable of and is prohibited by law from engaging in any advanced work so that children living in districts served only by such schools must be sent away from home at an early age to a better school, usually in an urban community. This fact is largely responsible for the training of the youth away from the farm.

Another weakness of the one teacher school is the small area of its district. The average in Polk County, for white schools is less than nine square miles. This means a lack of taxable property to provide a fund to conduct an efficient school. It means a small population, from which it is difficult to secure good, wide awake school officials, and which furnishes so few pupils that no community spirit is developed on playground, in class and in literary and debating societies. Statistics show that the average monthly cost per pupil in the one teacher school is about \$2.07, as against only \$1.33 in the very best equipped and most efficient elementary schools with two or more teachers.

All these essential weaknesses of the one teacher school which are weaknesses in the schools of Polk county can be overcome by consolidation. In every township, with the possible exception of Saluda from two to three present small