

Who won the prizes for the three best essays on fire prevention? Shelby high school girls. You get their names and the essays in today's Star.

Now Jefferson school enters the columns of The Star with a batch of school news. Jefferson is one of the new Shelby public school buildings, located near Eastside.

Imagine a telephone exchange as large as the one Shelby has without a manager. The local exchange is to have one after this week—thanks to Major R. B. Babington.

Nearly 3,000 people died in North Carolina last year without the services of a physician. Today's issue tells you of the cause of death of most of these people. Read it. You may find out what will cause your death.

The convicts of No. 6 township will help clean up and beautify Sunset cemetery on Tuesday. In return for this good deed, the ladies of the Civic department of the Woman's club will serve them with a picnic dinner. Imagine a picnic dinner at cemetery, but its commendable in this case.

Mrs. Kate Burr Johnson, state commissioner of Public Welfare tells how the Mothers' aid fund works in North Carolina. Read it. You might know of some deserving case that should be approved for this fund. Each county goes fifty-fifty with the State.

Football today. Shelby plays Charlotte in the championship series of high school contests in Western Carolina. Many of our fans will motor down to Charlotte Saturday to see Wake Forest and Davidson clash in a game that has a heavy bearing on the state collegiate football championship.

And Dr. Hugh K. Boyer, pastor of the Central Methodist church, of Shelby, has been chosen to head the Historical Society of the Western North Carolina conference. It is told about in today's Star.

What is the price of cotton and cotton seed. An important item in every day's issue of The Star is quotation on these two important commodities and a last minute telegraphic dispatch on cotton, hot from the New York exchange. Don't fail to read "Cotton Market" in every issue.

CHAMPION OUT OF SHOOTING CHARGE

Mooreboro Man Who Shot Wibson At Speedway Is Free; Hoey His Attorney

Miracles happen now and then. Here's one that happened recently. C. O. Champion, of Mooreboro, who shot and wounded a man named Gibson in Charlotte during the speedway races last summer, is out of jail—free and untrammelled—as long as he behaves himself.

He was released about three weeks ago. In the language of the court "Prayer for judgment was continued"—which means that as long as the young man walks the straight and narrow he will have his freedom.

But it was a narrow squeeze, and he, it is said, may count himself among the lucky ones of this earth.

Clyde R. Hoey was his attorney. Mr. Hoey has won not a few legal victories in his time—but this one pins the rose on him. He got his man out of a more or desperate fracas, so to speak, without a scratch.

Young Champion was arraigned on three counts—one for being drunk, one for carrying a pistol, and one for assault with intent to kill. The evidence was, he walked up to Gibson, who was parked by a hot dog stand near the speedway, drew his pistol and said: "I'm going to shoot a hole through you."

And apparently did his best to make good his boast.

He took a pot shot at Gibson, who he had never seen before, and winged him, and the man spent several weeks in a Charlotte hospital, hovering part of the time between life and death.

And now Champion is out—after paying a fine—and making a settlement with Gibson—with the "Prayer for Judgment suspended."

BOOK BY RUTHERFORDTON LAWYER OFF PRESS SOON

Rutherfordton, Oct. 21.—Attorney D. F. Morrow is publishing a book, "Then and Now." It will come from the press soon. It deals with the decade 1856-1865, and tells of the end of slavery and the opening of emancipation and reconstruction. It will contain around 20 illustrations. The scenes are laid in and around Forest City.

Prize Essays On Fire Prevention--Penned By High School Seniors

Miss Margaret Blanton First, Miss Alice James Second, Miss Mary Switzer Third

Miss Margaret Blanton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ceph Blanton wrote the essay that won first prize on fire prevention, the Kiwanis club and chamber of commerce giving three prizes to high school students who would write the three best essays on this important subject. Fire prevention week was observed in Shelby a few weeks ago on the proclamation of the President and the Governor and many essays were submitted by high school students. Miss Alice James, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. James won second prize and Miss Mary Switzer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Switzer, won third. The Star takes pleasure in reproducing the three prize winning essays:

The Demon Fire

Fire is indeed a demon. Fires are usually caused by the careless habits of the public. A fire is occurring in the United States every time the second hand of the clock marks a minute. Think of it! Do you not think that fire is a demon? Surely it is.

Fire hazards surround us all the time. We read of some terrible fire almost every day. Property and lives are destroyed. The only way we can avoid this is by taking great care.

Fire is very treacherous. It is all right when handled by a careful person, but when it is placed at the disposal of a careless person it becomes a certain danger signal. Irons, curlers and many other electrical things cause fires. There are helpful and good servants when properly handled but dangerous otherwise.

When people get to be more careful about fires the insurance rate will surely fall. As soon as they remove the conditions that cause fires they will have a lower rate of insurance. Did you know that fire losses represented a fire tax? They do! and your share is approximately four dollars. This tax falls on every man, woman and child in the United States. Cut down fires and you have cut down this tax.

An insurance company is simply a collecting and distributing agency. It collects from the many for distribution among the few. Reduction in the amount of property destroyed will cause a deduction in fire insurance premiums.

Student and Fire Prevention

There are when all the city schools are taken together some hundreds of children going to school in the city of Shelby. Enough to do a great deal of harm but likewise enough to do even more good. It is their task as future owners of this city and nation to care for it and develop it. When people are entrusted with as large a responsibility they are accountable for it. They must see that no harm comes to it and one of the most harmful of all destructors is fire.

The old saying that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, applies in this incident as it does to nothing else. What is burned is burned and also what is burned is gone beyond recall. True, homes and structures are rebuilt, but who can rebuild God's handiwork, a human life.

The spirit of the age is prevention rather than cure. The problem now is not how fires may be put out or checked but how they may be prevented. The world of today and tomorrow is being taught how to deal with gases, kerosene, matches and above all else carelessness. Dirt and rubbish in the form of boxes and old papers and anything that is likely to take fire must be done away with before much else can be accomplished.

Who is better fitted to do all these things than the student body of today? You cannot teach an old dog new tricks and so we find the responsibility falling on the younger shoulders who are being taught how the city may be kept free from this fury and destructive plague. Lighted cigarettes must be kept up from places likely to be inflammable. Matches must be kept from babies and places where rats or mice might be. The electric iron should be turned off after using, for it is one of fire's most helpful allies. And lastly fires themselves must be watched and tended.

(Continued on page four.)

Mrs. Starr Denies Chas. Ross Claims

Charlie Ross Now In Florida--Learns That Woman Who Believed Him, Turns.

Mr. J. F. Gaffney on Thursday received a letter from "Charlie Ross." It was the first time the wanderer had written to his old friend in Shelby in many months.

The letter was written from Zephyrhills, Florida, where Ross is sojourning at the present time. The man who created such a stir in newspaper circles last spring, writes Mr. Gaffney that he is still gathering information to prove that he is the lost lad of the 70s.

He devotes a portion of his letter to a discussion of Mrs. Starr (Charlie Ross's cousin) who Ross asserts has gone over and joined with the Ross family in denying his claim.

It will be recalled that it was Mrs. Starr that took up Ross's case, took him to her home in New York, and championed his cause with the Ross's, even to the extent of a partial break with the family. Apparently now she is convinced the Denver man is setting forth a claim that he can not substantiate. But he writes hopefully stating he is more confident than ever he is the kidnapped boy.

COUNTY TEACHERS TO MEET OCT. 30TH

The first general meeting of the teachers of Cleveland county will be held at the courthouse in Shelby, Saturday October 30, at 10 o'clock. All teachers in the county system are expected to attend. Several matters pertaining to the organization of work for the coming year will be dispatched. Other things relating to the progress of the teachers and the welfare of the schools of the county will also be discussed during the course of the meeting. Plans for the testing program in the various schools of the county will be completed.

Jefferson School News Of Interest

(Special to The Star)

The sixth grade gave an interesting play Monday morning in Chapel. The boys dramatized "The Procrustean Bed." The girls sang "The House by the Side of the Road." We had with us Rev. H. E. Waldrop, pastor of Eastside Baptist church. He gave an interesting talk that all enjoyed. We appreciate the cooperation we are getting from the pastors of the different churches. Mrs. G. P. Hamrick is teacher of the sixth grade.

Mrs. New reports a perfect attendance in the fifth grade for this week.

Mrs. Morgan, teacher of the third grade reports no tardies for this week.

Gardner Arouses Yancey Democrats

Burnsville.—Hon. O. Max Gardner was here Monday and made a rousing Democratic speech to a large crowd in the Yancey county courthouse. The courthouse was filled to overflowing and the crowd cheered lustily as Mr. Gardner expounded the principles of his party.

"Our Next Governor" confined himself largely to State issues, and it was a word picture of wonderful progress of the Democratic party that Mr. Gardner painted. He contrasted conditions in the state 27 years ago under the leadership of the Republican party with the present-day conditions, and from the way the crowd cheered one would judge that he established his face for Democracy. One Republican, after the address, was overheard to remark, "I've been a Republican all my life, but I'm d— if I ever vote another Republican ticket."

CONSCIENCE PRICKS AND HE PAYS DEBT MADE 42 YEARS AGO

Charlie Webb Gets \$3 to Pay Account Which Man Had Charged To Him For Work.

If our old friend Diogenes with his lantern will call in at Charlotte on his rounds he will find an honest man. He will find one who is apparently the honestest man in North Carolina.

His honesty was discovered in this way. Thursday morning Mr. Charles Webb got a letter, with a Charlotte postmark, enclosed money in payment of a bill contracted in 1884, here in Shelby. It seems the honest man had a horse shed 'way back in those days, and had the job charged to Mr. Webb. He neglected to pay the bill.

Time passed, and so did the blacksmith, and so did the transaction fade from Mr. Webb's mind. The original bill, according to the letter which we are quoting herewith, was seventy-five cents, which apparently was the price of horse-shoeing those easy-going days. But the writer enclosed three dollars to cover interests—three one dollar bills.

Following is the remarkable letter, which was addressed to Mr. Webb, in care of Mrs. Agnes Oates Webb (revealing the writer remembered the family well) written from Charlotte, but unsigned. Apparently the writer wished merely to square himself with his own conscience:

October 20, 1926.

My Dear Sir:— I had the shoeing of a horse charged to you about 43 years ago, and I have no recollection of ever having paid it. I don't remember what the charges was—about 75 cents I expect. Am enclosing three dollars which I think will pay the debt, and interest to date. Please accept it if you paid the bill. If not give it to the blacksmith's family. I think it was in the fall of 1883 or '84. The shop was not far from your place of business at that time.

I have not thought of the transaction in years, but it came to me the other day and I want to make full restitution. The letter stopped here abruptly. Mr. Webb said he had forgot the transaction, but that the writer was the honestest man he had ever heard of.

BANK MERGER IS NOW IN FORCE

People's Loan and Trust Co. at Kings Mountain Is Now a Part of The Chain.

The Herald.

The People's Loan and Trust company of Kings Mountain passed into history Wednesday and the Commercial Bank and Trust company simultaneously came into existence in its stead. The recent bank merger consolidating this bank with one in Cherryville and Gastonia and the Mount Holly bank of Mount Holly. Headquarters of the new concern is at Gastonia with W. T. Love president and a capital stock of four hundred thousand dollars and a surplus of one hundred thousand.

Mr. M. E. Herndon, former cashier of the Peoples Loan and Trust company is vice president of the Commercial Bank and Trust company and C. E. Carpenter, former teller in the bank here has been elevated to a cashier of this branch. The People's Loan and Trust company has been of much service to this community for about 20 years. During its history it has had the following presidents, J. B. Thomason, C. J. Rhodes and J. O. Plonk. By consolidating and increasing the capital stock it is believed that each of the banks can better serve their respective communities.

Mrs. Farris Dies At Battleground

Mrs. Willford Farris, age 36 years, died recently near the Kings Mountain battle ground leaving a husband and three children. One child passed away quite small. She also leaves a father and mother and five brothers and one sister and a host of friends. She was a member of the A. R. P. church and was a devoted Christian, wife and mother. Mrs. Farris always had a smile for everybody and her presence will be greatly missed by her relatives and friends. She was buried in the Bethany A. R. P. cemetery in the presence of a large crowd and under a mound covered with beautiful flowers.

Opera Singer Outdraws Athlete



Marion Talley (left) and Gertrude Ederle were rival attractions on the same night recently in Des Moines, Ia. The 19-year-old prima donna drew 5300 auditors, while Miss Ederle, channel swimmer, showed her strokes to a crowd of about 700.

Youth And Modern Styles Exonerated By Churchmen

Bishop at Methodist Conference Says Bobbed Hair and Costumes Unjustly Condemned.

Gastonia, Oct. 21.—Two stalwart leaders of Southern Methodism rose in defense of the maligned youth of the generation before an assembly of ministers gathered today for the Epworth League anniversary program of the western North Carolina conference, in session here.

Leading the defense was Rev. J. M. Rowland of Richmond, editor of the Christian Advocate and orator of note, who called upon the clergy to abandon condemnation of the flaming youth, discard the lethargy of another day and strive to keep pace with the rising tide of the present day and the modern generation.

Bishop H. M. DuBose, Winston-Salem dignitary, in an exhortation that followed, heralded bobbed hair and short skirts as "an evangel of moral sensibility."

Have Eight Millions That Can't Be Spent

New York.—New York police are worried because they have accumulated approximately \$8,000,000 which cannot be spent or given away.

The members of the "finest" doing the most worrying, is Thomas A. Hogan, property clerk. Cash, jewelry, liquor, securities and miscellaneous articles with an estimated value of \$8,000,000 are in his care for safekeeping. The collection has grown so large that providing storage space for it and accounting for it takes up all Hogan's time.

The chief item in Hogan's care is a collection of liquors valued at \$5,000,000. This was seized in raids.

CHEROKEE FARMERS TO TRY TABBACO RAISING

Gaffney Ledger. Fifteen representative Cherokee county land-owners were definitely committed to planting from one to five acres each in tobacco next year at a meeting held here Tuesday. Several others promised to take the matter under consideration for later decision. Colonel D. C. Ross, president of the American State bank, who took the lead in the movement for diversification of Cherokee county farming, said he had assurance from a number of other planters that they will participate in the experiment. He predicted that when planting time comes next spring some 25 or more farmers will have portions of their fields devoted to tobacco.

SHOT BIGGEST ELEPHANT NOW GUNS FOR BIGGER

New York, Oct. 21.—Mrs. E. L. King, of Winona, Minn., who is petite and thinks she has shot the biggest elephant ever brought down by a woman or a man either, is on her way to Africa with her husband and son for more big game. Two years ago she shot an elephant 11 feet six inches high and 27 or more feet from end to end.

Hollis School To Be Dedicated 6th; Clyde Hoey Speaker

Rutherford Sun.

Hollis.—On Saturday, November 6, the fine new school house which has just been finished, is to be dedicated. A splendid program has been arranged and it is certain that everyone in this community and many hundreds of others from Rutherford and Cleveland counties will be present. When Mr. J. P. D. Withrow plans to do anything it is sure to be a success and he stated today that he thought the dedication would be successful. This means it will be an event which will be remembered for many years.

At 10 o'clock Mr. J. P. D. Withrow will make the address of welcome and then County Superintendent of Education Clyde A. Erwin is to present the building and Mr. Grady Withrow is to accept the school house which cost thirty thousand dollars. At eleven o'clock Hon. Clyde R. Hoey will deliver an address which will be the speech of the day. Noontime will be dinner time and afterward there will be two meetings, one of them for men and the other for the women. Special programs will be arranged for these meetings.

MRS. LORA JOHNSON DIES AT LATTIMORE

Had Stroke of Paralysis Monday While Eating Dinner. Five Children Survive.

While eating dinner after a hard morning's work, Mrs. Lora Johnson of near Lattimore was stricken with paralysis Monday and died Wednesday morning at 3 o'clock. Mrs. Johnson was 56 years of age and a very industrious woman who had enjoyed very good health until Monday when she received a sudden stroke of paralysis. She was the daughter of Mrs. Jane Bridges and her aged mother survives, together with her husband J. A. Johnson and five children, John Blanton and Durham Johnson, Miss Esquella, Mattie Lou and Bernice Johnson. Mrs. Johnson was twice married, her first husband being Jesse Blanton. Some time after his death she was married to J. A. Johnson, one of the most respected citizens of Lattimore. Five grand children also survive, together with three brothers Sam Bridges of Danville, Ga., Cicero and C. A. Bridges of near Lattimore.

Mrs. Johnson was a good woman and loved by all who knew her. She was a member of the Baptist church at Lattimore where her funeral took place Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock, the services being conducted by Revs. I. D. Harrell, D. G. Washburn and Rush Padgett. Her nephews served as pall bearers. There was a large crowd present and a beautiful floral offering.

DR. WALL'S SUBJECT FOR SUNDAY SERVICES

Dr. Zeno Wall's subject for services at the First Baptist church on Sunday are as follows: Sunday morning "Obeying God's Voice." Sunday night "Hiding Heavenly Things." After the evening sermon there will be a baptismal service.

Curves Are Coming Back

Kansas City Star. The following is not our idea of the way to greet an old friend: "My Josephine, you're looking fine. About three pounds more and you will be ready to swim the channel."

Mrs. Johnson, State Office Talks Of Mothers Aid Work

RECORD CROWDS AT COLORED FAIR HERE

School Attendance is Best in the State, Only 131 Farm Owners. Fair Exceptionally Good.

Attendance at the Cleveland County Colored fair this year is far in excess of that of last year, according to the secretary, Rev. A. W. Foster, who reported this morning that 3,000 entered the gates on the opening day Wednesday and 5,000 Thursday. He expects larger attendance today and tomorrow. Today (Friday) is educational day, and all of the colored school children of the county will be admitted free. Saturday is everybody's day when the fair will close in a blaze of glory—four of the biggest days the colored people have had in fair annals. If the record keeps up, the Cleveland county Negro fair will stand out as the largest in North Carolina. Prof. L. E. Hall, district farm demonstrator for his race in North Carolina was the principal speaker on the opening day and he devoted his time to a discussion of the advancement of the colored people along agricultural lines. In Cleveland county he finds there are only 131 farm owners, while there are 633 tenants. This he declared to be out of proportion, hence he encouraged the colored people to strive toward farm ownership. In school attendance, the county has a record which he commended. Out of the 3,300 colored school children in the county, 3,000 are in school.

Ozella Foster, home demonstration agent for colored people and one of the judges of exhibits commended the quality of the entries which nearly fill the large exhibit hall. The live stock display is large and varied, while considerable interest was shown in the entry of art work, canned goods, vegetables and field products.

Each night at 9 o'clock there is a beautiful display of fire works. Each afternoon the horse races draw large crowds of whites as well as colored, horses being entered from North Carolina, West Virginia and South Carolina.

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Convicts To Work Out Cemete

Civics Department of Women Club Will Serve Them Picnic Dinner Tuesday.

"The City of the Dead" means Sunset cemetery which is in very unkempt condition at present will be improved and beautified Tuesday when the convict force No. 6 township will spend a day improving the roads and streets cutting the grass. The Civics department of the Woman's club secured the permission of the 6 highway commissioners to let convict force spend a day working on the grounds and in appreciation of their services the ladies of civics department will serve changing members with a picnic dinner. All ladies of the Civics department who will agree to furnish food for this picnic are to notify Mrs. H. O. Ham chairman, not later than Monday.

State Is Now Caring for Dependent Mothers with Children. Counties Must Pay Half.

Mrs. Kate Burr Johnson, commissioner of public welfare was the principal speaker Thursday night at the Kiwanis Club when she informed the members about the mother's aid work and asked their influence for a large appropriation from the next General Assembly to carry on the most important work. In 1923 the Mother's Aid fund was inaugurated with a small appropriation to help worthy mothers who have small children to support and care for, but who have been deprived of the wage earner of the family because of sickness or death. It is conceded that mothers who are normally capable of rearing children can do the job much better than orphanages, so the state last year increased its appropriation for the aid to \$30,000. For any county to get the benefit of this fund for the state, it must appropriate like amount, the mothers receiving not less than \$15 a month for the two funds nor more than \$5 per month. Mrs. Johnson declared it to be a crime to take dependent children from mothers who are normally able to care for and support them to a position in life where they can be self-supporting, the state steps in and lends a hand—feeble though it might be.

Only a Few in Cleveland

Mrs. Johnson did not know many mothers in Cleveland county are receiving county and state aid, but the number is small, three or four. The county's quota is Raleigh for deserving cases, as approved. The state welfare department has cared for 400 mothers' aid cases—these mothers presenting 1,200 children who are and are supported in this manner more cheaply than they could be supported by orphanages. Tided over an emergency until they become self-supporting.

Mrs. Johnson cited a number of cases where the state has helped in a very substantial way, in case in particular being that of a widow of a murderer who was electrocuted at Raleigh. The mother of the several children above the average in intelligence. She maintained that her husband was innocent, but failed to get reprimed from the Governor for having taken the life of the murderer, the children should have for food, clothing and shelter. The mother's aid fund was applied and in a few years a leech had been removed and the mother had been greatly encouraged, uplifted by the state's attitude and she was endeavoring to bring up her family of children to good citizens—law-abiding, honorable and respectful of the state.

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