

# POLK COUNTY NEWS

BUSH & FRASER Publishers

The Only Paper Published in Polk County A Live Clean Paper for the Home

Price 5 Cents

Volume XXVIII No. 48

Tryon, N. C., July 26, 1923

\$2.00 a Year

## Two Drown When Boat Capsizes at Summit

John A. Wall, Spartanburg, and Harold Shoaf of Concord Victims.

Harold A. Shoaf, aged 19, a student at the Textile Industrial Institute, whose home is in Concord, N. C., and John A. Wall, aged 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Wall, of Saxon Mills community, lost their lives by drowning in Lake Summit on Monday afternoon about 5:15, following the capsizing of a canoe in which they and two other young men were rowing from a houseboat on the lake to the shore. Young Wall lost his life in a heroic effort to save his companion, Shoaf, Wall having gone back into the water to effect a rescue after swimming to safety.

**Bodies Brought Here.**  
The bodies were brought to Spartanburg about 1 o'clock Tuesday morning, having been recovered in less than thirty minutes after they disappeared for the last time. Efforts by physicians using pulmotors, who worked three hours, failed to bring any sign of life.

The two young men were among a party of twenty from Saxon Mills which left Monday morning to spend a week on the houseboat maintained on the lake where many other groups from the mill have spent happy vacations.

**Four in Canoe**  
According to later detail of the tragedy there were four in a canoe just previous to the capsizing and the craft was going from the houseboat to the bank, which was stated last night to have been only about fifty feet away. The four in the boat were Jean Wofford, Walter Smith, Harold Shoaf and John A. Wall.

It was stated that the canoe had reached a point about twenty feet from the bank when in some way the boat was overturned, throwing the occupants into the deep waters of the lake. Wofford, Smith and Wall swam for the shore and reached the bank, but upon turning they found Shoaf unable to save himself and asking for help. Roy Bishop, bookkeeper at the Central National Bank, who was on the bank, was the first to go to Shoaf's rescue. When Bishop reached the struggling boy, Shoaf grabbed him and pulled him under and Bishop found it necessary to extricate himself and swim back to the bank. Following Bishop's unsuccessful attempt, Wall and Wofford went to Shoaf's assistance, both arriving at the spot where Shoaf was struggling at the same time. The drowning youth grabbed both and all three went under. Wofford managed to break away but Wall went down with Shoaf, neither of the boys returning to the surface.

**Assistance Too Late.**  
At this time a man named Tate came across the lake in a boat to be of assistance but it was too late. Gus Waddell of Saxon, then dived into the lake at the place where the two boys had disappeared and found the bodies. He succeeded in bringing that of Wall to the surface. This occurred fifteen minutes after the two had gone down the last time. The body of Shoaf was recovered ten minutes later by Waddell with the assistance of Tate.

**Pulmotors Used**  
By this time two physicians had arrived on the scene, one from Saluda, Dr. Salley and the other Dr. Durham, of Tuxedo. Pulmotors secured in Asheville were used and efforts made to resuscitate the two young men but after three hours of continuous work, the attempt was given up.

At the time the drowning occurred, John A. Law, president of the Saxon mills, who has been providing a place of retreat and recreation for the employees of Saxon for three years, was at Chesnee Mills.

## Prominent Young Couple To Marry

Womanless Wedding For Benefit of School Library.

Coming as a complete surprise to their many friends is the announcement of the coming marriage of "Miss" W. H. Stearns (Uncle Bill) to one of the most prominent debutantes of Tryon's younger set, Harold Doubleday. The ceremony will take place next Tuesday night at 8:30 o'clock in the auditorium of the old school building.

Rumor has it that "Miss" Stearns was determined to be a June bride but owing to the opposition of both families, the young couple were unable to arrange the ceremony at an earlier date. However the bride elect decided that in as much as she could not be married in June, July was the next best month, "and anyhow what is thirty days between B. and G's." The groom naturally refuses to postpone the event until next June.

Bride, groom and parents compromised after much argument and the happy young couple will be joined in the "holey bunk" of matrimony next Tuesday. Every effort is being made by the families of both unfortunate to make this one of the most brilliant affairs of the social season. The friends and families of the bride and groom will see that expense and labor are not spared. A well known firm of local interior decorators will have charge of the floral scheme and the caterers will arrive early in the week from a neighboring city.

The bridal gown and gowns for the brides maids have been ordered from the Racket Store. The wedding party is being carefully chosen from among the younger set of Tryon and will include many of the social lights of the community. Among these are the bridesmaids as follows: Archie Butler, Waverley Hester, Dick Watson, Oliver Andrews, Ralph Jackson, and Theodore Wilcox.

Flower girls: Dr. A. J. Jervey and W. C. Ward.  
Organist: Ray Jackson.  
Ringbearer: Fred Swann.

Owing to the various attractions of the flower girls, the limited seating capacity of the school building and the conditions of the Parent Teacher's Association Treasury, a charge of 25 and 35 cents will be exacted.

## MELVIN HILL CLUB

### ELECTS OFFICERS

The Home Demonstration Club movements under the guidance of Miss Sara M. Padgett, home demonstration agent is rapidly gaining a foothold throughout Polk County. Melvin Hill Township is the last community to fall in line with the movement, the club having been organized and officers elected at a meeting held last Thursday.

Under the capable instructions of Miss Padgett, the women of this county are being taught new and simple methods of dress making, canning, cooking and conservation of household expenses.

The following officers were elected for the Melvin Hill Club: Mrs. Clara F. Watson, president; Mrs. W. D. Westbrook, vice-president; Mrs. Laura Cole, secretary and treasurer; The Misses Docia Davis, Mayme Cantrell and Louetta Malone, boosters girls.

Upon hearing of the tragedy he and Miss Marjorie Potwine, welfare workers at Saxon, hastened to the scene and accompanied the bodies to Spartanburg. Mr. Law, stated that this was the first fatal accident to happen at Lake Summit.

A. D. Wall, father of John A. Wall, met the body of his son, who gave up his life in an effort to save another, when it arrived in Spartanburg.

## Henry Ford Leads In Conserving Lumber

Auto Company Salvages Nearly 90 Million Feet Annually.

Salvaging of approximately 90,000,000 feet of lumber annually at its Highland Park plant is the Ford Motor Company's contribution to national forestry conservation.

Aside from the wood used in manufacturing automobiles, the company's requirements for packing and shipping run into enormous figures and to provide lumber for this purpose every bit of scrap is utilized through the salvage department, even to the smallest possible pieces. The little that cannot be salvaged is used for fuel.

The department, formed principally as a means of reducing waste, is conducted purely as a conservation agency while it was not the intention of the company to make it profit-producing, yet by putting it on an efficient basis, it has progressed to the point where it is now self-sustaining.

An average of 800 men are employed, working twenty-four hours a day in three eight-hour shifts, and the work includes the operation of the lumber yard, saw mills and handling of all new and old lumber for shipping.

## Splendid Programme Rendered at Saluda

### Oxford Orphanage Singing Class Delights Audience.

The Oxford Orphanage Singing Class offered an exceptional programme before a large and appreciative audience at the Princess Theater, Saluda, last Saturday night.

This Singing Class has made an annual tour of the mountain resorts of Western North Carolina for the past few years and has been one of the most popular of the summer diversions in the tourist towns.

All of the numbers were well rendered and showed careful and thorough training by the director and considerable talent on the part of the children.

Choral singing, quartets, duets, and solos interspersed with recitations made an enjoyable and entertaining evening. One of the best features of the programme was the operetta—"A Rose Dream, by Willis Forman with a cast of fourteen of the children depicting the well known fairy story of Hop-O'-My-Thumb. The parts were all well taken, the number proving to be one of the best on the program.

The Singing Class programme was followed by a motion picture featuring Harold Lloyd in "Grandma's Boy", a picture that has caused considerable favorable comment throughout the country.

## Fruit Growers to Meet.

A meeting of the fruit growers of this section has been called for Saturday July 28 at 10 o'clock at the Swannanoa Test Farm.

Several of the leading makers of orchard heaters are expected to make a demonstration of their various heaters. This should prove of interest to all fruit growers as it has proven its worth repeatedly in saving crops from frost and cold winds in the Spring.

Apple shows and other matters will be discussed. All fruit growers are urged to attend and bring their luncheon for a basket picnic.

The apple crop will be about one-quarter of the usual crop this year due to the severe Spring frosts however the apples are expected to be of good quality.

## Broken Flange Cause of Wreck On Mountain

Three Cars of coal Upset, Two Derailed Near Melrose.

Passenger trains number 9 and 28 were rerouted via Marion over the C. C. and O. railroad Tuesday when all traffic on the Spartanburg-Asheville Division was blocked by the derailing of five cars of coal near Melrose.

A broken flange on one of the cars was said to have been the cause of the wreck which occurred about 10:50 o'clock Tuesday morning. Five of the cars loaded with coal jumped the track, three of which turned over on the mountain side. The wreck occurred about a mile east of Melrose at the 37 mile post. The train, Train Second Number 80 was in charge of Conductor C. C. West, Mr. Steppe was engineer.

Wreck crews and derricks from Spartanburg and Asheville were rushed to the scene of the wreck to clear the track. Trains number 27 and 10 were delayed by the blocked track which was not cleared until after 6 o'clock Tuesday evening.

No one was injured. Returning from the wreck near Melrose, the Spartanburg wrecking crew were again called on to clear mainline just west of the downtown crossing in Tryon when Westbound engine number 4617 crashed into a train standing at the station about 7:30 o'clock.

It was stated that the engineer on East-bound engine number 618 had overlooked orders to wait on the siding for the West-bound train to pass. The pilot of the West-bound engine and a box car were badly damaged in the crash. The track was cleared in about an hour and a half.

## New Hosiery Mill Slated For Landrum

### Committee Appointed to Select Name for \$50,000 Plant

Announcement was made at the first stock holders meeting of the proposed new hosiery mill for Landrum that approximately \$36,000 had been raised in Landrum toward a goal of a capital of \$50,000.

The meeting was held last week with the majority of the stockholders present.

About three weeks ago a group of representative business men of Landrum headed a subscription list for a new cotton goods manufacturing mill for Landrum. An effort was made to have all of the stock subscribed to by Landrum people. At that time no definite goal was established and no further plans made, as to the particular line of cotton goods the new mill would turn out. At the end of the first week about \$30,000 had been raised and ten more days brought the quota to \$36,000.

A meeting of the stockholders was called last week to discuss further development. It was decided to make an attempt to raise an additional 14,000 bringing the capital to a total of \$50,000 an amount which was thought to be sufficient to start a hosiery mill.

A committee was appointed to select an appropriate name for the new industry.

Further investigation will be made of available sites in and about the vicinity of Landrum.

Application for enlistment for the United States Navy will be accepted at the Tryon or Saluda Post offices during the next two weeks according to Thomas P. Murphy, B. M. first class.

Applicants must be over 17 years of age and under 35 years. Ex-Service men can obtain special assignments upon request.

## Farm Demonstrators Meet For Conference

Agents Tour W. N. C. Counties This Week.

J. R. Sams, agricultural agent of Polk County, left last Monday to attend the County Agent's Conference that is being held this week in Asheville.

Farm Demonstration Agents began arriving in Asheville Monday and Tuesday of this week to attend the conference which will include a tour of the counties of Western North Carolina including Madison, Yancey, Mitchell, Avery and Watauga counties. The agents started the tour Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock and held a conference and discussion of the day's trip at Newland. A banquet was held for the delegates yesterday noon at Linville, following which they returned to Newland to continue the conference. Following an all day meeting at Newland today the agents will take a trip to Blowing Rock where they will be entertained.

The concluding conference will be held tomorrow.

## Interest Increases In N. C. State Fair

### Textile and Furniture Firms To Enter Many Exhibits.

Interest in the progress of the North Carolina State Fair is growing stronger, according to general Manager E. V. Walborn.

Since Mrs. Edith Vanderbilt's recent expedition into Eastern North Carolina, Mr. Walborn has his hands full, for in addition to getting the premium list in shape he has had many inquiries about the kinds of exhibits desired.

Many housewives are busy getting canning exhibits in shape during these canning days, and many a farmer is keeping a close watch over his corn field for likely specimens to send to the State Fair. Many a chicken fancier is busy in his poultry yard with a view to capturing a blue ribbon this fall. The agricultural end is a big feature of the fair, and is going to be bigger this year than ever before, according to Mr. Walborn.

North Carolina manufacturers are manifesting great interest in the plans for enlarged industrial exhibits, he states. Better textile exhibits than ever before are promised while the furniture manufacturers at High Point, the second largest furniture manufacturing center in America, and at Lenoir, the third largest furniture making city in the country, are planning to put these cities on the State Fair map this fall.

## AUXILLIARY REVERES MEMORY OF MR. MCKEE

The Auxilliary of the Clergy House Association realizes this year an almost irreparable loss in the death of Mr. H. H. McKee who for the past thirteen years has spent his useful life in Saluda, much loved here and elsewhere.

To him the Clergy House Auxilliary owed the most efficient help throughout the seasons when the auxilliary prepared for the reception and welcome of its annual guests in both the Georgia and South Carolina houses. His advice and suggestions were at all times practical and valued.

The Women's Auxilliary and that of the Saluda branch of the Episcopal Church of Saluda have each expressed their heart felt regret and sympathy to those nearest to Mr. McKee and to the Association.

The community of Saluda unites in the feeling that it can ill spare one who "wore the white flower of a blameless life" and bore so nobly the "grand old name of gentleman."

## State Planning New Bridge at Valhalla

Survey Made to Eliminate Dangerous Curve on Valley Road.

According to the present plans of the North Carolina State Highway Commission the dangerous curve and narrow bridge at Valhalla will be eliminated within the near future.

A preliminary survey was made recently by the resident engineer of the Highway Commission located here in Tryon. The present plan will straighten out the road from a point directly in front of the residence of C. M. Howes on the Valley road, throwing the bridge across the Pacolet River at a point slightly to the left of the present curve and straightening out from the new bridge on a gradual curve back into the main road near the point at which the Lynn road enters the highway.

The combination of this sharp low visibility curve and the narrow temporary bridge constructed by the county following the flood of several years ago has for some years made this point on the valley road one of the most dangerous on the entire trip from Tryon to Saluda.

Just when this road work will be started could not be learned. It was stated by one of the engineers that there was a possibility of the construction beginning at a later date this summer.

Repair work on the Valley road is progressing slowly due largely to the dry weather. It was assured yesterday that work on the rough stretch within the town limits would be started directly after the next rain. The excessive dry weather has permitted the top soil to pulverize and blow off with the high winds. A road maintenance crew is working out some of the narrow places on the road between Tryon and Melrose and Saluda.

## John R. Early In Tryon On Unofficial Leave

### Visits Friends in Many Cities Before Being Returned to New Orleans.

A late issue of the New York Times publishes in a recent issue, a column Washington Letter about John R. Early, not unknown in Tryon.

A veteran of the Spanish-American War, Mr. Early has attained during the past few years almost a national reputation due to the fact that his particular case has been brought to the attention of a number of medical experts, some of whom have asserted that he is a victim of leprosy contracted while in the service in the Philippine Islands, others declaring it to be merely a harmless skin disease caused by contact with wood-pulp in a paper factory.

Mr. Early has, at various times, been secluded and quarantined and has in some manner eluded officials of the quarantine department upon four occasions in order to visit friends in various sections of the country. Recently he escaped detention and was visiting Washington when a correspondent met him. Mr. Early is said to have stated to the newspaper man that he had been in Chattanooga, Chicago, Milwaukee and Tryon before his arrival in the National capital.

While in the immediate vicinity of Tryon he visited relatives and friends and stated that except for a few instances when the quarantine officials and medical personnel demanded that he take an alleged more or less dangerous experimental treatment for his malady he had had no cause for complaint aside from the prolonged isolation from his friends and relatives.