

RELIABLE HOME PAPER  
Of Shelby And The State's  
Fertile Farming Section,  
Modern Job Department,

# The Cleveland Star

SHELBY'S POPULATION  
1925 Census -----8,854  
Where Industry Joins With  
Climate In A Call For You.

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"Covers Cleveland Completely."

SHELBY, N. C.

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## Water Service Is Extended

Six Inch Main Through South Shelby is Put in Operation—Approximately 1,400 Patrons Now

A six inch water main extending from the South Shelby Pharmacy nearly to the new corporate limits and branching out a new street to serve the new South Shelby School building was put in operation Friday, affording owners living in that vicinity an opportunity to secure water taps. In addition to the water main, a sewer line was laid, thus improving the sanitary conditions. The new water and sewer system were laid by L. J. and F. L. Wagner, local contractors. Along the water main there are five fire hydrants which afford fire protection to the citizens living in that vicinity.

It is estimated that the city water system now has 1,400 patrons and this number is being added to every week. Supt. W. V. Toms stated yesterday that 134 water connections had been made so far this year and that 237 light connections had been added, showing that these facilities are being given to the property owners as rapidly as possible. This large number of new services connections is fine indication of the rapid growth of the town and it looks as if records this year will exceed any previous year.

## Putnam Will Leave \$1,000 To Church

The Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Rev. Will Walters, pastor, of the Cherryville section, has been willed \$1,000 to be used by its deacons "to do as they think best" by the late M. A. Putnam, who died last week in the Lincoln hospital, it was learned Saturday from Clerk of Superior Court S. C. Hendricks, of Gaston County.

The will, in the form of a letter, was addressed to the deceased's brother, George Putnam. Fifteen shares of Building and Loan stock were bequeathed to two of the man's nieces and nephews, John William and May Putnam. They will receive this amount when they become 21 years of age. Mr. Putnam, lived in Shelby for years and was engaged in the meat business here. He left Shelby about 18 months before his death going to Cherryville and entering business with his brother.

## Ideal Ice To Build Dressed Poultry Plant

Special Building With Cold Storage for Dressed Poultry to be Erected Here.

C. B. Cabaness, secretary-treasurer of the Ideal Ice and Fuel Company announced yesterday after a visit to Wikesboro where he inspected a dressed poultry plant, that the Ideal Ice Company will begin right away the erection of a similar plant for this territory, the same to be run in connection with the present ice and cold storage plant here. Live chickens, turkeys, ducks geese will be purchased from the farmers, killed, dressed and placed on cold storage. From the storage plant the dressed fowls will be sold at wholesale to hotels, cafes and meat markets through out this section. Mr. Cabaness says there is a demand for such a plant in this territory and that he expects later to milk-feed the chickens before they are killed, as milk fed chickens are considered more of a delicacy and bring higher prices. Chickens are fed dry buttermilk for seven days before killing, such a feed adds to the weight and improving the flavor.

The dressed poultry department will occupy a building 20x50 feet and will be of brick construction with the cold storage compartment in connection. It is expected that the plant will be ready for operation the first of the year.

## New Central Church Scene Of Small Fire

The fire department responded to an alarm Saturday afternoon only a half block away, to the rear of Central Methodist church, where the awnings on the rear window had caught on fire presumably from a falling spark from a nearby chimney. One or two of the awnings were burned while the window ledges were somewhat charred, but the blaze was extinguished by chemicals from the fire truck before little damage was done.

With a clean record for October the city is making up for fire alarms in December, having had three calls since the first. One was at the Shelby Cafe the other to the Eskridge garage and the third to the church structure Saturday.



## MRS. FRANCIS BACK IN JAIL AFTER SUNDAY NIGHT VISIT TO GANG CAMP

Visited Gang Camp Again Sunday Night and Carried Box of Chicken Presumably for Old Lover

Several final chapters have been written to Cleveland county's colorful Francis-Philbeck romance, but apparently all were only intermissions and the episode is a serial story that will perhaps never end, that is in the life of Mrs. Francis and the husky Philbeck.

Back in the county jail again is the once beautiful woman, Mrs. Francis. The lure of the man for whom she left her home, husband and children and over whom she served a jail sentence, is seemingly too strong to resist. Sunday night she made another visit to the county convict camp, where Sloan Philbeck is a prisoner. And the visit was forbidden by law.

Back when the trial was attended by hundreds the judge in sending the two illegal lovers up forbid their ever seeing or talking to each other again. Then Mrs. Francis served her time, and shortly thereafter she was apprehended near the convict camp where her erstwhile lover was confined. A preliminary trial resulted in her acquittal. The evidence was none too finding, but more has been added to the story.

Sunday night, Claude Harrill, gang camp official, became suspicious and he called in Chief B. O. Hamrick and Policeman Hester. They waited about the camp for what might happen. About 10 o'clock they saw a car stopped near the cemetery. Mrs. Francis got out and made her way to the camp. The officers followed and learning enough to classify her mission, they say, she was arrested and taken to jail.

Love is always mindful, or so those stricken with romance say. Under her arm, presumably for the husband of another woman she loved, Mrs. Francis carried, officers declare, an appetizing array of chicken—something to break the routine meals the convicts are given. Never say again that a woman knows not the way to the heart of man.

Just who she was talking to or what was said when the officers stepped up hasn't been told, but Messrs. Harrill, Hamrick and Hester know that this time the woman was en route to the camp, for they arrested her after she had arrived, not while on her way. Just what the judge's terms were about the couple, both married to other people, seeing each other again is a matter of memory. Those who attended the trial should remember. Now, it looks as if what the judge said may be said over again.

The postlude of this chapter of the romance that continues to bloom despite prison bars and convict chains is to be written yet. The date of the hearing hasn't been set.

Mrs. Hill Hudson and infant daughter, Carolyn, re-entered the Shelby Hospital yesterday where the baby, which has not been doing so well, is undergoing treatment.

## Schools To Close Friday For Holidays

The city schools of Shelby will close Friday afternoon, of this week, December 18, for the Christmas holidays and will remain closed until Monday, January 4, according to an announcement today by I. C. Griffin, city superintendent.

In connection with the holidays it is further announced by the schools for the benefit of parents and others that on Friday morning at the first period the children of all the elementary grades will give Christmas carols and program to which the public is invited.

Friday from 12 o'clock to 1:30 the high school pupils will render a Christmas program at Central school.

## Agent Announces Poultry Car Coming

A live poultry car will be placed at the Seaboard Station Wednesday, Morning December 16, 1925. All farmers having poultry for sale must bring it by 3 p. m. The following prices will be paid at the car for all poultry loaded.

Turkeys 27 cents a pound.  
Hens 20 cents a pound.  
Cocks 10 cents a pound.  
Do not bring chickens with their feet tied or in sacks. Your county agent will be at the car.

## Hitchcock Says New Farm Demonstrator Fine With Poultry

T. C. Hitchcock, proprietor of the Cherokee Poultry Farm is highly pleased with Alvin Hardin, the new farm demonstrator who succeeded R. E. Lawrence the first of December. Mr. Hardin has a thorough knowledge of poultry, having at one time operated a plant of his own, which gave him practical experience along this line. Recently he visited the Hitchcock farm and gave him valuable pointers and when one can give Mr. Hitchcock pointers he must be an expert because Mr. Hitchcock is regarded locally as one of the most thoroughly posted men in this industry. It is therefore worthy of note that Mr. Hardin, in the position to give poultry raisers in Cleveland wonderful assistance and that he can be had for the asking. Cleveland is rapidly forging to the front as a poultry producing county and with Mr. Hardin here to offer advice and suggestions, the poultry industry holds a bright future for many.

## Attorney Mull's Hudson Car Stolen On Saturday Night

Attorney O. M. Mull's Hudson super-six coach was stolen Saturday night at 6 o'clock from in front of his office in the Webb building on Warren street while he was in Austell's barber shop getting a shave. He had been gone from his car only half an hour when he returned to find it gone from the spot where he had parked it after returning from the Cleveland Springs golf course. No trace whatever is left as to the identity of the thief or thieves, except suspicion that it might be taken to Florida. Tom Eskridge, groceryman, in the Roster building says two or three strange looking youths whose appearance would indicate that they were not above such a crime, came in the grocery store about that hour of the evening and asked the route to Florida. They were riding in an old Chaudet and soon left.

Many telegrams went out Saturday to police officials to keep on the look out but no trace or clue had been found Monday. The car was about a year old. No insurance was carried.

## High School Will Give Fine Comedy

The senior class of the Shely High school will present an entertaining four-act comedy, "Second Story Peggy", Tuesday night at 8 o'clock in the Central school auditorium. The play is directed by Miss Mae Washburn and the cast is as follows:

Mrs. Delancey, a woman of words—Blanche Dudley.  
Billy Durand, her star boarder—Whitelaw Kendall.  
Daisy, a little smarter than she looks—Elizabeth Spangler.  
Murphy, the cop on the beat—Ver-non Grigg.  
Helen Henderson, more fickle than faithful—Olive Singleton.  
Kenneth Sterling, the luck man(?)—Howard Austell.  
Peggy, wanted by the police—Lula Moore Suttle.  
Dexter, a detective—William Harris.  
Noah Perkins, fresh as a country egg—Claude Hoke Thompson.

The music will be furnished by the high school orchestra, a treat in itself.

## Banquets And Dances At Cleveland Springs

Cleveland Springs hotel is putting on gala attire for the holiday season with a large Christmas tree in the spacious lobby and forest trees throughout the dining room. Evergreens and Christmas decorations adorn the walls. Manager Vanstony has booked five elaborate banquets and three dances to be held during the Christmas season. These banquets and dances begin the 18th and continue through until New Year, with a few open dates which he expects to fill up between now and Christmas. Special Christmas menus will be served and elaborate preparations are being made to reflect the spirit of the season in all

## MASONS BANQUETED BY WOMAN'S CLUB

171 Members of Masonic Order Enjoy One of Lodge's Outstanding Occasions Friday Evening.

The Master Masons of Shelby and surrounding section, builders of the handsome Masonic temple on the court square corner, will mark down Friday evening past as one of their most outstanding occasions in the public relations record. One hundred and seventy-one members of Cleveland Lodge No. 202 A. F. and A. M. were most royally banqueted in the magnificent banquet hall of the temple by the Woman's club of Shelby. The men who wear the emblematic square and compass may have enjoyed better some other public occasion in the past, but none have so said.

Appreciation of Ladies. When the handsome temple structure was completed the Masonic lodge turned over the big second floor to the Woman's club of the city and subsidiary organizations working under the club. The club women needed a home and meeting place, one that would equal their enterprising organization, and their Masonic friends answered the need by giving them as a permanent headquarters one of the most up-to-date club quarters in the state. The banquet Friday evening formally spoke the appreciation of the women of Shelby to the Masons, and it was well spoken.

However, there was little of formality. For the most part it was feast informally, with the eyes included in the feasting, judging from the witty remarks of Clyde R. Hoey, Masonic toastmaster of the occasion.

The banquet saw gathered together one of the largest assemblies of Masonic members the local lodge has ever known. Masons old and young, past masters and recent initiates and rubbed shoulders together, elinked silverware in unison, and passed on the brotherly handclasp and the greeting of fellowship in the reunion hour that followed the banquet. Masons met Masons that they had never before seen in the lodge room, and when Masons banquet together love and friendship are eclipsed for fellowship and friendliness.

Mrs. Fred R. Morgan, president of the Woman's club, handled the serving of the elaborate banquet with the aid of numerous assistants from the clubs and in a few remarks prior to the banquet spoke the appreciation of the club for the rooms turned over to them by the Masons. Capt. J. Frank Roberts, worshipful master of the Cleveland lodge, presided over the Masonic ceremonies, which consisted for the most part of disposing of that which the Woman's club offered in both praise and in more material things. Surrounding Captain Roberts at the head table were living postmasters of the lodge, Deputy Grand Master J. D. Lineberger, numerous Masonic officials and local ministers together with special guests.

As usual with all Shelby things well done the aftermoth of the banquet was the repartee and oratorical tribute of Clyde R. Hoey, Masonic toastmaster for the occasion. His post-banquet toasts apparently repaid the ladies for their efforts and the Masons grouped about the surrounding tables had already been satisfied. The description of the protection the Masonic organization has given pure womanhood down through the centuries from time immemorial as given by Mr. Hoey met with rousing applause.

"One thing the women like about members of our organization is that a Mason can keep a secret," was a bit of the information conveyed by Mr. Hoey, but none of the 171 men of the great organization kept secret at the conclusion of the affair their appreciation of the success it was, acclaimed by applause as every Master Mason rose to his feet in a vote of thanks.

## Many New Homes On Cleveland Springs Road

The growth of Shelby in recent years can be well pictured by the development of the Cleveland Springs road from the point where Marion and Warren streets intersect east. The course of the past two years has seen this section develop into one of the most sought after residential sections of the town.

A little over two years ago the residential section of the town was considered ended at the home of Dr. Osborne. Now it spreads along both sides of the highway to Belvedere Heights and on near the hotel property. Approximately 20 homes have been erected on the road in the two-year time. Five new residences being erected now in that section are those of E. T. Switzer, J. G. Dudley, Ray Lutz, Jack Palmer, Curtis Westers and A. B. C. DePriest.

## Cleveland Boys And Girls Marry After 21st Birthday

Christmas Edition

The regular issue of The Star Wednesday of this week will be especially designated as the "Christmas Shoppers' Edition." In it the merchants of Shelby will present in the advertising columns their gifts suggestions and the merchandise bargains offered for holiday shoppers. Practically all local merchants in this coming issue present their arrays of gifts and in such manner that will make shopping easy for Cleveland county folks. There will be only seven more shopping days after Wednesday. That means a week packed with rushing about to get the last-minute gifts and everything in readiness. So use this issue of The Star to an advantage. Let the advertising columns of your favorite county paper help you in this last week's rush before the greatest of holidays.

## Average Age Of Cleveland County Girl Who Married This Year Was 22 1-4 Years—Men 26 2-5.

"They marry younger nowadays than they did years ago," is a favorite expression with the old folks, but the statistics on the marriage license books at the county court house here do not prove the saying. In fact, they do not marry younger. In 1925 the records show, Cleveland couples married were beyond what so-called experts term the sensible marrying age.

Twenty for girls and 23 for boys, is the near perfect plan say experts. This year loving couples added another year or so of experience and the girls married at the average age of 22 1-4 years and the boys at 26 2-5 years, to be exact.

That may be a surprise, but it is proved by statistics. Of course, many girls married below 20—the books show that 69 of the 174 married left their parental home before reaching 20—but the general average, considering that some were high in the twenties and some slipping into thirty was above 20.

Not Decreasing Much. The statistics for the year almost upset another prediction. Total marriages in 1924 in Cleveland county were 197. So far this year, up to December 12, there were 174 license issued. That's not much of a slip back. It's safe to wager that the 20 other couples plus several more motored across the South Carolina line to their favorite Gretna Green for the ceremony. The knot tied at a lower price was the reason.

The Love Period. As usual the records leave the love period to the young folks. There were license issued to a number of elderly couples, but such were few. The vast majority were below 30, including the men. However, a half dozen or so of the ladies married during the year were slightly beyond the three-times-ten mark and naturally the lesser halves were in the proximity of two score and maybe more. Beyond the age 40 there were few culminating love affairs. The record goes with both men and women from a preliminary view of the figures to the couple, of which the man was 67 and the woman 59. Love, or its carrying into reality, came late with them. On the other hand there were several youngsters that started off in "double harness" this year. Two of the girls to whom license were issued were one year below "sweet sixteen," or 15 years of age. None of the boys married dropped that low in years. Few boys of that age have many spare \$5 bills, and it takes \$5 and then some to get married in this state now.

"My Own Man" Marriages. A boy apparently never gets over the day when he becomes his own man, the 21st anniversary of his birth. The celebration throughout the year usually means getting married for when a youngster reaches that age the county statistics for 1925 show that he figures that he is able to support someone else and protect a partner. The result of this "my own man" feeling is that more of the 174 men married in the county this year were married at the age of 21 than any other one age. The average is greater, but remember that those far above 21 are greater in number than those below 21. To be exact 32 twenty-one year-old boys were married in the county this year. The next best marrying age with the boys seemed to be 23. 18 got married at that age, while 13 got married at 20, 14 at 22, eight at 19, seven at 24, and five at eighteen. Otherwise they were 25 more.

When Girls Are Best. Eighteen, when a little fullness adds to the "sweet sixteen" appearance, seemed to be the most favored marrying age with the girls. The 21-year-old boys must pick 'em at that age. Twenty-nine girls have been married in the county this year at the age of 18. Right on the heels of the 18-year-olds for the record are the nineteen-year-old lassies, 28 of them were married at 19. An even 20 girls were married at the age of 21, while sixteen were married at the age of 20. Ten were married while 17 years of age, and the "sweet sixteens" were few in number—they're beginning to get ready to get married at that age. Two didn't even wait for the 16-period and were married at 15.

A summary of the marriage figures shows that 85 girls were married before reaching 21 years, while 20 more married before they were 22, which leaves 69 girls that were mar-

## Mountain Cotton Now Moves Ahead

Charlotte Observer Interested in Cotton in Mountain Counties Sees Great Progress Made.

The Observer has been interested in the progressive sweep of the "cotton belt" up into the mountains. It was not so long ago that cotton-growing in the upper regions of Cleveland county was regarded a risky venture, but last year Cleveland went up next to head in cotton production. John-son county alone, being above her. Since then cotton-growing has been steadily advancing toward the ranges. We had lost track of the experiment started several years ago in the mountain county of Burke, but last week there was opportunity to get the information first hand from County Agent Sloan, who reports a cotton crop in that county the past season of over 1,000 bales. So new is this industry there that the grower here had to send the staple down into the lower counties to be ginned, as no gin has been built in Burke. Next season, however, there will be a Burke county gin for Burke-raised cotton and the probabilities are that this county will be added to the list of commercial producers.—Charlotte Observer.

## Movie Stars Coming To Chimney Rock

Chimney Rock, Dec. 11.—Representatives here today for the Famous Players Lasky-corporation, motion picture producers, leased the Esmeralda Inn for the exclusive occupancy of 50 stars of filmdom, the directors and others coming to make several pictures requiring mountain and lake scenery as a background. Prominent among these artists is Gloria Swanson, leading lady in one of the scenarios. Names of other artists were not known to the advance representatives here to select a location for their activities.

It is understood that in moving the studio here a large number of horses and tame animals will be brought along.

## Fred Logan Named Captain At State

News dispatches from Raleigh Sunday stated that Fred G. Logan, Shelby boy, had been elected captain of the State college football eleven for next season. Young Logan is the son of Sheriff and Mrs. Hugh Logan and has been playing center on the State team for two years.

The announcement was made by R. H. Ferguson, State alumnus at his country home near Neuse, where a banquet had been tendered the Wolf-pack.

## RECEIVES SIX CARS IN A SINGLE DAY IN SHELBY

Pierce, Young, Angel Company, wholesale dealers in vegetables, fruits and candies received in a single day last week six car loads of Christmas merchandise. One car was loaded with choice apples, another with oranges, another with bananas, another with coconuts and still another with cabbage and such like. Orders had been taken for most of these cars and shipments went out promptly to merchants throughout this section to stock their stores for the Christmas trade. Mr. Pierce says business is good and that the demand for fruit promises to exceed all previous records.

Did you ever notice that the man who follows another is always behind.

(Continued on page eight.)