

# The Polk County News

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County First, Sec-  
Last and all the  
TCH IT GROW!

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POLK COUNTY—The Gateway of Western North Carolina

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## Fire To Own Auto Adds to Wealth of Nation By Stimulating Production

### Approximately 22,000,000 Cars In Use, Great Percentage of Which Are Owned By People In Rural Sec- tions of Country

That the trend of automobile absorption is so obviously toward the statistical bounds who have been contending for a long time has been reached for the motor car have reached a point where there is every indication that automobile production and sales this year will exceed all previous years. The little economists have established saturation points for the motor car more than once. Indeed every once in a while the industry has set a record and passed, and the industry is swinging by leaps and proverbial bounds.

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Particularly is this so in the country. The city man is rapidly reaching the point where he finds disadvantage in car ownership. The congestion is such that he cannot park, and certainly the traffic rules are such as to preclude the possibility of riding with pleasure. Garage rents are enormous and other expenses are correspondingly high. None of these conditions apply to the country. There are the open spaces, good roads, no garage rent and a full and free opportunity to get all there is out of a car whether for business purposes or for pleasure. Already more than fifty per cent of all the automobiles manufactured in the United States are sold in towns up to five thousand population, and to the farmers, and the demand is increasing steadily.

## HOLY CROSS PARISH HOLD GREAT MEETING

### Officers Elected For En- suing Year, Meeting Well Attended

The annual meeting of the Holy Cross Parish was held on Monday evening, January 11th, at the Parish Hall to receive reports, elect the vestry for the ensuing year, and discuss any matters pertaining to the welfare of the Parish and the furtherance of its work.

The rector, Rev. C. P. Burnett, in reviewing the ministrations of the past year, spoke feelingly of the loss sustained by the Church through the death of Mrs. Emily Carpenter, Mr. Harold Doubleday and Mrs. J. Foster Seales, who had endeared themselves to the whole Parish and a large circle outside of it. The treasurer, D. S. Blois, submitted a detailed and carefully prepared financial statement, which showed the wide scope of the interests of the local church. Mrs. Earle Grady, on behalf of the

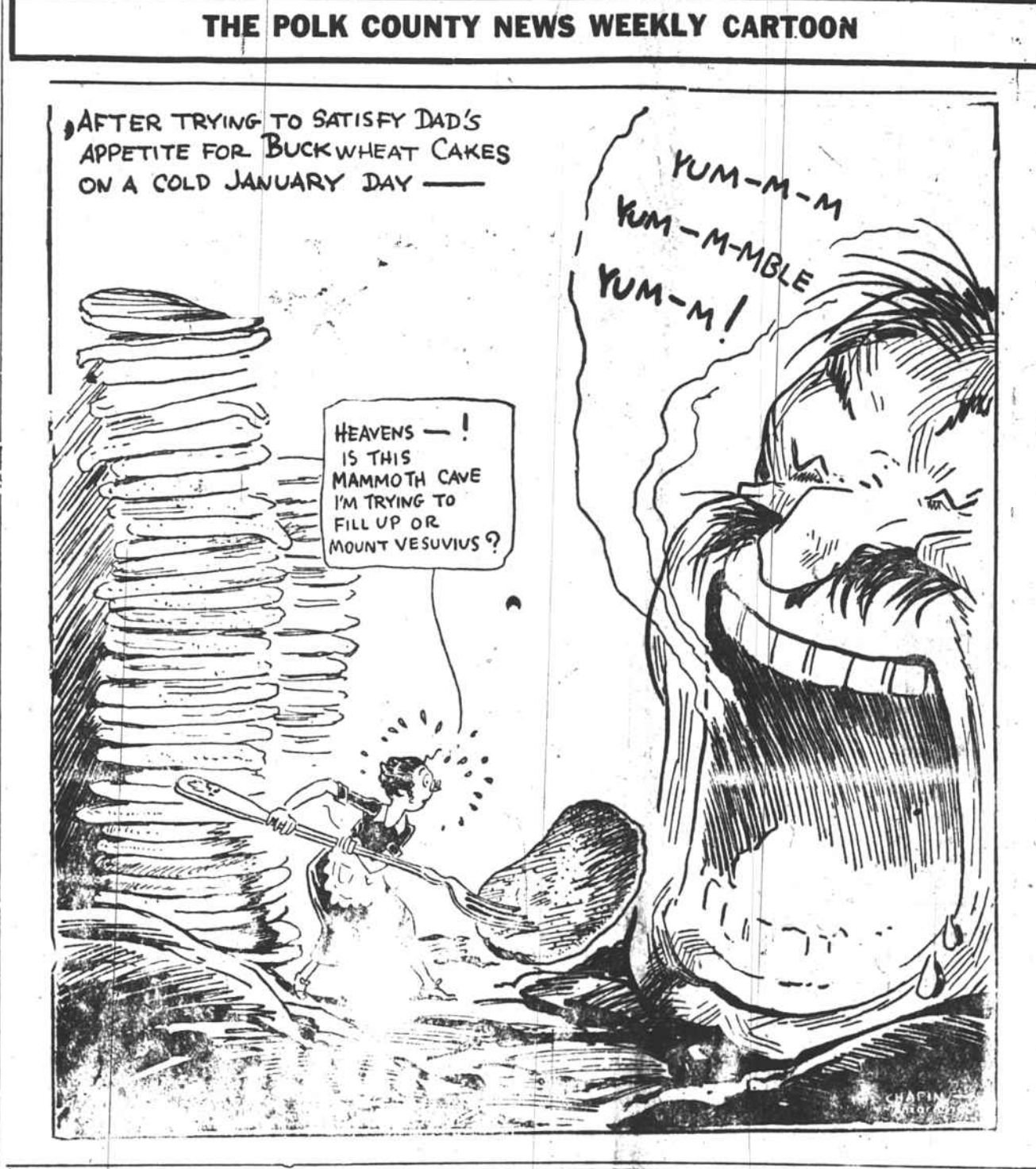
## POLK COUNTY BANK AND TRUST CO. HOLD BIG BANQUET

### An Enjoyable Affair At Stock- holders Meeting

Enjoyable in every detail was the banquet which the stockholders of the Polk County Bank and Trust Company held in the domestic science dining room of Stearns High School last Saturday evening. Carrying out an effective color note of yellow and green in both decorations and menu, an elegant four-course dinner was served by domestic science girls under the supervision of Miss Maywood, instructor of domestic science in Stearns High School.

Mr. E. W. S. Cobb, president of the bank, in his peculiar and humorous way acted as master of ceremonies and called upon Hon. E. B. Cloud for the address of welcome, which he very heartily gave. This was fol-

(Continued on page 4.)



## THE TOWN OF SALUDA, FAST BECOMING RESORT CENTER

### Growing By Leaps and Bounds, Build- ing Going on Rapidly, and Progress Noted In Every Circle.

#### The Coming Season Expected to Eclipse All Others—Great Pre- parations Being Made to Care for Influx of Visitors Expected This Year.

If predictions by those who are in position to know mean anything, this town at the top of this great mountain paradise, called Saluda, bids fair to make them sit up and take notice. Reports from all sides confirm this assertion. The writer of this article had the pleasure of interviewing several of Saluda's prominent men of affairs, who state that the progressive community spirit is certainly having its desired effect. A big bond issue for the improving of the city's thoroughfares is about ready to go through, and other municipal projects are on the calendar for this year.

## CITY COMMANDS IDEAL MOUNTAIN VIEW AND UNSURPASSED AS RESORT.

Saluda is situated on the southeast edge of the Appalachian Plateau, on the national highway, within three miles of Lake Summit. It has lovely walks and drives, and magnificent views from nearby summits, and picturesque waterfalls. The city has a modern electric plant, water works, paved sidewalks, local and long distance telephones, thirty-seven good hotels and boarding houses, with reasonable rates; two banks that are showing notable gains every year, good stores, a wonderful public library, and a graded and high school second to none for a community of this size.

## Good Railroad Facilities Make Saluda Very Accessible.

Saluda has good train service, situated midway between Spartanburg, S. C., and Asheville, N. C., having four passenger trains daily each way. Good freight service is also maintained, which insures the business interests service at all times.

The United States geological department gives the following note about Saluda:

"There is more ozone in the atmosphere in and around Saluda than at other points in this range of the Blue Ridge Mountains, owing to the condition created by the currents of air from the higher altitudes in passing in to the Tryon Valley below Saluda."

Real estate is selling at good prices, demands for residential, business property, and acreage being unprecedented in the town's career. Real es-

## Who's Who IN POLK COUNTY NEWS.



ARTHUR BRISBANE  
Famous Editorial Writer.

His column, "This Week," is the most widely read and quoted of all newspaper articles. Millions read his editorials weekly. Brisbane handles the news topics of the day in a masterly way, treating them with a touch of genius. His English is clear, concise and sparkling. They are a joy and an education to read. The Polk County News is proud to number Mr. Brisbane's article among its features and we know that once you have read "This Week" you will join our enthusiastic praise of his column.

Arthur Brisbane's Column  
"THIS WEEK"  
Appears on Page 12.  
Read "This Week" Every Week.

## BIG MEETING HELD IN TRYON

### A Dry World by 1930

PLAYLETS BY TRYON.

Public School Children "Help Lift the World to the Light," and "Mary, Quite Contrary," Local Clergy and Organizations Represented — Mayor Addresses Audience.

The sixth birthday celebration of National Constitutional Prohibition was held at Tryon High School January 16, 3 p. m.

The program opened by the chairman, Mrs. Wm. Phin Mackay, quoting Proverbs 3:6: "In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths." Dr. Justice followed with prayer.

Changes wrought by Prohibition during the last six years, from the pen of Mrs. Azuba Jones, National Organizer W. C. T. U., was read by Mrs. Mackay, after which the entire audience joined in "America," accompanied by Mrs. Walter Jones.

Mayor Green gave a strong practical address.

(Continued on page 9.)

## JOHN N. THORN, ONE TIME CITIZEN OF POLK COUNTY NOW PRES. FLORDIA BANK

### Former Residence of Mill Spring N. C. Also Prominent in Other Affairs of St. Petersburg Florida

At the first anniversary of the Alexander National Bank on Tuesday, January 12, 1926, John N. Thorn, formerly of North Carolina, but for the last twenty years a resident of Florida, was elected president. Mr. Thorn is one of the founders of the bank, and from a beginning of \$180,000 of deposits on February 12, 1925, the bank has grown and increased to its present status of service and power, at the close of one year, with total deposits of more than three million dollars.

Mr. Thorn, along with the late Jacob F. Alexander, also a former North Carolina man, conceived the idea of organizing the Alexander Banking Institution in order to meet the ever-growing needs and development of St. Petersburg.

Born at Mill Spring—Lived There During Early Youth.

The story of the rise of John Thorn is the old story of a country boy making good by hard work, perseverance and moral habits. Mr. Thorn was born in the hills of Western North Carolina, near the little town of Mill Spring, Polk county. In his youth, along with his brother, Robert T. Thorn, he went to North Dakota and engaged in the mercantile business. During the sojourn of the brothers in Dakota they accumulated small dividends, and in the year 1905 decided to pay a visit to their father and mother, the late James A. Thorn, who had come with his wife to the city of St. Petersburg to make their home. Upon the arrival of the Thorn brothers in the city of St. Petersburg, they realized at once the manifold opportunities and possibilities which the climate and soil and water afforded. Together with their sister, Miss Myrtle Thorn, who had preceded the brothers, the Thorn brothers invested their savings and built the Central Hotel, then the largest in the city. It was in this capacity, as manager and director of the hotel, that Mr. Thorn came in daily contact with the

hundreds of tourists who came to St. Petersburg every winter, and in a large measure Mr. Thorn was instrumental in inducing financiers to invest in the city of St. Petersburg.

Made First Real Estate Venture in St. Petersburg.

It was while he was in direct charge of the Central Hotel and with his brother and sister that Mr. Thorn ventured on his first real estate undertaking. He bought many acres of land, which at that time was little more than a swamp and a wilderness, but since which time Central Avenue, one of the longest streets in the world, was built directly through his property. While the lands owned by Mr. Thorn could then have been bought for a few thousand dollars, they are now worth several millions.

Strong Personality With Many Friends in Florida City.

The success of Mr. Thorn is not due to the phenomenal rise of real estate, by any means. While he in-

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## STRAND THEATRE TO SHOW MANNEQUIN

### Story By Fannie Hurst Now a Tryon Visitor

On Tuesday and Wednesday the Strand Theatre will show "Mannequin," the great story written by Fannie Hurst, who is now a Tryon visitor.

Alice Joyce, Warner Baxter and Zasu Pitts are the stars in the cast. The local management states that Fannie Hurst will probably attend the performance. All Tryon theatre goers should avail themselves of this opportunity of seeing this great picture, which will be shown on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 26th and 27th.

This story was a \$50,000 prize winner in the Liberty Magazine contest, and is said by critics to be a great piece of work.

## POLK COUNTY HOME DEMONSTRATION AGT. RETURNS

Miss Lois Holderbaum, Home Demonstration Agent, has returned after spending the holidays with her relatives in Kansas City, Mo.

Miss Holderbaum was given a month's vacation, but most of this time was spent in the interest of her work. A two weeks' course was taken in Emory Bird Thayer's dress-making department, learning commercial methods of construction.

Miss Holderbaum states that the technical and commercial value of this course will be of much value. She also attended the two weeks' session of the annual Home and Farm Agents' Conference recently held at Raleigh, N. C.

## DR. ADOLPH LORENS.



This world famous "bloodless" surgeon, who cures with the magic of his hands, is again in America to visit some of his patients.

## Fannie Hurst Famous Writer Is Visitor In Tryon Here For A Week's Stay

Fannie Hurst, famous writer, accompanied by her husband, Jacques Danielson, well known pianist, arrived at Pine Crest Inn on Monday for a week's stay. Tryon is proud to welcome these distinguished visitors.

Miss Hurst is the author of "Mannequin," the \$50,000 Liberty Magazine prize story, which is now being shown in motion pictures.

The famous author is a native of St. Louis, Mo. She received her education at Washington University in

## Invents Rubber



H. Culmer chemical engineer of Chicago, claims he has invented synthetic rubber which is derived from various producing garbage. If true it will stretch the rubber industry out of joint.

## R. B. Engel Passes Away.

Many friends of R. B. Engel, who everyone as Pete, will be sorry to learn that he died on January 18, after an illness of only a few days.

Engel lived in Tryon a number of years, and was very popular with the people.

## Annual Meeting of the Parish on the night of February under the auspices of the Guild.

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