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The Cleveland Star

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

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WASHINGTON REALTOR BUYS BIG PLOT NEAR CLEVELAND SPRINGS PROPERTY

Affleck Gets 56 Lots Near Development

Local Realty Traders Getting Spring-time Fever. Large Individual Sale Completed.

With a lingering bit of snow on the hillsides, local real estate is taking on a springtime activity. Sales announced Tuesday night added a tone of real estate trading that speaks well of the realty business in Shelby and around the Cleveland Springs resort development during the spring months.

The sale announced definitely Wednesday marks the biggest lot transfer of vacant property outside of the city limits in recent months with the execution of the purchase of the Cleveland Springs company and Mr. Marshall, the Florida developer—that is with an individual buyer.

Property purchased Tuesday by Mr. Phillip G. Affleck alone included 56 lots with a frontage of 25 feet each, or 1400 foot front lots on Highway 20 and the Elizabeth road, which runs through the development. Mr. Affleck is of Washington, D. C., and represents the Affleck Investment company of that city. The sales were handled through his local representative, Will C. Harris, Shelby realtor.

The lots purchased included a little over 700 front feet on each road belonging to Garnett M. Cox and Renn Drum, and 400 front feet on each road belonging to Lee B. Weathers and Renn Drum. The plot is just beyond the log cabin belonging to the Shelby Real estate company and runs east to the wooded strip on towards the fair grounds and at the extreme limit of the Cleveland Springs property to the east on the Elizabeth road. The property is not far from the old Cleveland Springs line and about an equal distance from the site of the proposed new golf club house. The first development work at the resort, it is understood, will start on the Elizabeth road section, which the Affleck property fronts on one side, fronting on the paved highway on the other side.

No announcement has been made by Mr. Affleck or representative as to how the plot will be handled as the trade has just been completed. Mr. Affleck, who arrived in town over the week-end and about the time Mr. Marshall came, has been stopping at Cleveland Springs hotel, but left Wednesday for Hendersonville, Asheville, Black Mountain and other western points. He plans, it is said, to return to Shelby at an early date.

Realty trades about Shelby have been holding up for some time, most property owners waiting to see just how things turned out at the resort. The fact that the Washington realtor came into town about the same time as Mr. Marshall and that he is experienced in the realty game in his city and Florida has started general trading about the town. It is understood that Mr. Marshall is now going over final plans here and that work on the development will begin in the near future. In view of which considerable trading by local and outside interests is expected in the coming weeks before spring, when the market begins active operation. Little trading other than individual lots has been going on since the sale of the hotel to Florida financiers, and the fact that a prominent outside dealer sees enough in the future of the resort to buy 56 lots adjoining the resort property naturally has added considerable "pep" to the local outlook. And the trade coming in January makes the stove-league experts wonder just how things will move in real trading weather.

Geo. Washburn Now With Best Furniture

It was announced Wednesday that Mr. George Washburn, for some time connected with the Washburn Oil company, has accepted a position with the John M. Best Furniture company, which recently moved into modern show rooms in the new Royster building.

Mr. Best, proprietor of the firm, and Mr. Washburn will leave Thursday for High Point, where they will attend the furniture exposition for two days. While there they expect to add considerably to the Best stock.

Wicker Coming—All local Masons and visiting Masons are urged to attend the meeting in the Masonic lodge rooms, Friday night of this week at which time W. C. Wicker, Masonic educational secretary of this district will make an address. Mr. Wicker is an interesting talker and what he will have to tell the Masons will be worth hearing.

New French Ambassador Arrives



Mr. and Mrs. Henri Berenger are shown on their arrival in America. Berenger succeeds Emile Daeschner as French ambassador to U. S.

Salary And Wage Commission Under Fire At State Capital

(By M. L. Shipman, Star Correspondent.)

Raleigh, Jan. 25.—The rapidly increasing disturbance over the functioning of the salary and wage commission, the meeting of the state agricultural society, report of a state deficit and the fight on school fire insurance rates were among the outstanding matters of interest in administration circles during the week. In addition many other matters engaged attention of the Capital city residents during the week.

The criticism of the salary and wage commission, which became stronger during the week with the coming of Lee's birthday, a holiday which the commission declared should not be observed unless one day was taken from the annual vacation of each employe observing it, was answered on Sunday by a statement by Hoyle Sink, secretary of the commission in which Mr. Sink charged there was an organized propaganda to discount the work of the commission and that members of the legislature were being approached by certain bodies with a view to having the commission legislated out of existence at the next legislature. Mr. Sink, in a long statement defended the actions of the commission. On Saturday the commission made it public that salary increases of approximately fifty thousand dollars had been granted beginning this month, but against this set the fact that the commission had abolished offices and reduced salaries to the total of about \$29,000 in October and approximately the same amount had been saved the state by the voluntary discontinuance of certain jobs by department heads before the commission got to work but in anticipation of the commission's work. The salary increases allowed were defended by Mr. Sink on the ground they were defended by Mr. Sink on the ground they were chiefly for employes of the highway commission where not a single increase had been granted in a year.

Representative W. W. Neal of McDowell county, a member of the legislature creating the commission, was among those attacking it in the past work. Mr. Neal asserted the commission was taking unto itself powers which the legislature had not intended. The North Carolina society of engineers also joined the ranks of those opposing the commission when it requested that greater consideration be shown for technically trained men.

Deficit Explained. The report of a deficit in the general fund of the state as of January 1st, closing the first six months of the fiscal administration of Governor McLean was explained by the executive with the statement of large disbursements and meager collections. Mr. McLean said he expected to change the deficit of \$800,000 to a surplus by the end of a full fiscal year as the income and other collections coming due shortly would swell the income.

Stacey Wade, insurance commissioner served notice after a meeting with the Southeastern underwriters that he would propose the 25 per cent increase in school fire insurance rates in N. C., which the underwriters body has ordered effective. Mr. Wade branded the action as "high handed" and contrary to the law.

Fair Not Likely. With the prospect of no fair this year, the agricultural society at a meeting elected W. A. Hart of Tar-

(Continued on Page Four.)

But There's That Hercules Door

When you visit the Shelby post-office go in by the front door.

About a year ago Mr. E. B. Byers paid the institution a visit, and went in by the back door, fell and broke his arm.

Last Sunday Moses Taub, who hauls Uncle Samuel's mail pouches back and forth to the depots, went out of that same back door, fell and turned his arkie. The jolt put him in bed, where he is still suffering from the effects of the mishap.

460 STUDENTS IN S. SHELBY SCHOOL

The total enrollment of the South Shelby school at present is 460. Of this number 215 are boys and 245 girls. The percentage of attendance at the close of the fourth month was 91 per cent. There were 59 tardies during the past month. The average daily attendance at the close of the fourth month was 422.

Thirty new pupils have entered since the Christmas holidays.

67 on Honor Roll. There were 67 pupils in the South Shelby school who were on the honor roll during the past month. Each month the names of the pupils of the 6th, 7th and 8th grades only will be published in The Star. The following is the honor roll for the fourth month:

Sixth grade—Helen Anthony, Elizabeth Blanton, Edith Blanton, Lena Hamrick, Evelyn Short.

7th grade—Lottie May Mauney, Ruby Lucile Blanton.

8th grade—Ola Lee Glascoe, Helen Whitner.

During the past week Rev. Rush Padgett and Rev. A. S. Raper, conducted our devotional exercises for us. The messages which they brought to the pupils were helpful.

Misses Minnie Warlick and Adeline Bestick had charge of our chapel exercises last Tuesday and Friday. These two chapel programs were greatly enjoyed by all. The children who took part showed that they were well trained.

Mr. Wilbur Green one of our 7th grade boys who is ill with pneumonia is recovering. We are sorry to hear of his illness.

Mrs. Ransom Casstevens teacher of the fifth grade was not able to teach for a day and a half on account of illness. Mrs. Nash and Mrs. Charlie Burrus substituted for her.

Miss Howie our teacher of public school music is teaching the following new songs to the primary grades: "The Muffin Man," "The Little Fiddler," "The Hunting Horn" and "Hay-making Song." These songs are found in our new song book, "The Song Hour." We like our new book.

The pupils of the sixth grade are memorizing "Lincoln's Gettysburg Address." Every one should know by heart this peerless address and should seek to appreciate its wonderful power. The address is now lettered on bronze tablets and placed in public buildings throughout the country.

The boys and girls are very much interested now in basket-ball. Mr. Blanton who has charge of athletics is organizing basket ball teams.

Asks Damages For Chickens Foxes Killed

Most Unique Suit on Court Record is Filed. Claimed That Wild Foxes Destroyed 200 Chickens.

Can a man be made to pay for the damages caused by wild foxes turned loose by him? Or can it be proven that a number of Brer foxes running wild killed certain chickens?

The two questions should cause some debate among the hunters of the county, and will also cause some discussion in court as a suit based around the two questions has been filed.

Tuesday Horace Kennedy, acting as attorney for W. H. Warlick, of No. 19 township, filed a complaint with Recorder John P. Mull alleging that five or six foxes were turned loose by O. V. Warlick of No. 9, and that since that time 200 chickens belonging to the plaintiff have been killed; that it is the information the plaintiff has that the foxes were responsible for the missing chickens, and in view thereof damages to the extent of \$200 are asked, one dollar for each missing chicken.

While it is most unique suit ever to face Recorder Mull he says. The solution, he adds, from a survey of the complaint will require all the wisdom of a Solomon judge and then some. There is nothing to cut into. The foxes, unless there are some mighty good dogs in the county, cannot be brought into court to testify, and the chickens are now ill. So there!

The plaintiff claims that he is informed, believes and avers that the disappearance of the chickens was brought about by the foxes, and further adds that the defendant knew, or should have known, that the foxes would prove destructive.

No character attacks or anything out of the way is in the suit, it is understood, and both parties are well known and respected in the county. However, the oddness of the suit will attract considerable attention, it is believed. The case will not come up for sometime.

The Complaint Itself. The complaint verbatim as filed follows:

"That during the year 1925 the defendant purchased and turned loose near the plaintiff's residence five or six wild foxes and that at the time of rearing said foxes the defendant knew, or should have known, that the aforesaid foxes would damage and destroy the property of the plaintiff.

"That shortly after the time said foxes were released by the defendant near the plaintiff's residence the plaintiff's chickens began to disappear and this plaintiff is informed believes and avers that said chickens were killed and destroyed by the foxes which the defendant released, and that up to this time at least 200 chickens belong to the plaintiff have been killed and destroyed by the foxes of the defendant.

"That the value of aforesaid chickens was \$1 each."

Shelby Laundry to Expand Business

The Shelby Steam laundry, owned and operated by F. R. Sanders, has leased the building next door to the north and is preparing material to expand the business.

Mr. Sanders states that his business has grown until it was necessary to add new quarters. A lease on the adjoining property was made, the two houses connected, which will give the enterprise practically a hundred per cent. increase in floor space.

"I consider that the growth of Shelby is reflected in the growth of this business," Mr. Sanders said. He added that he will add new machinery and new equipment at once to take care of the trade increase. The lease was made with Attorney B. T. Falls, who owns the property taken over by the laundry.

—SEE PAGE 8—
The Big War Serial Story Stars Today On THAT Page
—Turn To Page 8—
And Start With First Chapter On One Of The Best Stories You Have Ever Read.

Half-Brother and Half-Sister Meet First Time in Life

Life must be a stage; freak incidents, queer as melodrama, occur as time grinds away.

Frank Hefner, well known about Shelby, as born some 52 years ago. Thirteen years prior to that time his half-sister, now Mrs. Eden Oaks, was born. They saw each other for the first time this month.

Mrs. Oaks' father was killed in the Civil war. Her mother then married Gary Hefner, father of Frank Hefner and the family moved to Cleveland Mills, this county, where Frank was born. Frank's father died in 1902, yet his mother and the mother of Mrs. Oaks, lived until 1916 and her two children never saw each other until this month.

Mr. Hefner, who has just returned to Shelby, has been on recent visit to the western section of the state. While there he decided to visit the half-sister, whose mother was his mother, and whom he had never seen. Mrs. Oaks lives near Elk Park and about two miles from the Tennessee line, having lived in that section all her life, while her half-brother has spent most of his 52 years in this section, having lived in Shelby 23 years.

Mr. Hefner says that he had often heard of his half-sister and especially through his mother, who talked of her daughter, but the recent visit offered the first opportunity of seeing her.

Wooten and Hamrick to Furniture Show

Paul E. Wooten, manager of Gilmer's and Lee Hamrick, head of the furniture department of the store, left Wednesday morning for High Point to attend the furniture exposition.

They will make the trip by motor, and expect to be gone three or four days.

Mr. Wooten gave out the information before leaving Shelby that he and Mr. Hamrick purposed to buy at least ten car loads of furniture while at the exposition to fill in and pep up the Gilmer furniture department.

ROYSTER AND SONS BUY DISTRIBUTION OF GULF PRODUCTS

A deal was closed in Shelby Wednesday morning, whereby the Royster interests, including Dr. S. S. Royster and his two sons, H. R. Royster and D. W. Royster, took over the distribution of the Gulf Refining company's products in this territory.

The purchase of the big agency was made from R. B. Gantt.

Dr. Royster told The Star Wednesday afternoon, following the consummation of the deal that the transfer represented a monetary transaction of \$40,000.

This is the first venture of the sort ever entered into by the Royster family.

"What led you into such a departure?" Dr. Royster was asked.

"I consider the business growing and desirable," he replied.

He told The Star that his plans for the development of the business included the erection of a big tankage station in Shelby, with a main storage tank of at least one hundred and fifty thousand gallons. And in addition to this central supply there will be supplementary tanks, several of them, of sixteen thousand gallons capacity.

The company will be known as The Royster Oil company, and the territory taken over for distribution includes two full counties, Cleveland and Rutherford and parts of Lincoln and Gaston.

"We will distribute from Gastonia to Rutherfordton," said Dr. Royster.

They will handle the new No. 100 gas of the Gulf Refining company, among other products of the Gulf output. It is claimed for this gas that it generates no carbon, and knows no knocks.

It may not interest Henry, but we know an old man who can play well on what the boys call a "juice harp."

Well balanced action. Highbrow hash.

Florida Developer Tells Local Golfers Of Plans

Cotton Crop Moves to 36,803 Bales For This County

Cleveland county's cotton crop may not reach the 37,000-bale mark for 1925, but according to the latest ginning report for the county it is only 192 bales short of that amount.

Those who predicted that the 1925 crop would be short 10,000 bales may now clip their guess in two and make it 5,000 bales.

The crop total for 1925, which was the highest record ever established in the county, was slightly over 42,000 bales. The latest ginning report for 1925 as announced to day is only a little over 5,000 bales short of the 1924 total.

In other words the crop to date, according to ginning figures issued by Miles H. Ware, special agent, is only 3,000 and some bales behind the report of the 1924 crop. However, the crop this year was early.

Thirty-six thousand eight hundred and eight bales had been ginned up until January 16, this year, as compared with 40,563 bales ginned up to January 16, 1925.

DURHAM MOORE IN ROLE OF FIREMAN

Monday afternoon Durham Moore drove Mrs. Moore down town to shop. They live, Mr. and Mrs. Moore, on West Marion street. It was a pleasant afternoon, the sun came out after the snowfall, and Mrs. Moore was in no hurry to return home. She stayed down town perhaps two hours and a half, which ordinarily would be neither here nor there. But in this case her length of absence has a distinct bearing on our yarn.

Toward late afternoon Mrs. Moore joined her husband and they started homeward. It was, we will repeat very pleasant out-of-doors; the air had a winter tang, and the new fall snow on the trees was beautiful. Decidedly there was no hurry.

The young Moore child had been left next door with neighbors, with Mrs. L. S. Friday. Moore drove his car up to the curb in front of Mrs. Friday's. Mrs. Moore got out, and he continued on into his own drive-way.

As he drove up by his house he saw a light in the sitting room. He saw the flicker of the blaze against the wall, that rose and fell and made shadows. "We must have left a pretty hefty fire in the grate," he thought to himself, as he got out of his car, taking his time, in the slant of the afternoon.

When he opened the front door he smelled smoke. As he got into the front room he smelled more smoke. And it did not smell like grate smoke; it smelled like burning wood. And that is exactly what it was. The horse was afire.

The flames were leaping and crackling playfully in the middle of the living room, and had got so far along toward a genuine conflagration that already the plastering overhead was heated and falling.

Moore summed his presence of mind instead of the fire department. He remembered a garden hose was on the front porch, and a spigot in the brick. He quickly got the hose and attached it, and turned on the water. When the neighbors came, attracted by the sight of smoke issuing from the door, and of Moore stepping the light fantastic about the scene, the fire was out.

A gaping hole was in the floor: a chair was burned; one of Mrs. Moore's gowns that was thrown over the back of the chair, and the ceiling had a hole in it.

Now we come to the real nith of our narrative which involves three ifs—

The first is, If Moore had been fifteen minutes, ten minutes, or perhaps even five minutes later he would have lost his house.

If all the doors in house had not been closed, shutting off all draft, he would have lost it, and lastly, if—

The garden hose had not been on the front porch, where a garden hose commonly has no right to be after a snowstorm, the home would have been burned anyway.

Moore's friends say he believes Providence handed him a white check.

ADVOCATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HERE

Cleveland Springs Golf Club Elects Officers and Discusses New Eighteen-Hole Course.

Talking to a group of the members of the Cleveland Springs Golf club at Cleveland Springs hotel Tuesday evening, Mr. Alfred P. Marshall, Florida realtor who is to develop the Cleveland Springs resort, advocated a chamber of commerce for Shelby and told members of the club of his plans regarding the proposed 18-hole course, which he will build here instead of the present course, and which should be one of the best golf meccas in Western Carolina.

Esbridge Re-elected.

At a business meeting of the golf club held in the hotel parlor Chas. L. Esbridge was re-elected president of the club by a unanimous vote of members present and R. T. LeGrand was likewise re-elected vice-president. Mr. Jean Schenck, secretary of the club during the past year, asked to be relieved of his duties and Dr. A. Pitt Beam was named secretary and treasurer. A new board of directors was named as follows: J. F. Jenkins, Willis McMurry, J. F. Roberts, George Moore, Oliver S. Anthony, Earl Hamrick, and Renn Drum. The membership committee for 1926 as named was composed of C. L. Esbridge, O. Max Gardner and Odus M. Mull.

Following the election it was decided to retain W. H. Lyle as club professional and a vote of thanks for his services during the past year was recorded.

A membership drive for old and new members will be staged before the spring golfing season opens up and it is hoped to get back in the club all old members and quite a number of new members. The membership campaign will be broadened to take in nearby towns and cities from which numerous golfers visit the local links. A fixed membership fee was decided upon and will be adhered to, applying to all persons alike and giving special privileges to none. Golfers not holding the regular club membership must pay green fees and such fees must be paid for guests, the guest cards being abolished. Thirty-five of those present joined for another year immediately after the meeting. Among the new members joining was Phillip G. Affleck, prominent Washington realtor, who is here on a business visit.

Good for New Course.

Club officials and Mr. Marshall assured the meeting that all old members would be carried on as members of the new club when the course and resort is enlarged this spring. The advantage of this was pointed out in that for the new 18-hole course and club house the entrance fee will be considerably larger than that of the present club and members getting in now will save considerable in the entrance fee.

Uninterrupted.

In the proposed development, according to Mr. Marshall, the golf play will not be interfered with. The present nine holes will continue in use until the nine holes on the north side of Highway No. 20 are complete. Play will then shift to the new nine while another course is built on the hotel side of the highway. Then with 18 holes in operation a new club house will be erected near the residence of John W. Doggett. Mr. Marshall assured club members that the present system of operating the course would go on and that in the new development he would try to give golfers in this section one of the best courses in this territory and an equally good club house, and that in course of time prominent golfers would be brought here and the game greatly stimulated.

Start Work Soon.

Asked about what time work would begin on the development Mr. Marshall stated that he would promise no definite date, but that his company was losing money all the time the property was being held off the market and that development work and sales campaigns would begin in the near future. His developments have been held up and delayed in Florida by embargos and other handicaps, and fearing minor handicaps, he stated, he would not like to set a definite date until he was positive that the work could be carried out at that time. As early as possible, however, he assured those present that he

(Continued on page six.)