

AROUND OUR TOWN

—SHELBY SIDELIGHTS—

—BY RENN DRUM—

With another two years just like those flicked off the calendar Shelby will quit measuring distance by blocks. Instead when a stranger asks directions for a certain business house natives will say: "Go down this street three grocery stores, turn to the right and go one grocery store. There you are."

Grocery stores to the right of us, grocery stores to the left of us, in front and to the rear. If an efficiency advertising expert should happen to select a suitable motto for Shelby the column has a hunch that it would be "The City of Grocery Stores."

Which is good. A town must be growing rapidly when it eats enough at home to support so many grocery stores. The wise fellows—those who have money, making their advice sound more sensible—say that postal receipts furnish the best indication of a town's growth. To which the column disagrees. We'll bank on the grocery stores every time. If a town adds so many grocery stores in a year then it means that so many new people have moved in.

Some folks do not use the mails, but well—that's different. A fellow may not lick a postage stamp more than twice in three months, but if in that time he does not dispose of a quarter of ton of groceries he'll never lick another postage stamp.

No more groceries are eaten per person now-a-days than five years ago, but look how many more grocery stores there are in Shelby. Now, say we're not growing.

Naming every grocery store in town would be no easy task, for it's a fact that there are more grocery stores than there are folks who pay income tax to any amount. Maybe that's why, but a fellow well-fed cares little about the income tax business.

The only fear the column has about the grocery business is that they're opening 'em up so fast they'll soon run out of odd names to call them. Another complaint is that they're coming in such groups that sometimes more than one store has its opening on the same night and all the housewives can't get to both and corral the free stuff.

But there's one good thing about it. Housewives who have attended all the recent openings have enough free groceries by this time to run an ordinary family for eight months.

It's a sight when there are more grocery stores on one side of the street than there were saloons when dad was a boy.

They all seem to be thriving, but they better watch drug store competition. The drug stores sell very few groceries as yet, for a wonder, but it's hard telling when they'll add a new line or so.

A high school student would have a harder time trying to describe a drug store than in describing the birthplace of the Prince of Wales' wife. Mentholology gives the best description in the following item: A motorist stopped at a filling station on the outskirts of a village on his way to visit one of his wife's relatives that he had never seen. He had heard that the relative had a flourishing business, and he decided to use the opportunity to learn something about him. "What kind of store does Joab Miller run at Toad Rock?" he asked the service man. "Well I don't know exactly how to describe it," was the slow reply "He has Ford parts for sale; buys butter, eggs and poultry; deals in real estate; paints houses, marries folks as justice of peace; runs the postoffice; sells stamps, hams and molasses, and takes in boarders. I guess you'd call it a drug store."

One of Shelby's and Cleveland county's richest sons was buried at Zion Saturday—that's the sentiment of Shelby, one expressed often on the streets over the week-end.

He never made over \$1,000 in one year during his life. He labored long for \$40 per year and from one position never received more than \$250 annually.

He wasn't a miser or money grabber. It is doubtful that at the time of death after 83 years of living if he left as much as \$5,000.

Yet he left a gift to this section greater than a half million dollar library, or mammoth playground for children, or a university for the young. No bank or big business firm will carry his name on for years.

But what he gave the world during his course of living will linger longer and be building worthwhile things when the marble of the tombstone at Zion has crumbled. No hospital will carry on greater assistance to mankind through bequests from his fortune, no corporations will enter law suits over his will. But his legacy was a benefaction to be counted in monetary terms in advancing the greatest work of the world—in fact, the

why of the world

Some may wonder how a man that never made over \$1,000 in one year was wealthy when he died. They would not understand, perhaps, that he is wealthier now than before he died.

Rev. A. C. Irvin in serving as pastor of country churches, the houses of worship from which the greatest of worthwhile things emanate, never received over \$250 a year from any of the churches. His name never graced the income tax columns of a newspaper, but the men whose names do would readily trade the honor for his wealth.

Let's make an estimate of his fortune:

"Uncle Abe" Irvin in some 50 years of service to his Master baptized 3,000 or more people, what's a soul worth? When you decide on a definite amount—estimate on your own—multiply it by 3,000. In the course of those years the pioneer preacher converted hundred of wayward men and women. If it were in the power of a physician to take the scars out of a soul and give it a chance with the aid of God, what would he charge? Take the price and multiply it by the hundreds of feet "Uncle Abe" placed back on the right path. Consider the happy homes in this section where the parents remember the day when they were united in matrimony by him. Remember the funerals he has preached and the tributes he has rendered, rain or shine, for the people he has loved. Make an estimate of the worth of such, if it's possible and total the column.

Was it 70 millions or in the billions? Perhaps it can't be expressed in gold and silver.

"Uncle Abe's" name may be forgotten, but a feeling he inspired will carry on through the ages. Years ago he may have pointed the way to Christ for some girl or boy. Later they might have married. To their children they gave the story he gave them. The children grew up and influenced children about them in the ways of right living. It spread. The next generation perhaps saw hundreds affected by the story of the Cross related to one years back by the old minister. That may be this generation. How many by the next generation? How many 500 years from now?

Fifty years, when you love a thing and know the worth of its inspiration, is not, after all, too much to give. Not too much for real men. And now "Uncle Abe" is drawing the difference in salary between the \$250 per year and what he was worth to his section.

Yes, few folks in this section have been "worth as much" when they died as the saintly old fellow left in the snow at Zion Saturday.

Davis, Lineman For Weathers Is Killed

J. W. Davis lineman for the city electrical department of Fayetteville died in the Highsmith Hospital there Friday from a fractured skull sustained in a fall from an ice covered electric light pole. Davis lost his foot while at the top of a pole at the corner of Robs and Elm streets according to J. L. Weathers, city superintendent of water and lights, and fell head foremost to the pavement, suffering fractures of the skull and arm and was having hemorrhages from the mouth ears and nose when carried to the hospital.

Is Writing History Kings Mtn. Church

Rev. C. J. Black, the versatile and gifted pastor of the First Baptist church of Kings Mountain is writing a history of his church which will not only be of interest and help to his congregation but to the ten thousand Baptists in the Kings Mountain Association. He has all of the minutes of the Kings Mountain association except for the year 1903, 1904 and 1906. There are a number of copies of these dates in the hands of Baptists in Cleveland county. Mr. Black is asking for the loan of them. They will be of great service to him and he will appreciate it if you will mail to him at Kings Mountain. He also wants to know the Presbytery that organized the first church at Kings Mountain.

Perhaps noise is good for babies, as Brucewell says. Our infant industries thrived on the anvil chorus.

Still, it is unfortunate that all this pance-era talk was accepted too literally by Mr. Dempsey.

The only thing that can keep on growing without nourishment is an ego.



PROUD MR. BEETLE

"It's a matter of pride to me," said Mr. Beetle.

"Yes, it is a matter of great pride to me. Anyone in my position would be proud, too."

"I am in your position," said the Red-Winged Locust, "and I don't know that I am feeling particularly proud."

"I am crawling slowly about my cage here in the zoo as you are doing."

"Is that a position of which to be proud?"

"My dear Red-Winged," said the Beetle, "you are slow. You don't understand."

"Pardon me, my dear sir," said the Red-Winged Locust, "but you are thinking of my distant relatives, the snails."

"That is, they are not my near relatives, and I am not really sure that they are relatives at all."

"In fact, come to think of it, I don't believe they are relatives at all."

"My dear Mr. Red-Winged Locust," said Mr. Beetle, "why don't you think before you speak?"

"That's an old, old saying, older than you are or than I am."

"It's older than most creatures, I believe."

"But it's a good old saying, just the same."

"Well," admitted Mr. Red-Winged Locust, slowly, "I suppose I should have thought before I spoke."

"But the snails, I suppose, do belong to the insect class, and so do I, and so do you, so there must be some sort of a family relationship."

"No more than there is between boys and girls of entirely different families."

There are numerous portraits of Mussolini, but as yet not a single marble or bronze of his great thumb.

\$150,000 for a seat on Exchange seems high until you think about the Senate.

"Well, well, Anthracite; it is nice to have something in this country that is let alone."

"They're all people, but they're not related."

"Well," said Mr. Red-Winged Locust, "you said I was slow, and I couldn't bear that."

"Ah," said Mr. Beetle, "I mean that you were slow with your mind, your thoughts."

Mr. Red-Winged Locust seemed to feel much better at hearing that.

He did not mind being stupid as long as he wasn't considered as slow in his actions as the snails.

"What is a matter of pride to you?" he asked after a moment, of Mr. Beetle.

"Ah, my dear Mr. Red-Winged Locust, listen and I will tell thee."

"Fine language, heigh-ho," said Mr. Red-Winged Locust.

"I know that you come from the South," commenced Mr. Beetle, "but I come from still further South."

"I come from South America, and my whole name is Mr. Hercules Beetle."

"I am named after a man of ancient fame who was very brave and who did very wonderful things."

"Well, well, well," said Mr. Red-Winged Locust, "I am glad you get so much joy out of that, but for my part I would rather be named a red-winged locust, as red sounds so gay and coral and noble."

"I wouldn't care so much just being named after some one else who was fine and brave, and all that sort of thing."

"Each to his own taste," said Mr. Hercules Beetle, as he crawled proudly away—or rather as proudly as a creature can crawl.

Which, after all, is not so very fine, as crawling is not a lofty way of moving about.

Still Mr. Hercules Beetle did his best.

Father's Knowledge
Benton was bragging that his father knew "bout ever'thing" but Ted was not at all sure that he did.

He could remember several times when he had answered right straight to some question. "Well, really, Ted, I'm sure I don't know."

But he wanted to brag on his father, too, and so he said, "Well, my father doesn't know everything, but we got a dictionary that knows the rest."

Would Be a Man
Suzanne's mother telephoned Ted that she was going to let her come over and play with him.

When he came from the phone he said: "Oh, mother, Suzanne is comin' over. Quick, take my rompers off and put on my suit, 'cause I want her to see me as a man."

Knowledge
"Dolly, what did you learn in school today?"

"I learned the name of the boy who lived next door, mamma."

It is the air service France leads in, not hair service.

On Trial



D. C. Stephenson, ex-grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan at Indianapolis, Ind., is on trial at Noblesville, Ind., charged with the murder of Miss Madge Oberholzer. Two associates were indicted with Stephenson for the murder.

'Ma's' Opponent



Dan Moody, attorney general of Texas, is leading the fight against Governor Miriam "Ma" Ferguson in Texas.

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FROM CHOIR TO GRAND OPERA

Small Town Girl Achieves Ambition When Radio Fans "Applaud" Her Singing

THIS is the story of a small town American girl, now 25 years old, who with less than no influence and with every thing against her, has achieved operatic triumphs.

Starting with a voice, good looks, industry and determination to succeed she recently achieved her ambition a contract with the Metropolitan Grand Opera Company.

It is doubtful whether any opera star ever bridled a wider gamut in as short a time as did Mary Lewis of Little Rock, Ark. And it seemed for the radio to bring her to the height she has climbed. Her appearance abroad in Vienna, Monte Carlo, Paris and London won her many friends. Yet she was able to gain a place in the grand opera classic of this country until her voice had been carried into thousands of homes through the radio.

Sang at Revivals
Child of a domestic, she began singing in revival tent meetings at Little Rock at a salary of \$30 a month. At the age of 8 she had been adopted by the Rev. W. S. Fitch, a Methodist minister.

"Mr. Fitch was very musical," Miss Lewis says. "and I think he was attracted to me by the fact that even at that age I was always singing. The first song he taught me was 'Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam,' and my first appearance before any audience was when I stood up and sang that hymn in Sunday school in Little Rock. After that Mr. Fitch taught me a new hymn each week, and today I believe I know every hymn in the Methodist hymnal."

Her first step along the road to fame came when she joined a chorus of a variety company that filled in with vaudeville acts between pictures at movie houses.

Then came a fling at the movies and next a place in a third rate musical show.

Accepted for "Follies"
When the show disbanded in Los Angeles she met Raymond Hitchcock, who after hearing her beautiful soprano voice urged her to go to New York. Upon her arrival there she obtained a place in the chorus of the "Greenwich Village Follies."

Florenz Ziegfeld then signed her for the prima donna role in the "Follies." Not satisfied with anything less than an operatic career she gained a hearing with Gatti

Casazza, impresario of the Metropolitan Opera Company. On his advice she went abroad to study under Jean de Reszke.

Then followed engagements with the Monte Carlo Opera Company, the Vienna Opera and the British National Opera Company. When she returned to this country some time ago she was engaged to sing over the radio from Station WEAF, New York, during the Atwater-Kent hour.

Radio Fans Applaud
From all parts of the country came letters of applause from the



Mary Lewis

thousands of radio fans who had listened in on her singing. A contract was offered her by the Metropolitan Grand Opera Company—she had achieved her ambition.

Mary Lewis is but one of four girls who have become stars in the musical world from the "Main Streets" of Arkansas. The others are Mary McCormick, of the Paris and Chicago Opera Companies; Anne Bertner, in the concert field in New York, and Marian McManey, who has entered upon a promising concert career as a pupil of Ovide Musin.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK of Shelby

CONDENSED STATEMENT, DEC. 31ST, 1925.
RESOURCES FOUR MILLION, SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS

RESOURCES

LOANS AND DISCOUNTS—
The largest item of a bank's resources are the loans made to firms, corporations and individuals. Our loans are made with great care by experienced men with thorough knowledge of conditions and securities and amount to \$3,427,489.31

OVERDRAFTS—

Credit extended to customers in the form of overdrafts. This is a form of credit that banks do not approve of and we urge our customers to discontinue this practice 4,898.64

U. S. BONDS—

Bonds of the United States owned by us to secure our circulating notes 250,000.00

OTHER STOCKS AND BONDS—

Investments made by the bank in Liberty Bonds, State, County and Municipal Bonds—and stock in Federal Reserve Bank 241,000.00

REAL ESTATE OWNED—

An investment in real estate, on part of which will be located the bank's home in the future 93,950.00

REDEMPTION FUND—

Funds placed with the U. S. Treasurer to redeem circulating notes when presented 12,500.00

CASH ON HAND AND DUE FROM OTHER BANKS—

The cash on hand and funds placed with the Federal Reserve Bank and larger banks in New York, Richmond and other large cities constitute the Reserve of a bank. Reserve is calculated by the proportion of these funds to the total deposits. On this basis our reserve is about eighteen per cent of our deposits, or over one-sixth as much as deposits, amount to 575,386.76

The items above constitute the bank's RESOURCES, making Total Resources \$4,605,224.71

LIABILITIES

CAPITAL STOCK—
Amount paid in by the 125 stockholders as the Bank's Capital \$ 250,000.00

SURPLUS FUND—
Amount set aside by shareholders as a further protection for depositors and used the same as capital 250,000.00

UNDIVIDED PROFITS—
Profits left on hand after setting aside ample amount for interest due depositors and income tax 160,266.14

RESERVED FOR INTEREST—
Reserved from profits to pay interest due to depositors 34,938.97

RESERVED FOR TAXES—
Reserved from Profits to cover Income Tax and other taxes 25,000.00

DIVIDEND NO. 45—
A Semi-Annual Dividend declared by the directors of the Bank and taken from the net profits to be paid to the stockholders, January 1st, 1926 15,000.00

CIRCULATION—
A National Bank is allowed to issue their bank notes if secured by U. S. Bonds to the amount of their capital stock which is called circulating notes. Ours amount to 244,300.00

Secured by U. S. Bonds amounting to \$250,000.00.

NOTES AND BILLS RE-DISCOUNTED—
At times local demand for money is heavy and the bank rediscounts certain choice notes of cotton mills, merchants and others with the Federal Reserve Bank and New York Banks. Our re-discounted notes amount to 367,000.00

DEPOSITS—
Deposits are funds placed with a bank either on interest or checking account by other banks, corporations, firms and individuals. The Deposit account is the life of the bank and reflects the financial condition of a community. Our total deposits amount to \$3,258,719.60

All the above items make up the banks liabilities, making TOTAL LIABILITIES \$4,605,224.71

People often say they can not understand the usual published bank statement, so we have made the above explanations of each item, so that any one can read and understand the statement. We are naturally pleased with this statement, as it is one of the largest we have ever published and we want our friends and customers to read it and be pleased also. We thank every one who has helped to make possible this excellent showing of your bank.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK of Shelby

A BIG STRONG, FRIENDLY, NATIONAL BANK

—MEMBER OF FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM