

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.

VOL. XXXIV, No. 6

"Covers Cleveland Completely."

SHELBY, N. C. WEDNESDAY, JAN. 13, 1926. Published Monday, Wednesday and Friday Afternoons.

By mail, per year (in advance) \$2.50 By carrier, per year (in advance) \$3.00

Old Phil First Darky In State To Receive Pension

Pension For Colored Man Sets Precedent State Auditor Thinks. Old Fellow Joyful.

Old Phil Roseboro, 87-year-old peer of faithful negro servants of bygone civil war times, is joyful today. After ups and downs, refusals and rejections, he will within a few days get his pension check from the state of North Carolina, rewarding him for his faithful service to "his folks" and the Confederate colors long years ago.

The check when it is cashed will set a precedent, or so State Auditor Baxter Durham thinks. In the auditor's memory no colored man has ever received a pension from the state of North Carolina for services in the War between the States. No colored man was enlisted in the Southern forces, yet quite a number like Old Phil, a character about Shelby, served with their masters through loyalty to the traditions of the old Southland.

Writing to Hon. Clyde R. Hoey, who has worked in behalf of the polite, old-time darky, Auditor Durham states that there is no provision for colored men whereby they could receive pension. None were enlisted, but cases have come up showing real service and loyalty that should be rewarded. After reviewing Phil's case, Mr. Durham concluded that his record was unequalled and writes that he is mailing a check to Clerk of Court George P. Webb, the check coming under a special provisional clause of the pension act.

Months back Shelby people heard Old Phil's story and someone helped him make application for a pension. Then for months the old fellow worked as best he could and waited. Christmas and cold weather came, but no check. Then the word that it would not come. Age and years of toil had almost stopped the faithful old fellow. He received aid from the Yuletide charity fund, but he needed more. Then Wednesday morning came message that after all he would be rewarded. Axe on shoulder, as he was pictured in the first relation of his unusual story, Phil heard the news. At the time he was seeking blankets to keep him from freezing during the cold night hours and as it dawned on his mind that he was to receive a real check—a big one to him—he forgot the blankets and the cold, forgot the hard spots of life, and the wrinkled old lips quivered out: "Boss, the good white folks ain't gonner fergit old Phil after all, is dey? The old missus would a bin glad ter take keer of me, but she done gone, and now dey's a helpin' me." He couldn't say any more. Joy not known in years, mixed with a tear or two, creeping over the aging face, prevented it. Phil was a proud young negro when he stood straight up and dashed across the breastworks with his "captain" during the war, but he was prouder Wednesday.

News stories telling of his record and published in The Star had been forwarded to Raleigh, and Auditor Durham remarked that he had never heard of such a loyal service.

Others Get Pension. Along with the message came the news that several others left off the first pension list would in all probability receive their checks at the same time. They were T. H. Potteet, a white veteran, and two other old-time darkies, Sam Cabanis and James Rice.

"Bad Children" On Decrease In This County, Welfare Officer Smith Says

While the country at large is enduring the last six months. "I account for this latter condition through the financial pinch due to circumstances which came as a result of the drought," Mr. Smith said. "The curtailment of mill work, due to shortage of power, brought a lessening of income which apparently has been felt in many homes. income on many farms. "In the face of these conditions," Mr. Smith went on, "it is gratifying to say that juvenile crime in the county has been reduced practically to nil. We have not had a case of child delinquency for two months. "While authorities in other parts of the country are exercised over the tendency of youth to balk at restraint conditions here with us in this particular were never more favorable."

What The Star Offers Readers

As a tri-weekly publication The Cleveland Star offers its thousands of readers a news service unequalled out of the daily field in this state. For example: The Star carries more local news, county and city, than does any paper outside of the daily field in the state. It covers news of adjoining sections according to the range of its circulation. Editorially it keeps abreast of the progress of the section, boosting Cleveland county's opportunities.

It features farm news, being circulated over the state's leading farm section. Among the leading features of The Star in addition to the regular run of news are: Human interest stories with a local touch; an entertaining serial story in each issue; a humorous column for auto owners; a Shelby spotlight column; community correspondence from all sections of the county; a column devoted to minor news and popular under the heading "Little Stars"; a newspaper photo service keeping readers abreast of world events, and numerous other small features.

Each issue The Star tries to improve the news service that "Covers Cleveland Completely" and the accepted slogan of its readers "If It's News—Get It First in The Star."

STATE CAPITAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Governor Was Not Auto Speeding, But Speeding up Work—To Make Survey for Tunnel—Other News.

(By M. L. Shipman.) Raleigh, January 12.—Nothing out of the ordinary, "up-standing," or "out-standing" has transpired in administration circles the past week. Governor McLean has been hard at work on matters of state, except for one day outing with Capt. John A. Nelson, Fisheries Commissioner, in the eastern waters. A number of appointments have been announced, a few paroles granted and many rejected. Chairman Frank Page talked of the proposed bridge across the Cape Fear at Wilmington; a conference of demonstration agents was held at State College; State health officers met for routine matters; Secretary of State Everett comes back—to his office and other news items "bob up" here and there in and around the Capitol.

Accompanied by Chairman Frank Page of the State Highway Commission, Alexander McLean, of Lumberton, brother of the Governor, Martin F. Gillen of New York and Ben McNeill, Raleigh, Governor McLean spent a day with M. Leslie Davis and Capt. John A. Nelson at the Davis hunting lodge near Beaufort shooting ducks. The Governor intended going direct from there to sign \$20,125,000 of State bonds in New York city for the sale of which negotiations were closed some weeks ago, but this trip was deferred on account of the illness of the State Treasurer and for other reasons, until late in the month. Wage Commissioner George A. Holderness, of Tarboro, retires from membership on the salary and wage Commission and is succeeded by Ernest...

(Continued on page eight.)

BIRTHS FAR EXCEED DEATHS IN NO. 6

252 More Births in 1925 Than Deaths In Shelby and No. 6. Rate of Over One Each Day.

There is no race suicide in Shelby, or in good old No. 6, or any indication of it. Also it is not apparent that the birth control propaganda of Mrs. Sanger has penetrated to these parts.

As evidence, here are the vital statistics for the past good year of 1925 for Shelby and the township:

Births in Shelby during 1925—200. Deaths 75.

Births in No. 6 township exclusive of Shelby, 184. Deaths 57.

Total births for the two sections for the year—384. Total deaths—132.

Which is to say, the births exceeded the deaths by the comfortable total of 252.

Considering the total for the city and the township, there was a birth for every day of the 12 months, with 19 to spare.

Authorities here, versed in these figures, assert that certain residents of France, alarmed by the birth decline in that country, might profitably pay a visit to Cleveland county.

Johnson Now Owns All Home Provision

E. H. Johnson has purchased the W. E. Crowder interest in the Home Provision Company, it was announced early in the week. Mr. Johnson is now sole proprietor of the enterprise.

Mr. Crowder bought a half interest in the business about a year and a half ago, becoming a partner of Mr. Johnson. At the same time he maintained a half interest in the Sanitary Market. He is now a partner in the latter enterprise with E. Corley, who came to Shelby from South Carolina.

It was stated at the Sanitary Market Tuesday that the partnership in that establishment will be maintained as formerly.

Fire Destroys Home On Suttle Street

Fire at 10 o'clock Tuesday night completely destroyed the dwelling on Suttle street, owned by J. F. Harris, and rented by the Eastside mill. The Joyce family, members of which were employed in the mill, lived in the house.

No one was in the house at the time the blaze started. When the Shelby fire department reached the scene, it was discovered the house was beyond the hydrant limit. The firemen devoted their efforts to saving the effects from the burning dwelling, and to preventing the house next door, owned by Arthur Easter, from catching.

Mr. Harris the owner, stated Wednesday that the dwelling was insured for \$500.00 and was built in 1924.

Ford Show Week Being Observed

National Ford show week is being observed this week by dealers all over the United States and in connection with the show Chas. L. Eskridge, local dealer of Ford products, is conducting a general display of all late model cars at his show rooms on Marion street. The show rooms are open in the evening and the general public is invited to look over the products of the Detroit plant.

During the week Mr. Ford, a fan of old-time music, is broadcasting old time selections through the main radio stations of the country. Local folks wishing to tune in on this old-fashioned musical program may catch the following stations: WEA, New York; WEEL, Boston; WCAE, Pittsburgh; WEAR, Cleveland; WOC, Davenport; WGN, Chicago; KSD, St. Louis; WWJ, Detroit; WFL, Philadelphia; WSAI, Cincinnati; WOO, Philadelphia; WCAP, Washington.

Install Lights In Belvedere Heights

R. V. Toms, superintendent of the city water and light system, was engaged Tuesday and Wednesday put up street lights in Belvedere park, Shelby's new sub-division de luxe. The superintendent said five lights will be installed in the area.

Mr. Toms said work is also under way putting additional lights in the section between the old and new city limits on Highway 20. Five new lights will also be placed on that stretch of highway.

Preliminary work looking to laying of sewage and water pipes is also under way in that district.

She's Bell Ringer



Miss Mary Hendrix Gillis, New York's only woman bell ringer, has been ringing the bell in Grace church for 17 years.

Mail Early Slogan Brought Increased Postal Business

Postmaster J. H. Quinn estimates the Christmas business just past exceeded the 1924 Christmas business by fully fifteen to twenty per cent.

"We had the most satisfactory Christmas season we have known," said Mr. Quinn. "The mail early propaganda had got in its work, with the result that the heavy mailing days came previous to what had formerly been the heavy Christmas rush. We therefore had more time to digest the business."

Mr. Quinn went on to say that it might be believed that the increased postoffice business was due to the increased postage rate. "Of course," he said, the added cost of service did have something to do with the greater volume of cash handled. But I think we have pretty accurately estimated, just what a part the increase stamp cost played.

"Our receipts for the year were forty-five hundred dollars. Of this sum we have calculated that from five to six hundred dollars may be allowed as the figure representing the added cost. The remaining thirty-nine hundred or four thousand dollars was a clear-cut increase in business."

Just prior to the Christmas holidays two postoffice inspectors visited the Shelby postoffice and parked there for a number of days, going thoroughly into the question of local service to determine whether or not to allow Mr. Quinn more help.

"But the visit of these men had a very beneficial influence," said the postmaster. They were inspectors of vast experience, and were able to show us here how to revise our methods to get very utmost service from the force we employ. The service should now be more satisfactory than ever before during my administration."

FIRST NATIONAL IN ANNUAL MEET

Clarence Mull Wins Promotion to Assistant Cashier Succeeding Durham Moore.

The annual meeting of the stockholders and directors of the First National bank was held in the directors room at the bank Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock.

A feature of the meeting was the steady report of business offered by bank officials and the general progress shown in the institution. The directors in view of the progress returned a vote of thanks to the management of the bank for the year's record.

A feature of general interest was the promotion of Clarence S. Mull to assistant cashier. Mr. Mull has been an efficient teller at the bank for several years, and his promotion is considered a worthy one. He succeeds C. D. Moore, whose resignation several months ago to enter the insurance business was of general regret to bank officials, and his many friends.

Officers Relected.

All officers and directors were re-elected with the exception of the promotion of Mr. Mull. Officers of the institution are: Chas. C. Blanton, president; George Blanton, acting vice-president; J. F. Schenck, cashier; R. R. Sisk and C. S. Mull, as assistant cashiers.

Directors are: John F. Schneck, Jr., J. L. Webb, C. R. Hoey, A. C. Miller, L. A. Gettys, J. F. Roberts, O. Max Gardner, Paul Webb, Chas. C. Blanton, Geo. Blanton and Forrest Eskridge.

Total Building In Shelby In 1925 Near 3 Million

While the larger cities of North Carolina, and the state was in second place during the year in the South, based on building programs, in 1925 of seven to eight millions City Engineer Dan Frazier, who is also building inspector, figures that Shelby was no sluggard along the building line. In fact definite figures together with approximate estimates of construction before the building commissioner was appointed show that Shelby was not far behind the big city class.

Engineer Frazier's report has it that Shelby's building program during the year just closed tallied in the neighborhood of three million dollars. Enough over two and one-half millions to be classified with the higher figures. The total according to Frazier, was \$2,720,000.

Factories Led.

The industrial growth of the town was responsible for more than one-third of the total amount, approximately \$1,000,000 going into textile plants during the year. This figure includes new Ora mill, west of town; the Cleveland Cloth plant, near the Eastside plant, and the big addition to the Shelby Cotton Mills, in West Shelby.

The business section of the city was not far to the rear, there being approximately \$950,

000 worth of new buildings erected or completed during the year. Some of these buildings were started in 1924, others during 1925, and permits for still others were issued by the present building inspector. Among the outstanding business additions were the Lindberger building, Messers' Temple, A. Blanton House, Shelby Ice & Fuel addition, Frazier's Lackey Garage, Early Shelby school new county jail and numerous others.

Many New Residences

Residential Shelby did not lag behind either as was a part of 1924, but building inspector estimates that 375 or more residences were erected in the city during the year. Residences are estimated to have totaled \$770,000, or a little over \$2,000 average each. This estimate can be understood when it is remembered that in number more houses were erected in the mill villages than in any other section of the city. However, the offset in low-priced homes there is made up by the costly residences in Belvedere Heights, along the Cleveland Springs road and in the select residential sections uptown.

Although the program does not equal that of 1924 it follows close, as much of the building being started in that year was completed in 1925.

J. H. TOMS SEVERELY BURNED WHILE REPAIRING HEATING PLANT AT MILL

J. H. Toms, known to his friends as "Hugh" brother of R. V. Toms, superintendent of the water and light system of the city, is in the Shelby hospital suffering severely from burns received Monday while engaged on job repairing the heating system at the Ella mill.

Mr. Toms is chief machinist at the mill, which is owned by the Consolidated Textile corporation.

Monday afternoon he undertook the job of making a repair upon the heating system and was given to understand when he started the work, it is said, that the steam pressure had been cut off. But a mistake was made, and the full pressure was still on when he removed a piston from one of the pumps.

So great was the pressure in the pipes that when the machinist had partially removed the piston, it blew out the threads, the bolt hitting him with such force as to knock him down. Simultaneously a three-inch jet of live steam and hot water spouted from the pipe, striking Mr. Toms about the legs and arms, scalding him severely.

His injuries were made the more painful by the fact that the woollen garments he wore clung to his flesh, as though stuck with glue. The injured man was rushed to the hospital, where it was said Wednesday he was resting easily and doing as well as could be expected under the circumstances.

Mr. Toms is married and has two children. He lives on Broad street.

Good Plays Come Here On Friday

For their fifth number of the season the Piedmont Lyceum Bureau will on Friday night, January 15th, present a famous comedy. Add to this the fame of the Elizabethan players who present the comedy and there is every evidence that play-lovers have perhaps the best attraction available during the year.

Mr. and Mrs. Pierce Pelletier, who play leading roles in this fascinating comedy, have had a wide and varied experience as players in New York and elsewhere. Mr. Pelletier was one of the principal members of the "Man of the Hour" company which achieved such a notable success in New York and in other parts of the United States and Canada. He was also one of the original members of "The Prisoner of Zenda." Mrs. Pelletier, has also had an extensive professional career. She was leading woman with companies playing "Madam X" and "St. Elmo," and was later promoted to stardom, playing "Mary" in "What Happened to Mary." The other members of the cast have also had wide experience on the stage.

The performance begins promptly at eight o'clock Friday evening. Many people from different parts of the country are expected to swell the attendance. The price of admission is \$1.00 for adults and 50 cents for school children. The lyceum season tickets will be honored as usual.

What Was Freeze Worth To Farms?

How much was the recent freeze worth to the farms of Cleveland county?

It is estimated by leading farmers of Cleveland that such weather predicts a good crop year, and on the editorial page of today's Star F. T. Meacham, farm expert, estimates a value of the freeze per acre.

The opinion is well worth reading.

No Big Thrills Happening Recently Fireside Discussion Is Of Snow

In the absence of current thrillers, the weather has been the chief topic of conversation hereabouts during the week. The lingering of the snow in the local environs, and the continuation of the bone-chilling air has furnished the kick to the small talk.

According to conditions revealed by the general weather table, the local thermometers fail to record the full story of the wintry visitation. Mr. Ebeltoft, local weather authority, reported Tuesday morning a minimum temperature (at six o'clock) of 34 degrees.

However, the minimum at the Asheville the same day was indicated as 16, and that at Charlotte 22. As Shelby lies between these two points, and the temperature of the good city is supposed to represent a mean between these extremes, it appears the local

OFFICERS RETURN WITH WANTED MEN

Cody and Deane Refuse to Talk on Trip or in Jail. Conviction Carries Four Year Sentence.

Deputy Mike Austell and Claude Harrill returned Tuesday night from Xenia, Ohio, with Lee Cody and Crawford Deane young white men wanted here in connection with the escape of Dillard Deane from the local chain gang last September.

The two men are no wlogged in the county jail and will perhaps be given a preliminary hearing before Recorder Mull Wednesday afternoon or Thursday. The warrants charge them with a felony under prison breach and conviction means a sentence of not less than four years at hard labor in the state prison, according to Solicitor Burrus.

En route here officers say the two men refused to say anything about the charge, contending that they knew nothing of the escape, or refusing to talk at all. Young Deane also refused to eat while on the trip, it is said.

It will be remembered that Dillard Deane, serving a two-year sentence on the gang for attempted criminal assault, escaped in September by the reported aid of robbed men, who held up the guard with a gun.

Last week in Fairfield, Ohio, where the boys were living under an assumed name a boarder at the house where the two Deane boys lived missed \$200. The elder Deane was suspected, but somehow made his get-away. The younger brother was arrested and after questioning told where his home was. Sheriff Rhyne at Gastonia was notified and he in turn notified local officers, who wired back to get both Deanes and Cody if he was in the section. Cody at the time of his arrest was trying to get the younger Deane out of the county-seat jail at Xenia, and he also was going under assumed name. Deputy Austell says. Cody was passing as Lee Goforth; Crawford Deane as James Crawford, and Ralph Dillard Deane as Ralph Kennedy.

The officers stated that en route Cody, who did not seem to be worried, said: "They might find me guilty but somebody will have to swear a lie."

The two men are being confined in separate cells at the jail and what they will have to tell in the hearing is being awaited with much interest.

BLACKSBURG MAN DIES IN WRECK

Dewitt R. Porter, aged 28, well-known young business man of Blacksburg, S. C., and a nephew of Mrs. Charles L. Eskridge, of Shelby, was killed Monday night in an automobile accident near West Palm Beach, Fla., according to messages received here.

From reports it is understood that young Porter, who was known in Shelby, and was engaged in construction work there, had been into the city for the camp mail, and was returning when his car turned turtle after leaving the pavement and striking the loose sand of the road bed.

Mr. and Mrs. Eskridge were in Blacksburg Tuesday and according to Mr. Eskridge the body will arrive there Wednesday accompanied by the youth's uncle, E. E. Porter, who was in Florida. Funeral services will be held sometime Thursday.

Mr. Porter had been in Florida for some time, having been engaged in railroad construction work as assistant superintendent of a construction company. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Grace Porter, of Blacksburg; a brother, Fred Porter of Washington, D. C., and two sisters, Miss Gladys Porter, a teacher in the Asheville schools, and Miss Lurline Porter, a student at Winthrop college, Rock Hill, S. C.