

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."

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Freight Receipts Here Double In Two Years; Million Dollar Total In 1925

REMARKABLE GAIN CITED FOR PERIOD

Freight Receipts of One Depot In 1925 Equal Combined Receipts of Both In 1923

Tell this in Florida. Scatter it abroad:

The best indication of Shelby's wonderful growth in recent years comes from the annual statement of the two railway freight offices here. The increase in freight receipts of 1925 over 1923 as actually shown by figures is almost unbelievable. These statements furnish the best booster story the city has ever known.

Total freight receipts for Shelby in 1925 ran considerably over the million dollar mark, a figure unheard of for a town that by the last regular census did not reach the 5,000-population mark.

To be exact, combined freight receipts for the Southern and Seaboard here in 1925 totalled exactly \$1,186,229.88. Which is almost twice the combined receipts of both stations two years back in 1923, and more than double the combined total of 1922.

Both Over Half Million.

Separate totals for the two freight stations here show that in 1925 both stations passed the half million dollar mark. In 1923 the two combined barely passed that figure.

Some Comparison.

The combined freight receipts of both stations in 1923 was less than the freight receipts of one station alone in 1925. Get that!

The increase in dollars and cents of 1925 over 1923 is \$559,428.98, or nearly \$60,000 more than a half million increase in two years.

Proves Census Figures.

There were those who sneered when the report was sent out some months back that Shelby had doubled in population within a five year period. Extension of city limits and not an increase in population was assigned as the main reason by pessimists.

Perhaps there is some way of getting around the freight receipts, which show that industrially—the classification under which freight receipts come—Shelby has doubled within two years, not five.

Furthermore it must be remembered that two big industrial plants together with several smaller ones were not in full operation during 1925 and that during this year a greater increase may be expected.

Advance Rapidly.

It is not many years since Shelby's total freight receipts, both stations, did well to reach the \$100,000 mark. Then the town really began to grow and after a period of remarkable growth the freight receipts in 1923 passed the half billion dollar mark.

"They'll advance slower now since the big figures have been reached" was the consensus of opinion expressed now two years have seen that amount doubled.

In addition to showing a wonderful advancement in recent years the new freight receipts figure offers a sound foundation for future growth. There's nothing of the boom nature about freight receipts made possible through industry. Chambers of commerce and other civic organizations that plan for future growth of a city seek first the sure foundation of payrolls, that which to the moneyed interests means freight receipts in the end. So Shelby is apparently well set for another half decade of growing on a sound basis.

It is safe to say that there are few towns, if any, in the state where freight receipts have doubled in two years.

An idea of the remarkable gain may be derived from the following figures:

Table with 2 columns: Year, Total Freight Receipts. Rows for 1922, 1923, 1925.

Senior Class play to Be Given Friday Night

"Second Story Peggy", senior class play of the Shelby high school will be reproduced at the Shelby school auditorium Friday night of this week, beginning at 8 o'clock. This clever and comical play was first rendered just before Christmas but because of the inclement weather only a few people enjoyed the privilege of witnessing it, so requests have been made that it be reproduced. The characters taking part are Whitelaw Kendall, Lula Moore Suttle, Elizabeth Spangler, Pat Dudley, Olive Singleton, Haywood Austell, Claude Hoke Thompson, Vernon Grigg and Will Harris. These students have been well drilled and promise an evening of enjoyable entertainment.

\$1,000 Waiting Here for Young Man Missing for Many Years

Wilbert Davis, 21-year-old textile worker, may read this, or hear of it. If he does it means \$1,000 for him.

In the office of Representative B. T. Falls, Shelby attorney, a blank check lies. When Davis is found, if he is not dead, this check will be filled in for \$1,000 and given to him. It's the sole heritage a father left a son and it has been waiting five years.

On February 28, 1921, John A. Davis was shot and killed at Kershaw, S. C., by a man named Coble. The eternal triangle carried its customary deadly sting. Davis left little of monetary value and his slayer was acquitted, but at the time of his death he was a member in good standing of the Woodmen of the World at the Rock Hill camp. His insurance policy with the fraternal order was for \$1,000 and the son was the sole beneficiary. To date he hasn't been found and search by Attorney Falls for his mother Mary Davis, and his sister, Kathleen, has also proved disappointing.

The last definite account of Wilbert Davis is back in 1916 when his father left him with relatives in No. 9 township this county. There have been rumors since of his whereabouts, but none of definite details.

The elder Davis, the one killed at Kershaw, did not live with his family in his last years, and since that time little is known of the whereabouts of his wife and two children. The wife and daughter, it is understood lived at one time at Henrietta and later in the vicinity of Charlotte.

Wilbert Davis, who relatives have estimated to be about 20 years of age, is thought to be a textile worker. Unless he is found and definitely traced up \$1,000 will be nil. He must be found to receive the check, or proven dead before his mother or sister can be the beneficiaries—and they, too, cannot be found. They must all be proven dead before relatives in this county can come into the insurance policy.

Do you know Wilbert Davis, his mother or sister?

HOEY TO DEFEND CHERRYVILLE MAN

Mr. Clyde R. Hoey, returning to Shelby from Gastonia where he spent Monday, confirmed the report that he has been retained to defend Jesse Van Dyke, the Cherryville wild man, who shot and killed Chief of Police A. L. Painter, of Cherryville last Thursday, and wounded Horace S. Farnsworth.

Van Dyke is now in the Gastonia jail.

According to Mr. Hoey the case will come up in the court the first of April.

A talk with the attorney led to the assumption that it is not presumed to get the man free. But the plan will be laid by counsel to save his neck. Which is to say this, that first degree murder is one thing and second degree or manslaughter, quite another thing.

First degree murder presupposes premeditation and intent. Mr. Hoey did not vouch safe so much, but the assumption, is the plea will be made there was no premeditation in the case, which will thus come under the category of second degree murder or manslaughter.

It is the popular idea that Van Dyke was hooted up, lit to the gills with the fluid that thrills.

His pointed out, that the interesting question will be fought out on court room floor as to whether or not the fact that he had been temporarily bereft of his reason will save him from the full consequences of his act.

SAYS SHELBY CITY OF HOME OWNERS

Shelby is a city of homes!

Did you ever think about it—cogitate, as they say up in Beantown, on just what a home owning burg this is. J. D. Limberger looped his thumbs in his vest eyelets Tuesday, lencel against his show-case, and told The Star he believes that 80 per cent. of the Shelby people own and live in their own dwellings.

"Houses for rent," said Mr. Limberger, "have almost become unknown. If you would live in Shelby it is almost imperative that you own your own place. I will call your attention to the fact that a man known practically as a town pauper, who has been on the pauper list several times, owns his own home and has for years.

"I take it," the merchant went on, "that the building and loan associations are largely responsible for this condition. It is a great building and loan town, and these associations have made it possible for a man to buy a home practically on the same terms he can rent one.

"It is a common experience—an everyday experience—for a man to move into a house as a renter and then apply to buy it.

"I wish some enterprising soul would take a census of the city, to find out just what per centage of our people do own their own homes. The figures would be a great boost for the city, for there is no community so safe and sane and well grounded as one of home owners."

Wells Police Chief At Kings Mountain; Irvin Allen Leaves

Whitney Wells was elected police chief of Kings Mountain at a meeting of the city council held there Monday evening, according to reports reaching Shelby.

Wells succeeds Irvin Allen, who has been chief there for a number of years, and who leaves at an early date for Eastern Carolina, where he will operate a farm, it is understood. Allen resigned some time back, it will be remembered, and his resignation took effect Tuesday.

Officer Banes, who has been on duty as patrolman recently resigned Tuesday, it is rumored, following the change in headquarters.

Mr. Jimmie Wray is Dead in Greensboro

Mr. Jimmie Wray, native of Cleveland and street overseer for the town of Shelby 25 years ago, died in Greensboro Tuesday morning at 6:15 o'clock, following an attack of pneumonia. Mr. Wray's death is a great shock to his many friends and relatives here as it was not known until Monday that he was ill. Mr. Wray was a fine Christian character and regarded as one of Shelby's outstanding characters when he lived here.

He was married to Amanda Hogue who died several years ago. She was a sister of M. J. Hogue, Mrs. T. H. Lowery and Mrs. J. A. Harmon of this place. One brother J. A. Wray of Asheville and one sister, Mrs. C. B. Suttle survive, together with four sons Linton, David, Jim and Bill Wray and two daughters, Mrs. Maggie Wiseman of Henrietta and Mrs. Priscilla Britt of North Wilkesboro.

Mr. Wray was too young to see active service in the war between the state but while in his teens he went to Salisbury and nursed the sick and wounded soldiers. All who came in contact with him learned to love and respect him for his exemplary character.

Hamrick Company Starts Remodelling Jewelry House

Work of remodeling the store of T. W. Hamrick and company, La Fayette street, has been begun. Mr. Hamrick told The Star Wednesday morning that he proposed to spend \$6,000 in a make-over of the establishment, which he planned to be as complete a jewelry store as there is in the state.

The entire store will be remodeled. The front will be rebuilt with fine plate glass and marble. New fixtures will be installed. The rear will be so arranged as to make room for a modern optical parlor, and on the other side complete offices.

Differing from the present arrangement there will be an outside stairway, leading to offices which will be designed on the second floor.

Mr. Hamrick has just completed a sale which depleted the stock to the point where he will have room to carry on business while the remodeling is taking place.

This improvement, which will add tone and dignity to the centre-town block, follows a very successful year of business for the firm. They have been encouraged, Mr. Hamrick said, to equip a store that will be a model for the new Shelby.

BAPTISTS GATHER HERE TO DISCUSS SUNDAY SCHOOLS

Fifty Preachers and S. S. Superintendents Hear Editor Page and Dr. Wall on Subjects.

Fifty Baptist ministers and Sunday school teachers of the Kings Mountain association gathered Tuesday night at Cleveland Springs to discuss the rapidly growing Sunday school work in the county, the meeting being inspired and presided over by A. V. Washburn, the enterprising associational worker who has lifted the association to a lead in the South in the number of Standard Sunday schools. Out of the 42 churches in the association, there are 42 evergreen and growing Sunday schools and during the past year they showed a gain in membership of 2,000 according to Secretary Middleton's report. Each Sunday, 385 men and women go before their classes and teach the word of God.

After a sumptuous repast, the ministers in turn introduced their Sunday school superintendents, many of them reporting Standard Grove, Miss Aletha Hoyle of Pleasant Grove, is the only woman superintendent in the association and she is doing a great work. Rev. C. J. Black of Kings Mountain was to speak on "How I Build My Sunday School", but could not be present because of sickness. Supt. G. G. Page, who is also editor of the Kings Mountain Herald, spoke on "The Humorous Side of a Superintendent's Life." After giving several humorous experiences, he declared that a Sunday school cannot be built in a day nor a year, but is the result of

(Continued on page six.)

WINTER SUN BEATS UP SPRING CITY

Florida with its sun-kissed sands and balmy winter-season climate had nothing on "The City of Springs" yesterday and today.

A winter sun, shining almost fiercely, sent golfers heing to their favorite links Tuesday and forced back into the closets such attire as overcoats, sweaters and mufflers. The mercury in the standard thermometers took a high jump that breaks all collegiate records for the season of the year. It was springtime in January—like unto the barefoot boy as he strode by in his squeaking new shoes.

Shelby seldom sees such weather in mid-winter. The amateur gardeners—they never get otherwise—start thinking of strawberries and the truck patch groceriers. Realty dealers began fingering blue prints with a new zeal. Such days promise much for local resorts that boast a year-round climate unequalled. Guests at Cleveland Springs, who witnessed the snowy whiteness of last week and were about ready to move on Southward changed their minds and wired home that they would spend the rest of the year at the popular mineral-water resort.

It was springtime and although definite news dispatches have not reached here yet it is thought that several couples heeded the call of spring romance and hid over the line to their South Carolina Gretna Green.

—Mr. Gettys Dead—Lawson A. Gettys, S. Washington street, has been called to Jefferson, Ga., to attend the funeral of his brother, W. B. Gettys, prominent lumberman who died there Monday. Deceased was a native of Rutherford county and a very successful and prominent citizen.

Thrilling War Story Starts In Star Next Week; Watch For It

One of the best newspaper serials ever published will begin in The Star next week: "The One He Forgot."

It is a romantic, touching relation of a circle of interesting events of the greatest period in history. Thousands have read it and thousands of others are reading it in their home newspapers today.

"The One He Forgot" is by far the best serial story offered today and The Star wishing that its readers enjoy the best hopes that every reader of the paper will begin with the first chapter. Hundreds of readers have been interested in "Too Much Efficiency," which ends today. This one will be better. Watch for it.

"Good Character" Clears Man Of Murder Charge

Here's a story with a moral.

The grind of a court docket usually offers more subjects for sermons than any one thing outside of the Book on which the faith of sermons is founded.

Most men are "from Missouri" and must be shown. There's no better way of illustrating than the court room.

Over in the edge of Gaston county there is a 21-year-old young man who owes his freedom from a second degree murder charge almost solely to good character—not that of somebody else, but his own.

The moral passed unheeded in the current account of the case by the press, but O. Max Gardner, who acted as counsel for the young man, exemplified the value of having good character to his Bible class at the First Baptist church here Sunday, and the Gaston case with which he was familiar as attorney was used as an example.

Men are frequently cleared of murder charges. In fact acquittal comes so frequently nowadays that conviction makes a better news story. Usually, however, an acquittal on a murder charge comes through connected evidence almost positively proving the defendant innocent, or through some skilful move of defense counsel. Neither were directly, or even indirectly, responsible for the acquittal of Yates Mauney last week in Gastonia. That's what his attorney told a Bible class, and he should know.

Naturally Mr. Gardner did not deny that his services as counsel did not help the young man at all—lawyers do not advertise and consequently cannot belittle their ability—but the big thing that kept Yates Mauney from serving a sentence was his character, the reputation his community and neighbors gave him. And come to think about it a man must need have the best of reputation behind him to balance it against dozens of years in the prison, and win.

Two witnesses swore almost positively that young defendant, who had been a student at Wake Forest col-

lege, while at a corn shucking last fall inflicted a cut on the throat of Wesley Hallman that resulted in Hallman's death. Young Mauney said that he did not. After hearing Mauney's reputation and his record that which goes to make up character, the jury freed the defendant.

Let that sink in. Would your past reputation send you out of a court room a free man if two others swore you killed a man?

Noah Webster in all his volumes defines character and explains reputation, but in no place does he cover comprehensively "good character." And that which Webster and the dictionaries cannot define no man, not even the income tax collectors, can place a value thereon.

Mauney—a thousand pardons to some judges and juries—has freed numerous men of murder charges. Some times freedom has been purchased at a great cost. That which freed Yates Mauney no man can purchase.

Perhaps it has been hard in the past for Yates Mauney to keep in the pathway of good character and there are no by-ways. One little stumble and a lifetime of molding a good character is wasted. There are those who have wondered if after all it's worthwhile. Yates Mauney might answer that perplexed query.

Some men live and die and not credit whatsoever is given on this globe for what friends might term a character unequalled. On the other hand something unexpected may turn up and a fortune, several fortunes would be gladly exchanged for "a good character" testified on a life and death stand by one who knew. Somewhere in the unborn minutes ahead the fact that you possess a good character may prove of untold value.

Yates Mauney knows the value of good character. He cannot estimate its worth in dollars and cents. Who is it that knows just how dear life is to him?

Maybe the endless struggle of living in molding a never completed good character is not worthwhile, and again mayhaps it is. Draw your own conclusion from one case alone.

Graphotypes To Replace Branch License Bureaus

1925 Good Year In Business Despite Farming Conditions

Mr. G. W. Neely, manager of Efrid's, spent Tuesday in Charlotte attending a pow-wow of the chain store managers.

Discussing business before he left for the big meeting, Mr. Neely told The Star that the year 1925 was the best year—reckoned in terms of cash profits—that the local store ever had.

"And this," he said, "despite added competition, a material reduction in the price of cotton, and while the community was taking up the shock of the drought."

Which fact led Mr. Neely to moralize that it is not the part of wisdom to take draw-backs too seriously. "Attention to business," said he, "and giving the public service results in bringing home the bacon nine times out of ten, notwithstanding the general run of handicaps that we contend with."

"That is to say, handicaps," he added, "are simply spurs to push us onward. When we cease to recognize them they cease to exist."

P. O. S. of A. to Give Flag and Bible to Central School Here

On next Sunday afternoon the Patriotic Order of Sons of America will present a flag and a Bible to the Central school. The exercises will take place in the school auditorium and on the school grounds, beginning promptly at 2:30 p. m. The program as printed below indicates that this order has arranged to carry out a very impressive ceremony. Every patron and friend of the school is invited to attend the exercises. Of course every P. O. S. A. in this district will be present.

Program. Invocation—Rev. H. N. McDiarmid; Song, "America"—The audience; "My Flag"—Kathleen Hord; Song, "America the Beautiful" high school glee club; Presentation of flag—D. Z. Newton; Acceptance of the flag—J. H. Grigg; Selection by band; "My Bible and I"—Mary Suttle; Song, "Faith of Our Fathers"—high school glee club; Presentation of the Bible.—Dr. H. K. Boyer; Acceptance of the Bible—L. C. Griffin; Remarks—Supt. Clyde Irvin, Rutherford county.

Governor McLean Much In Demand Last Week. Other State Capital News of Interest.

(By M. L. Shipman)

Raleigh, Jan. 19. Special to Star.—The auto license bureau, with the expectation that considerable money and time will be saved in the future, has installed 10 graphotypes to handle certain phases of the record work of the bureau. While the saving will not be effected immediately, the machines will make it possible to eliminate the branch license offices and to handle more efficiently the work of licensing autos during the rush period.

Capital city of N. C., has been host city of North Carolina, has been host to a number of conventions and conferences of "one kind and another" the past week and the State's chief executive has been in demand as a speaker here and elsewhere practically every day, having answered calls of ice cream manufacturers, State foresters, Y. M. C. A. workers at Fayetteville and the editors at Chapel Hill. The Governor is making himself "useful as well as ornamental" and appears to relish the varied activities he is called upon to face from time to time. Frankly admitting his inability to fathom newspaper "peculiarities" the Governor courts a more intimate association with members of the Fourth Estate and the sympathetic cooperation of the press in putting over a program of progress in commonwealth development.

Addressing the State Newspaper Institute at Chapel Hill on Friday the Governor expressed the wish for a closer fellowship with the press of the state and an earnest desire for the cooperation of "paper makers" in bringing important matters of public importance to the attention of the public. He would have facts and not fiction touching matters of State presented and expressed a willingness to take the newspapers into his confidence with the view to preventing hurtful publications relative to official proposals in the initial stage. Touching the State's fiscal affairs, the Governor pointed out that he found it advisable to proceed cautiously, hence his apparent inclination to withhold news while negotiation are in progress. He boasted of the state's ability to negotiate the sale of bonds and disapproved the

Director's were re-elected as follows: C. C. Blanton, J. T. Bowman, E. B. Hamrick, T. A. Stamey, J. H. Quinn, John R. Dover, J. F. Schenck, Dr. L. V. Lee, C. C. Hamrick, L. S. Hamrick, C. H. Shull, J. F. Roberts, George Blanton and Forrest Eskridge. J. F. Roberts was re-elected manager of the insurance department.

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COTTON STRESSED FAR TOO MUCH ON CLEVELAND FARMS

Farm Expert Says Farmers of Section Not Building up Land. Should Produce Feed

That the farmers of Cleveland County are laying too much stress on the growing of cotton, and not enough on producing crops that build up and rejuvenate the soil, was the sum of the thought of A. Hardin, County Agricultural Agent, expressed in an interview with The Star upon his return from an agricultural conference at Raleigh.

Mr. Hardin, who took the place of R. E. Lawrence, as the farmer's guide in this community, got back from the state capital last Saturday, after taking a two weeks' extension course.

Discussing his mission here, his job, to guide farm production in Cleveland County, Mr. Hardin said that his leading idea was to endeavor to get the farmers to see the necessity to build up the soil.

He declared unhesitatingly that the quality of the Cleveland County soil has been depleted by too much open cultivation, by which was meant the growing of cotton. So that the texture of the land now is incapable of adequately supporting other crops.

"I want to preach the doctrine of diversification," said Mr. Hardin, "as the community's greatest need. But before my full program of diversification can be entered upon, the soil must be rejuvenated.

"The facts of the case are, that too long continued cotton production has depleted the soil of organic matter. This organic matter is a moisture reservoir. The soil without it is thin in texture, and is incapable of holding sufficient moisture to support vigorous growths.

"As the local soil has become depleted, the people have fallen back upon the use of fertilizer, which are now used in excessive quantities here. The average farmer I am told uses something like six hundred pounds to the acre; and many more than that.

"I will ask you, how are you to compete in the cotton market growing cotton with such excess use of fertilizers, against producers who use no fertilizers at all?"

"What's the answer?" the interviewer asked the expert. "The answer is," said he, "that the soil must be slowly but surely built up, and it is that lesson that I think it is my mission to teach here. More leguminous crops must be grown soil must be allowed to sod. More livestock is needed.

"It comes down to the question, does the farmer want his money in the bank or in the soil? Money in the bank is all right, and a fine thing but money in the soil is also necessary.

"The people of this county are spending fortunes every year for feed and fertilizer and this year an fortune for canned vegetables. Every farm should produce its own feed, for animals and largely for human consumption. A wholesale grocery man in Shelby told me today that there has been bought in this city a hundred thousand dollars worth of canned vegetables to be used here this winter.

"The fact that this is the case can not altogether be blamed on the drought. If the local soil had been better, of better texture, and properly able to hold moisture, there is no reason why the drought should have played such havoc."

UNION TRUST ELECTS FORMER OFFICERS

A large and representative bunch of stockholders of the Union Trust company met Tuesday morning in the directors room of the First National bank in annual session, when the gratifying report of the year's business was read, revealing an addition to the surplus of \$15,000, making the surplus now \$50,000. The Union Trust company operates branch banks at Lattimore, Lawndale and Fallston and serving the people in a splendid fashion. Total resources of the bank are now \$914,949.19. Officers were re-elected as follows: Chas. C. Blanton, president; J. T. Bowman, John F. Schenck, George Blanton, T. A. Stamey, Dr. L. V. Lee and E. B. Hamrick, vice presidents; Forrest Eskridge, cashier.

Directors were re-elected as follows: C. C. Blanton, J. T. Bowman, E. B. Hamrick, T. A. Stamey, J. H. Quinn, John R. Dover, J. F. Schenck, Dr. L. V. Lee, C. C. Hamrick, L. S. Hamrick, C. H. Shull, J. F. Roberts, George Blanton and Forrest Eskridge. J. F. Roberts was re-elected manager of the insurance department.