

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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## SHELBY TO RETAIN AUTO TAG BUREAU

License Plates Will Again be Distributed Here by Another Change Made.

Raleigh, Feb. 25.—Branch offices of the automobile license bureau will be retained in 20 cities and towns for the next 12 months under the terms of a contract with the Carolina Motor club entered into today by Revenue Commissioner R. A. Doughton.

Forty other stations which have been maintained during the past year will be abandoned. The installation at the central offices in Raleigh of rapid fire addressing and mailing machines will enable the bureau to do the bulk of the work distributing the plates from here and render unnecessary those stations which are to be closed down.

In addition to the contract with the Carolina club, Commissioner Doughton indicated that arrangements would be made for the Winston-Salem Motor club to continue supervision of one or more branches in that territory.

The 20 stations which the commissioner has decided to keep open are located at Asheville, Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Durham, Elizabeth City, Fayetteville, Gastonia, Goldsboro, Greensboro, Greenville, Henderson, Hickory, New Bern, Rockingham, Rocky Mount, Salisbury, Sanford, Shelby, Silver and Wilmington.

Although it has not been officially announced it is presumed that the sale of license tags in Shelby will be handled through the local branch of the Carolina Motor club of which Wade W. Hoey is manager and along the same forms of the past season.

## MR. ALBERT PUTNAM DIED WEDNESDAY

One of Shelby's Oldest and Most Respected Citizens Passes Away at Age of 79 Years.

Mr. A. R. Putnam, one of Shelby's oldest, staunchest, and most respected citizens, died at his home on South LaFayette street Wednesday evening at 6:30 o'clock, following an illness of two and one-half weeks with double pneumonia and kidney trouble. Funeral services were held at the residence Thursday afternoon at 2:30 by Rev. Rusch Padgett his pastor. Rev. J. W. Suttle a former pastor; and Dr. Zeno Wall of the 1st Baptist church, interment being held at Zoar cemetery.

Mr. Putnam was born November 18, 1847 and died February 24, 1926, being 79 years of age. He was a charter member and deacon of the Second Baptist church where he was very active until his health gave way several years ago.

He is survived by his wife, who was Miss Eliza McIntyre, and five children: Mr. J. B. Putnam, of Florida, La.; who was unable to attend the funeral; Mrs. M. W. Hamrick, of Asheville; Mrs. J. L. Stroup; Mrs. J. W. Spangler; and Mr. Everett Putnam, all of Shelby, also a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren. Mr. Putnam was the last member of his family. The large number of relatives and friends attending the funeral and the beautiful floral offering showed the high esteem in which he was held.

The pall bearers were Messrs. A. C. Miller, John R. Dover, R. H. Wilson, C. A. Morrison, G. V. Hawkins, Monroe Barnett, Pick Smith and Ralph Turner.

Those out-of-town attending the funeral were Mrs. G. Putnam and Mrs. Earl Howard of Charlotte, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Stroup of Lincolnton, Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Hamrick of Asheville; Mr. and Mrs. Hoyle Elliott of Forest City, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Melton and Mrs. Cato of Bostic, Mrs. I. W. Threat of Lattimore, Mr. Jack McIntyre of Asheville, and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Spangler of Double Shoals, Mrs. J. D. Barnett, granddaughter of Mr. Putnam, who is in New Orleans, La., with her husband, was unable to get here.

## Rippy Funeral At New Hope Church

The funeral services of Mr. Henry Rippy were held Wednesday afternoon at New Hope church, Easleys, conducted by Rev. G. P. Abernethy.

Mr. Rippy, who was 51 years of age, had been in bad health for a considerable length of time, suffering from the after effects of fever, it is said.

He is survived by seven children, three of whom lived with him, and four of whom are married and living near. He was married many years ago to Miss Maggie Nichols. She died three years ago.

## George Webb Will Not Run For Court Clerk Next Term

Superior Court Clerk for Eight Years Announces That He Will Not Ask Re-election.

Mr. George P. Webb, popular and efficient clerk of Cleveland county Superior court for eight years, announced through The Star today that he has decided not to offer for re-election in the June primary.

The announcement comes practically as a surprise to the hundreds of his friends over the county, who heretofore had heard nothing that indicated that Mr. Webb would step out of the public office where during eight years he has endeared himself to many coming in contact with him through business in the clerk's office. During the eight years he has had no opposition.

Declines Change  
Mr. Webb did not expect any opposition and declares he has reached the decision merely through desire for a change.

"I think it would be best for me to get out some after being confined to one place for so long, and after serious deliberation I have decided to do so," he continued. "I have heard of no probable opposition and do not anticipate any."

"In a way it will be quite a task to break the ties and routine of remaining in the office for eight years. During that time I have met hundreds of people and made many friends, and their friendship alone repay me for the time I have spent in office. However, I think it is best for me to make a change. In making the decision," Mr. Webb concluded, "I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the help and cooperation given me during eight years by the people and officials of the county and the members of the Shelby bar and others having business or relations with the Superior court of the clerk's office."

It is with regret I break the ties of the long association."

Mr. Webb is not in position as yet to announce future plans or connections and will take time, as he puts it, to look around a bit before making up his mind. The primary will be in June and it is supposed that there will be much speculation in coming weeks as to possible candidates to succeed the man who for so long has been a fixture in the position.

Other Rumors Heard  
With the nearing of primary day many rumors are to be heard of probable candidates, but so far as is known definite announcements have not been made either by those in office or out of office.

The rumors connect at least four well-known citizens of the county with being likely candidates for register of deeds, an office now held by R. Lee Weathers. They are: Rev. Wilburn Wall, of Shelby; Squire M. P. Harrison, of Waco; Marvyn Bianton of South Shelby; Andy Newton, of Kings Mountain, but a native of upper Cleveland. It is understood that cards are already being circulated calling the attention of voters to Mr. Newton.

General rumors also has it that Ed. Dixon, of Belwood and now a deputy sheriff, may make the race for high sheriff, and Peyton McSwain, young attorney and soldier, is rumored as on a possible slate for the state senate. P. C. Gardner is also connected with a rumor placing him in the race for solicitor of the county recorder's court.

All of which may be rumor, and may not be.

## Dr. Rankin Urges Health Department For Cleveland

Cleveland county's death rate is below the average of the state and the nation, according to Dr. W. S. Rankin, director of the hospital and orphanage department of the J. B. Duke endowment fund, when he spoke Thursday night before the Kiwanis club in the interest of a County health department. There are ten and seven-tenths deaths per thousand, per year in Cleveland, while the state average is 12.02 in the state and 12.06 per cent in the nation, but with favorable natural conditions and a predominating white population, Dr. Rankin says the death rate can be materially reduced by means of a health department. Cleveland county is out of the malaria zone and no hookworm cases have been reported which reduce the fatality rate. There are only 6,000 colored people in the county which is responsible for the low tuberculosis death rate. Negroes run a death rate of 11 per thousand; so the state is growing whiter and whiter. The states birth rate is 31.09; the birth rate in Cleveland is 35.01; so Cleveland county is below the state average in deaths and above the state average in births. North Carolina holds the record in the nation for births, losing it one year to Utah.

Urges Health Department.  
The purpose of Dr. Rankin's coming was an invitation of those interested in a health department for the county. Dr. Rankin was for the county. Dr. Rankin was for a number of years head of the state department of health and has been a great silent force in improving the state's health. He declared that a county health department composed of a physician and a nurse would cost the county only \$7,500 a year but would save the county many precious lives and its citizens with much worry and anxiety. Referring to the first influenza epidemic, Dr. Rankin declared that 100 lives could have been saved in the county by a systematic organization of forces to stem the tide of an epidemic. He outlined the duties of a health department, showing how it works toward the control of disease, the education of mothers in the care of their new-borns, the vaccination of children, the education of the public on communicable diseases, etc. He pointed out how a health department can gather and study all the cases in an epidemic and the factors contributing thereto, then set about to eliminate the causes. There were 1292 births in Cleveland county last year and 101 new borns died before they reached the age of one year.

Thou Shalt Not Kill  
Dr. Rankin pointed out the value of a life in dollars and cents and declared that the county cannot afford to neglect the salvation of lives. The cost of a health department is infinitesimal compared with the returns. In concluding he quoted the commandment "Thou Shalt Not Kill" declaration that it not only forbids willful killing, but forbids that any community shall allow its citizens to die through neglect and ignorance.

Dr. Rankin's speech was well received. A number of ladies were present, while representatives from the Medical society, county commission board, school board, city board and others were also in the large audience that heard him. One of the distinguished visitors was Mr. A. S. Averett, representative of the L. B. Hamner Realty corporation of Tampa Fla., who takes a party of Cleveland county people to Florida tomorrow. Mr. Hamner is one of the directors of the great Seaboard Air Line railway system.

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## 'Chosen Queen'



Miss Katherine Williams, 19, recently was chosen queen of the New Orleans 1926 Mardi Gras carnival.

## BUY FIVE STORE ROOMS AT \$25,000

Another big realty deal since the last issue of The Star. This time R. T. LeGrand and Chas. L. Eskridge buy five brick store rooms from John Beam on N. Washington street, the block of store rooms known as the "Automotive Building" because it is a sort of headquarters for the sale of cars and accessories, auto painting and battery storage, etc. A grocery store, a sausage factory, an ice cream storage and other things occupy the same. It is understood that the consideration was \$25,000. These buildings were erected a year or two ago by John A. Beam and are within a block of the court square. LeGrand and Eskridge it is understood, bought them for an investment because all are income property with good prospects of a higher value. Deal was made through W. C. Harris realtor.

## School Elections Over Cleveland

Two of the three special tax elections held by school districts of the county this week passed, while the third failed to go over. All three elections were held with the view of consolidating with other school along the county-wide plan.

In the Cabanis district the special tax election carried by 20 votes, asking for a special tax of 50 cents in view of consolidation with Lattimore. In view of the election carrying the county board will be asked to handle the consolidation.

Although the official vote had not been turned in Friday, it is understood, that the special tax election in the Ellis district carried. This election asked for a special tax of 30 cents with the idea of consolidating with Patterson Springs.

In the Padgett district the special tax election failed to carry by 14 votes. Should it have carried the Padgett district would have been consolidated with the Mooresboro and Lattimore schools. Since the burning of the Padgett building last year trucks have been transporting the school children of the district to the Mooresboro and Lattimore schools. Since the consolidation election was voted down it is probable that after this year the trucks engaged in this transportation will be taken off and facilities provided for school in their own district.

## Autoists Thrilled As Modern Traffic Regulations Start

Shelby got the thrill of its middle-aged life here Friday just before noon when the new traffic regulations went into effect. The bells tinkled on the signal posts, the green and red signs began to flash, and square-bordered stores emptied themselves of the crowd to see Shelby put on its first big time staff.

Motorists, green in the new style driving, pulled bone after bone, and got the horse laugh from the audience. One local De Palma in a hurry, made a left hand turn at the Cleveland Bank and Trust company's corner, and Jim Hester, on guard there, unable to stop him, took out after him on the run. The car beat the policeman out, and the crowd shouted.

The new system will get a thorough test, it is said, tomorrow, Saturday, afternoon, when the throng comes to town. Meantime the city authorities have temporarily abandoned the idea of having cars parked in the center of LaFayette street.

## City Fathers Consider Big Plans For Coming Visitors

A municipal improvement program of large proportions is being given due and careful consideration by the mayor and board of aldermen which if acted upon favorably will include a bond issue at once for \$100,000 more street paving bonds, the beautification of the court square, the purchase of a street cleaning machine and the immediate construction of the water plant, together with water and sewer extensions and electric lines, all with a view to having in Shelby this spring and summer the largest crowd of visitors and investors that has ever come. A called meeting of the board of aldermen was held Wednesday night at which time O. Max Gardner, recently returned from Florida, declared that in his candid opinion Shelby will be over-run with visitors and that in order to attract and hold them as home owners, a program of preparation should be put on at once.

Mr. Gardner says that the thousands that are coming from Florida to Western North Carolina cannot be accommodated in the mountain towns which are already over-run and that these hordes will come to Shelby where a more even temperature prevails and where the wise investor will find prosperous industries which sustain Shelby's growth and progress. In planning a welcome to these visitors Mr. Gardner suggested that the court square be beautified and made more inviting. It is the most attractive spot in Western Carolina towns and can be so improved as to make a lasting impression on the minds of the visitors. To this end he suggested that the town and county officials have all the trees pruned and treated, that the bald spot on the lawn be resown, that the broken walks be repaired and that comfortable bench be placed about for the use of the visitors.

Going a step further Mr. Gardner commended the administration for its contemplated expenditure of \$100,000 in street and sidewalk improvements. For some time the officials have been receiving petitions for street work, hoping to get all together and find out just what amount is necessary to do the next program. Action has been withheld until now on the advice of the city attorney who suggested last fall that no more bonds be issued until about the first of March. By that time the city will have to retire some of its bonds and improved its credit so that an additional bond issue will sell to a better advantage. Mr. Gardner assured the officials that the tax payers are back of them in this contemplated program and that he would support them before the people if any criticism is made. With a resolution from the Kiwanis club endorsing a progressive

program, the officials will probably authorize a bond issue for street improvement to the amount of \$100,000 at their next Tuesday night meeting, this money to be spent on S. LaFayette street through South Shelby to the new corporate limits, the widening of Highway No. 29 to Belvedere Heights, street improvement on West Graham street, the paving of the two alleys on both sides of the First Baptist church connecting N. Washington and LaFayette streets to Eastside mill, the grading of Sumner street from where it corners with N. Morgan out to the Cemetery road. School officials have already been notified to move the grand stand on the athletic field to make way for this work and Southern officials have been notified to widen the bridge to conform to the wider street. Other pavements are under consideration and petitions from citizens will receive due consideration.

May Buy Sweeper.  
In order to keep the streets clean, it was suggested that the city buy a suction sweeper or street washing machine so that the hard surface streets can be cleaned every day. Already the street department has been doubled over two years ago but machinery is necessary to cover the entire town.

Rush Water Station.  
The administration is now rushing the engineer for plans for the pump station. This matter has been held in abeyance longer than contemplated because there was a hitch over the location of the plant. The officials had hoped to secure a location close to town in order to make a park in connection with the large reservoir, but no land was available at what was considered a fair price. In all probability the station will be located above the mouth of Hendricks branch. This will permit the development of real estate north of Shelby on the watershed of this creek. Had the water intake been below the mouth of this creek, there would be no way to give sewer connections to the residents in the Hopper's park section. The officials, therefore consider that while the delay is to be regretted, they feel that it has been profitable in that Shelby will have more room to expand in a northern direction.

A. E. Cline, chairman of the board of county commissioners, has agreed that new and wider walks will be laid in the court square and that new benches will be purchased and the trees pruned and "doctored" as soon as possible. New Grass will be sown in the bald spots and the ladies will be asked to plant flowers in the flower borders, all with a view to making the court square the prettiest place in Shelby by early spring.

## SHELBY PLANT TURNS OUT 7,000 TONS OF FERTILIZER IN WORKING SEASON

City Has No Conception Of Immense Business Handled By Southern Cotton Oil.

## W. A. Gladden With Plumbing Firm Here

The Southern Cotton Oil company's mill in Shelby has been in operation for the current season since October first, and will run another month before the spring shut-down, and according to Mr. J. Frank Jenkins, the manager, during that period will have crushed 7,000 tons of cotton seed and manufactured it into its constituent products.

## Auction Sales to Start off Spring

With the coming of spring days, the auction is with us again. The first of the season is announced by the J. B. Nolan Company to be held on the fourth of March, when two separate sales will be held.

One of these will be the disposition of the old Catharine mill property, on South Washington street. This will be sold in the morning of the sale day. In the afternoon the auctioneers guns will be trained on R. C. Bridger tract on South LaFayette street. With the real estate business of Shelby already on its toes in anticipation of a big on-coming season, it is expected this first season auction will prove a big drawing card.

Folks can't be expected to live up to their ideals if they have none. What this country needs more than anything is a disposition to give and take.

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In the course of a season, also, Mr. Jenkins, said, the plant turns out seven thousand tons of fertilizer. Those figures, it is said, will probably serve as an eye-opener to the people of this community, who have, it is believed, very little conception of the magnitude of the operation of the Shelby branch of this gigantic concern.

The plant in this city has a storage capacity in one warehouse of 2000 tons of seed. In addition to the three thousand tons of meal annually produced from the 7000 tons of seed, another by-product of the local mill is some 1,200 bales of lintels.

Once upon a time, Mr. Jenkins declared, and it has not been a great many years ago, cotton seed was considered to be a waste product, and was thrown away or burned. "I remember well," the manager said, "when cotton seed hulls were burned as utterly useless. There came a time when some cows belonging to a farmer living near a mill with which I was identified, came over to the hull pile and began eating them. We told the farmer to come and get all of the stuff he wanted free of charge.

"When we discovered they were of some value, the sale began at a dollar a ton. Now cotton seed hulls are considered of immense value as stock feed."

Asked as to the proportion of the yield of a ton of cotton seed into constituent products, Mr. Jenkins gave the following figures: "A ton of seed will yield nine hundred pounds of

## GET PART OF STOLEN MEAT AT SALISBURY

Sixteen Pieces of Stolen Cleveland County Meat Identified There. Man Arrested.

Some of the meat stolen in the big meat raid in the Mooresboro section one night last week has been recovered.

Wednesday Sheriff Logan, Officer Kendrick, Monroe Green, Sam Green, Yates McBrayer and Mr. Nolan visited Salisbury where it was reported two men were selling country hog meat.

Arriving in Salisbury the Cleveland county party with Officer Vic Fosperman, of Mecklenburg county, soon identified 16 pieces of the meat as being a part of the 17 hams, 10 shoulders and five middlings stolen in this county.

Howard Lawing, young white man, selling the meat was arrested and brought to Charlotte and was brought on here Thursday by Officer Kendrick and placed in jail. It is understood that he will be given a preliminary hearing after officers complete another round-up. The man, it is said, was peddling his meat from a Ford coupe.

The man arrested, who has been seen around Cleveland county recently and has also lived in Mecklenburg, just completed a term in the penitentiary in September, officers here say.

Questioned about where he got the meat officers say Lawing contended that he got it in the woods near Gastonia. Just how this may connect up others is not known, there being some doubts as to the statement.

Other than saying that he got the meat in the woods near Lawing refused to talk to any extent.

## Shelby Military Quarters in Lead

The new armory of Company K, local unit of the state guard, in the basement of the new Royster building on South LaFayette street is considered the best militia barracks in the state.

Final arrangements for moving into the new armory were completed this week and drills are now being held there.

The new barracks in addition to a roomy drill room and storage quarters have a finely-equipped recreation, reading and club room, and another room with shower baths and other necessary equipment. Officers of the guard believe they have one of the best barracks in the section and that the recreational and club room advantages will add much to the interest in the military work here.

The annual inspection of the local company will be held March 3. By last years report from inspection the local company was placed among the best-drilled outfits in the state and Capt. Peyton McSwain and Lieutenant Austell are expecting an even better report following the inspection next month.

Weekly drills are not held on Monday nights and citizens who would like to inspect the new quarters are invited down on drill nights.

## Local Party to Tour Part of Florida

A party of 15 Shelby and Cleveland county citizens will leave Shelby Saturday afternoon on a four-day tour into Florida, the journey covering an inspection of the Tamna section.

The party here will be headed by Mr. A. S. Averett, representative of the L. B. Hanna Realty corporation and general inspection at Tampa will be of the country club area owned by the Hanna corporation. Mr. Hanna, by the way, is a director of the Seaboard railway operating through Shelby.

The party will return to Shelby from the tour about Wednesday of next week.

## Another Realty Firm Opens Here

Announcement was made today of the opening of another realty firm in Shelby.

The new firm is known as the Hoey Real Estate company and is composed of Messrs. Frank and Wade W. Hoey. The new company is already doing business and seems to be in the general realty rush now going on in Shelby.

## Building Balcony In Penny Store

The J. C. Penny Company is erecting an addition to the balcony in the rear of the store, in the Masonic building. The balcony was originally placed was occupied by Mr. E. E. Stead as his office headquarters. The extended area will be used an alteration department, which is being installed.

(Continued on page five.)