

POLK COUNTY NEWS

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POLK COUNTY CLUB PLAN OUTLINED BY SELECTED COMMITTEE

Club To Include Business and Professional Men of County in Close Knit Organization Which Will Work for Betterment of the Community

FIDELIS CLASS MEETS

A very interesting meeting of the Fidelis Class of the Erskine Memorial Church was held at the home of Miss Helen Morton in the valley Friday afternoon, January 30th.

Painstaking preparation for the program was made by the committee appointed for that purpose. The first part of the program was given to devotional exercises opening with the beautiful song, "The Old Rugged Cross," followed by a prayer and Bible reading II Cor. 7 chapter, by the teacher, Mrs. Avant.

The business of the class was then disposed of, and the social program was rendered. Piano solo, "The Rosary" Geraldine Sayre; Reading, "The Village Blacksmith" Elizabeth Avant; Song, "Star of the East" Ruth Andrews, accompanied by Helen Morton on the piano; "Loyal Hearts," a very pretty poem, was recited by Lenora Lankford; Song, "Redwing," Helen Morton. The program was concluded with an interesting talk on "The Blue Ridge Conference" by Alice Andrews. Delicious refreshments were served which were enjoyed by all.

The Fidelis Class will gladly welcome anyone who is not attending Sunday School elsewhere. The next meeting will be with Mrs. Avant.

TOO MANY BISHOPS

Residents of Godshaw Hill are having some innocent amusement at intervals this season, all owing to the fact that on this celebrated residential elevation three Bishops reside. Bishop Touret of Idaho and Detroit whose winter residence is the Godshaw house; Rev. Mr. Bishop, who has the Peattie home for the season, and Dr. B. B. Bishop, Tryon's popular dentist. It is not an unusual occurrence for Bishop Touret to answer his telephone, and be addressed by a pair of voices, "Doc, hurry on down to the office and get this thumpin' toothache stopped"—or for Rev. Mr. Bishop to be called upon to match up a golf game, which is Dr. Bishop's favorite pastime. Either are natural mistakes, but if a stranger should call Dr. Bishop and request his dignified presence in presiding at a wedding ceremony, there would probably be one telephone subscriber less on Godshaw Hill.

NOTED MINISTER IN TRYON

Dr. D. B. Martin, of Hendersonville, formerly the pastor of the church in Marion, Ohio, attended by the late Warren G. Hardin will conduct the regular services at the Tryon Baptist Church both morning and evening on Sunday, Feb. 8th. Dr. Martin is a man of deep culture and great ability whose wide experience has qualified him as an able exponent of his faith. The people of Tryon are cordially invited to avail themselves of the opportunity to hear him during his stay with Dr. T. L. Justice and they are sure to be pleased with his eloquent messages.

Inspiration



COMMISSIONERS WALDROP AND DAVIDSON MAY ABOLISH COUNTY FARM AND HOME AGENTS

Contrary to their Agreement, New Commissioners Refuse to Abide by Results of Petitions Circulated For and Against Movement. Majority of Residents Favor Continuation of the Work and Declare the Step If Taken Will Throw the Agricultural Development of the Section Back Thirty Years.

Prominent Business Man Voices Strong Protest

During the past few years North Carolina has led the South in many ways. Its road building program has astonished the nation—the development of the textile industry has set New England gasping for breath—its commercial and manufacturing concerns have grown and prospered—its farmers have found the means of growing and marketing produce in competition with other sections.

A large part of the continued prosperity of the entire state is due to the work of the State and Federal Agricultural Departments who by showing ways and means of improving the soils and adapting them to crops particularly suited to given conditions have increased in acreage yield, and valuation. Polk County has been and is prosperous. The farmers are self supporting, sensible business men and they have availed themselves of the opportunity to better the conditions through cooperation with these agencies. Both the farm agent and home demonstration work has accomplished results which cannot be measured in dollars.

In a mistaken spasm of economy, the newly elected County Commissioners have shown a strong inclination to dispense with the services of the county agent and home demonstrator. And this is not in accord with the wishes of the majority of people who live in Polk County.

The assertion that it will be done to save the county money does not ring true. Money isn't saved by cutting off essential employees.

This action, if it goes into effect will cost Polk County thousands of dollars between this time and next election. Every influence possible should be brought to bear to effect a reversal of the policy Davidson and Waldrop are attempting to put into effect.

In order to show the prevailing sentiment regarding their actions in this matter, the NEWS is running a letter just received from one of Tryon's most influential business men. It reads:

The spirit of fair play and all the rules of sportsmanship observed make a team, whether it be one on the athletic field or one running the affairs of a town, county, or nation.

It is felt very keenly by many interested in the future of Polk County that two of the three commissioners heading all county procedure in Polk have deliberately, or at least thoughtlessly let themselves be bound by promises not made generally known prior to their election to abandon all communication and contact with the Department of Ag-

riculture at Raleigh and Washington by abolishing the present County Farm agent and home demonstrator system. The answer of these two gentlemen to pleadings for the retention of this contact is that economy must be practiced at all costs. In this answer all will agree that they are right, except as to all costs for sometimes economy can easily be the most extravagant form of waste and expense.

North Carolina has won a place in the agricultural field that is envied by practically all other states. It ranks, and has ranked for four years as the fourth state in the Union in the value of its farm products and there must be some reason for this since only a few years ago it was far down the list. It is conceded by practically all within the state and enough outside that delegations are sent here to study the system that the Department of Agriculture has perfected a system of contact with the individual farmer that imparts to him knowledge in his line. This is done, as we all know, through the farm agent. The state does not propose or even expect to outline a plan for the individual farmer how to make his particular farm ideal in production but does propose to talk over with him what the department has learned and that he shall employ his own knowledge jointly with this information and thus get a greater production on the same land. Without this agent all contact with sources of information are lost except what reading the farmer may do. Unfortunately too many people are not given to much reading and a written article is not open to discussion that may prove valuable both to the farmer and the farmer of the opinion.

Commissioner Thompson favored the retention of a farm agent and voted at all times to employ the young man offered by the state, Mr. Gordon. The state proposed to send Mr. Gordon to Polk and to assume half his salary and Polk to assume the other half. Also to take over Mr. Sams for State work but leave half of his time for Polk gratis. On the first Monday in January Commissioners Waldrop and Davidson opposed this plan but rather than bring the issue to a vote and probably antagonize a large percentage of the voters offered a counter plan. This was, that petitions be circulated both for and against and that on the first Monday in February these be brought in. Many realized that petitions do not always show the real needs or desires of a people but it was their proposition and agreed to as the only solution

with their known attitude.

On the first Monday in February these petitions were presented and counted and it was found that there were over four hundred in favor of accepting the State proposition and the employing of agent and one hundred and ninety-eight against. This left it on a basis of two to one for having a farm agent. In the face of this which was their own proposition. Commissioners Waldrop and Davidson voted "no" with Commissioner Thompson "yes" when it was brought to a vote.

The world loves a good loser and especially should a man of public trust show that he will abide by the rules of the game when he has proposed those rules himself. This bit of economy may, and apparently will prove a great expense to Polk County for it places it where all counties were in this state before the department of Agriculture was established when every farmer had to rely upon his own meager sources of information for improved methods in farming. The action of Commissioners Waldrop and Davidson carried to its natural conclusion would eliminate all farm research work and abandon the State Department of Agriculture and that at Washington. In other words we would rather turn our backs on improved methods as things to be despised rather than emulated.

Nelson Jackson Jr.

A little daughter was born to Principal and Mrs. W. A. Schilleter, Monday, February 2nd, at Tryon Infirmary.

At the meeting of the Lanier Club Thursday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, Miss Henson will speak on "Bird Lore of North Carolina." There will be a business meeting of the Club at 3 o'clock.

An annual St. Valentine's dinner will be served at the Lanier Library at 6:30 Friday, Feb. 13th with tables laid for one hundred covers at \$1.00 per plate under the auspices of the Parent-Teacher Association.

The boys from Greens Creek invaded Gramling last Tuesday afternoon and after putting up a fast but aggressive game of basketball lost by a narrow margin. Special mention should be made of Gramling's captain, Dick Gowan, who scored 15 goals. Gramling can always feel sure of victory when Gowan is at his best, and he is always backed up by every member of the team. The final score was 24 to 22. Ben Turpin, of Gramling and Greens Creek's coach refereed.

BAILEY BROTHERS BUBBLE AIRED IN FEDERAL COURT

Tryonites Testify in Winston-Salem Trial of Tobacco Company Promoters. Investors Disregarded Advice of Bankers. Glowing promises of Big Dividends Attract Bales of Long Green. But the Bubble Burst.

The "Bailey Bubble" with its promises of a thirty percent dividend attracted hundreds of thousands of idle dollars with its glowing representations and alluring possibilities.

Using the success of old established tobacco manufacturing concerns as a lure showing the increase in the value of stocks in those concerns promising dividends which were never paid—the Bailey Brothers Tobacco Company with high pressure salesmanship unloaded on a gullible public.

Now those investors are having their day in court and Judge Yates Webb of Greensboro is sitting in judgement on promoters and stock salesmen who floated the bond issue on a fraudulent basis according to allegations made by the Federal government.

One woman testified that a salesman of stock told her that she would get so much money from dividends on her \$4,000.00 worth of stock that she would have to leave the farm in order to go where she might spend it. She is still on the farm.

J. E. Bushnell of Tryon, who invested two thousand good American dollars in neatly engraved certificates of the concern testified that he couldn't even remember the name of the man who sold him, and that he had decided to go ahead and try to forget all about his loss.

According to dispatches from Greensboro, J. T. Ingle of Tryon and A. H. Connolly of Rutherfordton also put their kale to work for Bailey. A merchant from Weaverville in Buncombe County was so much in love with the prospects that he invested \$3,000 in stock against the advice of the Asheville branch of the Wachovia Bank and Trust Company.

Other witnesses testified that stock salesmen told them that the stock was as "good as gold"—that the concern had \$400,000 in a bank in Winston-Salem to guarantee dividends—and none of them testified that any dividends had ever been paid.

"Doc" Cook consolidated a lot of worthless oil companies and reloaded the original investors with millions of dollars worth of good looking wall paper—the defunct Wizard Motor Company of Charlotte left a lot of North Carolinians holding the bag when the bubble burst—in spite of Henry Ford's glowing success in the motor industry which the Wizard stock salesmen promised to parallel and DIDN'T.

Bankers in and out of Polk County are ready and willing to give advice to prospective investors. That

advice in most instances is based on inside information obtained through bankers organizations national and state. The banker is seldom wrong.

It is the boast of the "high pressure" stock salesman that he can "sell anything." It doesn't much matter to him what he sells. And it doesn't matter in the least to him whether the investor gets trimmed to a frazzle! he gets his sales commission when the sale is made.

That there are legitimate stocks and bonds being sold every day, no one denies. That some of these industrial stocks have paid unusually large dividends cannot be disputed. Yet a basically sound proposition is generally financed in a different manner.

Wild cat stocks can be legitimately sold—as wild cats—which is some times done. Men like to gamble and will gamble. The stock that promises more than 10 per cent dividends needs careful analysis—and the banker is the man to do the analyzing.

Put your money into home enterprises which are safe, sane and sound. Consult your banker first even then, if he advises you to keep off, take his advice for its face value. And in doing that you won't find your name on the "sucker list" of the get rich quick kings of modern finance.

RUTH E. COBB WINNER OF THE SPELLING MATCH

Prof. Cobb attended the State Education meeting in Raleigh last Thursday and Friday. He was accompanied by his eleven year old daughter, Eloise and Ruth who entered the State Spelling Contest, an account of which is taken from the Raleigh paper:

Raleigh, Jan. 31.—The annual spelling match with the best children from the six North Carolina districts competing resulted in a tie with Ruth T. Cobb, of Stearns High School, Columbus, Polk county, and Lillian Warren, of Monroe, each spelling every word in the book and going strong on the way to spelling every word in the dictionary when the contest was declared a tie in order to let everybody eat.

George Weaver, of Relford, won second place in the contest, falling out when he left out "p" in appeal.

Eloise Cobb, a twin sister of one of the winners, was third. Through a slip of her pen she left an "l" out of alter.

Twenty of the champion young spellers of North Carolina took part in the contest.

City Briefs

Miss Helen Fairchilds, who will be accompanist for the Carl Behr Quartette at its appearance in the Parish House next Wednesday night, is not a member of this famous musical organization, but is a house guest of Mrs. James Vernor this winter.

Mrs. Cornelia Pae of Bel Air, Md. is in Tryon for the season and will make her home with her daughter, Mrs. E. P. Williams and her grandchildren, Pinckney and Cornelia Williams.

Rev. S. W. Dendy, Presbyterian Minister, will preach in the Tryon Methodist Church Sunday, at 11 a. m. and at Columbus at 7:30 p. m.

The reception, Tuesday, announcing the opening of the Blue Ridge Tea Room was a decided success, and throughout the afternoon many ladies called and expressed their admiration of the appointments and location.

James Leonard has recently disposed of his three lots on the old Landrum road, now South Main Street, Tryon, to Dr. W. S. Green and W. M. Hester. Mr. Leonard also announces the sale to J. L. Arledge, formerly of Saluda, of the R. L. Young place in the valley, opposite the Wilcox Dairy Farm.

Chas. Leonard was called to his home in Lake Geneva, Wis. on account of business, and left Saturday last week after a visit in Tryon with his brother, James Leonard.

P. F. Cantrell was looking after business matters in Tryon Monday, and while here was a renewal visitor at this office.

A large number of visitors as well as members of the Lanier Club were present at the meeting last Thursday afternoon to hear Mrs. Padgett Smith speak on her work in Polk County as Home Demonstration Agent. This woman is always a welcome speaker at the Lanier Club and her audience Thursday thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed what she had to say. A short musical program was rendered, Mr. Arthur Carver singing a song cycle, "In San Nazaro" and an old English song, "Sir John Peel."

Owing to the unprecedented number of visitors registered at Pine Crest Hotel as well as Pine Crest Cottages, Mr. Carter Brown, the popular host of this famous hostelry, has rented the Bushnell and the James Leonard houses for the further accommodation of guests.

Mrs. J. H. Stephens who had been occupying the Clara Bell Cottage, left Thursday of last week for her home in Chicago.

"The Prince and Princess" a story of Italy, is a new book by Claude C. Washburn, published by A. & C. Bion of New York, and on sale by Missidine's. Mr. Washburn is the son of Hon. J. L. and Mrs. Washburn of Tryon, and this book will be received with great interest by their many friends here.

Our Neighbors

COLUMBUS

The regular monthly meeting of the Columbus Parent-Teacher Association will be held in the school auditorium Friday night, February 6, seven o'clock. All members are urged to be present.

Mrs. J. W. McIntosh was hostess of the Columbus Circle of the Presbyterian Church Monday afternoon. The circle has just completed the study of "The Romance of Home Missions," by Morris, and a summary of each chapter was given by different members. After a short business meeting the hostess served hot tea and wafers.

Miss Ann Ridings, an aged lady who lives near Columbus, lost her eye in the darkness Wednesday evening and fell breaking her collar. Her cries attracted neighbors who carried her home and secured medical aid.

Harold, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Ormand who has been seriously ill for the past two weeks was carried to the hospital Friday for an operation. Altho still very sick, he seems to be improving.

Mrs. N. B. Jackson well known to her neighbors and friends as "Aunt Sally" fell on the ice Thursday morning dislocating her shoulder and breaking the shoulder bone. She was carried to the hospital at Tryon. Her many friends wish for her a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Sikes and baby spent the week end in Monroe with Mrs. Sikes' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Shannon.

The second number of the lyceum course will be given by Miss Hazel Dopheide, one of America's great story play readers in the school auditorium, Feb. 12, at seven-thirty.