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THE CLEVELAND STAR, SHELBY, N. C.

TUESDAY, OCT. 18, 1921

\$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE

WIZARD COLAPSES AT K. K. HEARING

TOPPLES OVER WHILE CROWD CHEERS

Simmons Says There are Ninety Thousand Men in the Order—Calls Craven a Traitor

Washington, Oct. 13.—Closing an 11-day defense of the Ku Klux Klan, William J. Simmons, its imperial wizard, toppled over in a chair today while the chairman of a house committee investigating the order was attempting to stop the applause which broke before the crowd knew the wizard had collapsed.

Friends of Mr. Simmons rushed to his side and supplied stimulants, but as it was evident that he was in no condition to continue the examination, the hearing, filled with many dramatic incidents during the day, was adjourned until tomorrow. Physicians later reported that Mr. Simmons' condition was not serious.

Bundled up about the chest, Simmons returned to the afternoon session unsteady of feet, his voice hoarse, but apparently eager to denounce what he characterized as outrageous charges against the organization he founded in Georgia five years ago.

Complains of Traitors

A solemn stillness prevailed at times while the wizard, holding aloft the ritual of the clan, read parts of the oath taken by klansmen. And then in husky tones he told the committee that while Julius Caesar had his Brutus and Washington his Benedict Arnold, he too, as imperial wizard of the Ku Klux, could enter that fellowship because he had suffered from the treacherous conduct of those within.

"If this organization is unworthy then let me know and I will destroy it," he exclaimed, "but if it is not then let it stand."

Turning to the crowd Simmons declared he wanted to "call upon the Father to forgive those who had persecuted the clan," and as the words left his lips he tumbled into a heap.

The first dramatic incident of the day was the sudden appearance of Senator Thomas E. Watson, of Georgia, who, edging his way through the crowd, stepped up and seized the wizard by the hand. Whispering something, he turned and sat down, but a moment later he was on his feet, demanding the right to question the witness in "the interest of fair play."

Chairman Campbell broke in to say that the witness was getting that and that it was not in line with regular procedure to permit questions by outsiders.

Senator Watson insisted that he had the right, first announcing, however, that he was not a klansman, although in sympathy with its aims, and the chairman cut through the colloquy by directing the senator to proceed. The senator merely asked the wizard if he knew of the big salaries being voted by Congress for shipping board lawyers, reaching as high as \$35,000, which the people had to pay. With that Mr. Watson left.

Through the testimony of Mr. Simmons, the committee learned that the total membership of the clan, heralded as having passed the half million mark, actually was around 90,000. The witness declared that its growth east and west had been greater than in the south, but his illness prevented questioning designed to bring out facts bearing on some of the present strongholds of the organization. Asked if he had not claimed "a million membership," Mr. Simmons smilingly replied he might have done so, but that he was speaking generally, not by the card.

Ready to Pay Taxes

Representative Garrett, Democrat, Tennessee, took the witness in hand to find out something about its revenues and profits, asking if the membership fees had been listed as donations rather than fees to prevent collection of federal corporation taxes. Simmons replied there was never a thought of that, declaring that when the tax law first became effective he went to the revenue office at Atlanta and was informed that the clan did not come under the law.

"If it does it is not my fault," the wizard said, "and if it is shown we are liable we stand ready to meet our obligations."

Denying huge profits from the sale of robes, the witness declared that less than 30 per cent of the klansmen owned regalia.

"Our robes are not worn for the

purpose of terrorizing people," he shouted, "they are as innocent as the breath of an angel."

The witness was pressed by Chairman Campbell for explanation of the recent clash between a sheriff and marching klansmen near Waco, Texas, and while he replied that his information was based largely upon newspaper reports, he said that the parade had been authorized by the mayor and that the sheriff, in attempting to stop it, "seemed to be under the influence of liquor." Simmons said he had called for an official report, but that it had not been forthcoming.



Church and Sunday School

Central Methodist Has Fine Year

Sunday night before delivering his closing message of the conference year, Rev. W. E. Poovey, pastor of Central Methodist church, made a brief but interesting report of the work of the year. These are some of the outstanding facts from that report:

1. A Sunday School enrollment increasing from 432 to 600, thus passing the present total membership of the church.

2. The total amount raised in the Sunday School for all purposes over \$2,200, being an increase of \$1,000 over the previous year.

3. An Epworth League organized six months ago growing in enrollment to more than sixty, and doing fine work in developing the young life of the church.

4. Four active organizations working as a Women's Missionary Society, numbering more than a hundred and fifty members, and reporting nearly \$600 raised during the past year.

5. 28 adults and children baptized at the altar.

6. 52 added to the church on confession of faith and 56 by certificate, making a total of 108 new members added this year.

7. From all sources a budget of about \$13,000 was raised, of which more than \$500 went to the Children's Home and more than \$4,000 was given for Missions.

The pastor expressed himself as being delighted with the progress along all lines of church activity, and desirous of being returned for another year.

Mr. Poovey's pastorate here has been fraught with splendid results. He is a great power as pastor and preacher and his many friends of all denominations hope for his return to this charge.



Guild Meeting Saturday Afternoon

The Guild will meet in the vestry room of the Episcopal church Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Returns to School

Miss Annie Wilson, the bright young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wilson who was called home last week by the death of her sister, Mrs. McBride Poston of Kings Mountain, returned Monday to Chowan College, Murfreesboro, N. C. where she is a student.

Mrs. Wythe Royster Improving

The many anxious friends of Mrs. Wythe Royster who is a patient at the Charlotte Sanatorium will be gratified to know that she is resting more comfortably following a serious operation which she underwent last week. Her mother, Mrs. A. W. McMurry, and daughter, Miss Sarah McMurry, and Misses Amos Willis and Helen Eskridge motored to Charlotte Saturday and spent the day at her bedside.

Gordon Dudley Undergoes Successful Operation

The hosts of friends of Gordon Dudley, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Dudley of this place, who is a student at Bingham, Asheville will be gratified to know that he is improving following an operation for appendicitis which he underwent at the Asheville hospital last Friday. Mrs. Dudley is still at his bedside and his father and sisters, Misses Elizabeth and Blanche motored up to Asheville Sunday.

Club Meeting Thursday Afternoon and Evening

The afternoon division of the Literary department of the Woman's club will meet Thursday afternoon with Mrs. W. H. Blanton at her home on South LaFayette street. The hour of meeting is 4 o'clock.

The evening division will convene that evening at 8:00 with Miss Jessie Hamrick at her home on North LaFayette street. All members who can not attend are requested to kindly notify the hostess.

Mrs. C. R. Doggett Entertains in Honor of Her Niece, Miss Frances McBrayer

In honor of her charming niece, Miss Frances McBrayer, bride elect, Mrs. C. R. Doggett was a most delightful hostess at her home on North LaFayette street, last Friday afternoon from 4 to 6 o'clock.

The lower floor was thrown on suite, a beautiful color scheme of pink and white being artistically carried out by the lavish use of dahlias and potted plants, which filled silver and cut glass baskets and vases. Five tables were placed about the room where a game of progressive rook held the interested attention of the twenty fortunate guests throughout the afternoon.

When cards were laid aside this gracious hostess, assisted by her daughter, Mrs. Nelson Latimore served an elegant salad course, salted nuts and mints.

Ladies of Presbyterian Church Delightfully Entertained by Woman's Auxiliary

On last Friday evening at the lovely home of Mrs. Felix O. Gee on South Washington street the Woman's Auxiliary of the Presbyterian church was hostess to the entire membership of the ladies of the Presbyterian church, this being an annual and delightful courtesy extended by these good women.

The house was artistically arranged with lovely fall flowers and potted plants, and in the midst of these surrounding a delightful program was enjoyed. Mrs. R. L. Ryburn gave a splendid and enjoyable reading followed by an interesting and inspiring illustrated lecture "Young Peoples Missionary Work" by Mrs. Abernathy of Lincolnton, president of the Presbyterian Synodical of this district, who was the guest of honor at this delightful gathering of church women. The speaker was charmingly introduced by Mrs. W. F. Mitchell, president of the local auxiliary.

During the social hours which followed a delicious salad course and elaborate accessories were served.

There is no safer investment than high class farm land in Cleveland county. Better buy a tract at the Max Gardner Land Sale.

The public is invited to go to the O. Max Gardner farm and inspect it this week before the sale Saturday, Oct. 22nd.

CLEVELAND WINS GASTON FAIR PRIZES

GREAT CROWD ATTENDS ON THURSDAY

El Bethel Community Wins Sweepstakes for Community—Prizes Amount to \$450 in All

Hundreds attended the Big Gaston county fair last week, especially on School children's day, Thursday when free tickets were distributed through the county superintendent and the various school committees. Many cars went over each day and special courtesies were accorded the Cleveland county people, who manifested such an interest in making the Gaston fair a success from the standpoint of exhibits and from the standpoint of attendance.

The fair without a doubt is the second best in North Carolina, being excelled only by the State fair at Raleigh, so it was quite an honor to win prizes. The fair association, especially the live secretary Mr. Fred M. Allen are to be congratulated on such a good exhibition of field crops, vegetables, fruits, canned fruits and vegetables, live stock, needle work, textile products, etc.

Some of the winners of blue ribbons from Cleveland county are: El Bethel in the community fair booth 1st prize also \$25.00 sweepstake from Sunnyside which has been taking this prize for the past several years at the fair. Boiling Springs 2nd prize, Union third prize and Earl fourth prize.

In the thirty six jar exhibits El Bethel won first prize, Union second and Earl third prize.

Clyde Barber won first prize on corn, L. A. Beatty first prize on Rhode Island Red chickens and White Leghorns, A. T. Newton first prize on pair mules. Dr. Dorton first prize on saddle horse and driving horse. M. S. Beam of Waco won ten first prizes and one second on his magnificent herd of registered Hampshire sheep.

The livestock judging contest for the club boys of Cleveland county on dairy cattle and hogs was won by the following boys: Dairy cattle Ralph Hoey first, Ellis Morrison second and Chas. Falls third. Hogs Clyde Barber first and Alex Hoyle second. The prizes were ten dollars first prize, four dollars second prize and two dollars third prize.

SHELBY SCHOOL BOYS WIN JUDGING CONTEST

Four Shelby High School boys, Ralph Hoey, Ellis Morrison, Alex Hoyle and Julian Thompson who are studying under Prof. T. B. Elliott in the agricultural department won at the Big Gaston county fair last week and will leave for Raleigh this week where on Thursday they will enter the stock judging contest. At Gastonia they entered the contest for judging dairy cattle and hogs and won first and second places in judging dairy cattle, second in hogs and tied for third place on hogs. Their average score was first, second and third and these enterprising young fellows will go to Raleigh this week to compete with the agricultural colleges of the state for the valuable prizes offered in stock judging. Should they be fortunate enough to win there, they will be sent to Atlanta to judge at the Southern Live Stock Association and should they win in Atlanta, Ga. it is customary to send the winners to take up to the international livestock show.

MR. McMURRY ACCEPTS WORK AT KENDALL MEDICINE CO.

Mr. Charles R. McMurry has accepted a position with the Kendall Medicine Company, a well known and progressive young wholesale drug and manufacturing concern. Mr. McMurry is a registered pharmacist, holding a license from the state of Missouri having operated a drug store in Excelsior Springs, Mo. for a number of years. However, he is a Cleveland county man and returned sometime ago to his native heath. He has been stock room clerk at Gilmer's store and is a very popular and efficient young man who will add to the already good force at the Kendall Medicine Company. Mr. McMurry will travel this territory and being well known with the trade, it is felt sure that he will be a valuable addition to the staff. Messrs. H. E. Kendall and Flay Hoey are already on the road for the Kendall Medicine Co.

MR. DIXON OF LINCOLNTON SPENT THE WEEK-END WITH MR. AND MRS. C. K. McMURRY OF NEAR LAWDALE.

Mr. Tom Dixon of Lincolnton spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. C. K. McMurry of near Lawdale.

Don't give your children fatherly advice—let them grow old unassisted.

Some can't think and others don't.

METHODIST CONFERENCE HIGH POINT THIS WEEK

Quite a Number Going From Cleveland County to the Conference

The Western North Carolina Conference which assembles Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock in the Wesley Memorial church, High Point, is composed of two hundred and ninety-one clerical members and eighty-eight lay delegates. To these three hundred and seventy-nine names may be added the names of twenty-nine young preachers who are on trial and a very large, though indefinite, number of visitors who invariably attend the annual meeting of the conference.

This host of militant Methodists, the big majority of whom hail from that part of the Old North State which lies west of the counties of Caswell, Granville, Montgomery and the Pedee river, will take the Furniture City a willing captive. The Methodists ordinarily figure largely in the life of High Point, but next week that good town will learn, if never before, what complete Methodist domination is like. Presbyterians, Friends, Baptists, and all the rest had as well run up the white flag.

Those attending the session of the Western North Carolina Conference and representing Central Methodist church are: Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Poovey, Rev. R. M. Hoyle, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Hoyle, and Messrs. D. D. Wilkins, C. E. Hoey and William Lineberger.

All of the Methodist ministers of the county, together with lay delegates from all of the churches will leave today for High Point to attend the conference.

FIVE MILLION DOLLAR DEED OF TRUST RECORDED

Two Deeds of Trust one Five Million, Another \$200,000—Rate Case Papers

Three large and important documents have been filed at the Court House before the Register of Deeds and the Clerk of Court. The longest document is the evidence in the famous power rate case which contains over 1,300 typewritten pages of matter in which the cotton mills contend for lower power rates from the Southern Power Company. These papers are in the office of Clerk Geo. P. Webb for the special term of court which will be necessary to try the case on appeal, it having been assigned to Cleveland county by the state corporation commission.

A five million dollar mortgage has also been probated by a foreign corporation which has a manufacturing plant here as well as in four or five other places. This is a first mortgage deed of trust for five million dollars on the property of the Delaware corporation. The document is printed and bound, containing 191 pages, the fees for registering being between \$50 and \$75. Register of Deeds Weathers says it will take him ten days or two weeks to copy the deed of trust on the records.

A \$200,000 deed of trust has been recorded from No. 4 township, a bank, an individual and a textile plant being involved. The principal to this the second largest deed of trust that has been recorded since Mr. R. L. Weathers has been registrar, is the largest individual tax payer this year in Cleveland county, which shows that even the wealthy at times need money.

DEATH OF NOBLE COLORED WOMAN, AUNT PUSS LOUIS

The many white friends as well as those of her own race will learn with keen regret of the death of "Aunt Puss Louis" as she was affectionately called by all, which occurred at three o'clock at her home in Freedman Sunday afternoon, after having been confined to her bed for several months. The immediate cause of her death being old age.

Aunt Puss was known both in Rutherford and Cleveland counties as a fine type of her own race, and was a celebrated cook. She was born in Rutherford county and after her marriage she moved with her husband to Shelby where she has reared a splendid family of daughters and one son Henry, all of who are now living here.

The funeral services were conducted from Zion Methodist church Monday afternoon, in the presence of a large concourse of both white and colored friends who gathered to pay their last respects to this noble and deserving colored woman whose life has proved such a blessing and example to her race.

The character and location of the Max Gardner farm will increase in value each year. It will always bring a good price. adv.

Mr. and Mrs. Eldridge Weathers of the Union community left yesterday for Raleigh to attend the state fair.

COTTON CROP IN COUNTY SURPRISING

PROSPECTS GOOD FOR THE NEXT YEAR

General Conditions Good and No Material Damage by Boll Weevil is Contemplated

(By Optimist)

The cotton crop in Cleveland county will probably be picked and ginned by October 31, the earliest harvest in the history of the county.

We are indeed fortunate in Cleveland county when we compare our conditions with the conditions of many other sections of the country. It is estimated we will make around 20,000 bales of cotton this year which at 20 cents per pound will bring to our farmers \$2,000,000. We are fortunate in other respects too, no county in the cotton belt is more likely to be free from the boll weevil than Cleveland county. We are located on the very rim of the cotton belt, that in west or north of here no cotton is produced except in the eastern section of Rutherford. Our nearness to the mountains will always assure cold winters, and cold weather is the one certain remedy that destroys the boll weevil. While Texas, Alabama, Georgia and lower South Carolina with their warm winters have been greatly damaged by the weevil our cotton has escaped unharmed. It will be interesting to readers of The Star to know that the Federal Government is bending every energy through its experts in various departments to discover some method of destruction of the boll weevil. The U. S. Department of Agriculture has appropriated \$1,000,000 to find a remedy to rid the South of this pest, and it seems certain that the same skill and scientific knowledge that has enabled us to conquer and kill the germs of typhoid fever, yellow fever, tuberculosis, small pox and diphtheria in the human race, and the Gypsy moth, corn borer, potato bug, grass-hopper and other insects, will soon find a way to put an end to the pesky boll weevil.

The history of the boll weevil in the United States dates to 1892—29 years ago, when the first entered Texas from Mexico. Since that time he has practically covered the South with the exception of North Carolina and Tennessee. The farmers of Texas, Oklahoma and Mississippi and Georgia have been contending successfully with the weevil for many years and making great cotton crops. Texas last year made 4,000,000 bales of cotton in spite of the weevil while this year Texas will make less than 2,000,000 bales. In 1914 when the weevil covered the extreme cotton South he did little damage, and we made the largest crop in our history. This condition demonstrates the fact that the weevil is much worse some years than others. The short crop this year is by no means attributable solely to the weevil; the drought in some sections, too much rain in others, lack of fertilizer in others, and reduction in acreage contributed with the weevil, to the tremendous shortage in cotton production. We have the shortest cotton crop this year in 35 years and by July 1922 the entire surplus of cotton together with the crop of 1921 will all be consumed, thus insuring the cotton farmers in Cleveland county a splendid price for next year's crop. Leading cotton dealers do not hesitate to say that cotton next summer will be mighty scarce and the price mighty high. So after all, Cleveland county is in good shape and our farmers looking forward to next year with confident expectations and a still greater and more abundant prosperity.

Song Service

There will be an all-day song service at Oak Grove M. P. church one mile west of Parkville, N. C. the 5th Sunday in October. All denominations, creeds and orders, are invited to come and bring solo, duet, quartet or class. You will be given place to sing your special songs to your heart's content, and our joy. The services will be featured by special music, rendered by men of note in the musical profession. Come and enjoy the resonance that flows from voice culture, by Profs. Dunsons and Vaughn, the greatest exhibit of voice culture ever given in Cleveland county.

REV. J. D. MORRIS.

One of the leading farmers of Cleveland county said on the streets of Shelby this week that the 337 acres composing the Max Gardner farm was the finest and most attractive large farm in Cleveland county. adv.

Some men know less than they are given credit for.

A clean profit is one that makes a profit for the other fellow.