

An explanatory article of the state educational commission is published in today's paper.

Where are the wedding bells ringing for Cleveland county couples? A local jewelry firm sold 76 wedding rings in December yet the marriage license bureau here sold only about one-third that many "hitching" papers.

County officers are running to earth storebreakers who have been entering Cleveland county stores, says a news item.

The Hoey oratorical contest will be held this month and will be followed by the Selma Webb recitation and essay contests for Cleveland county high school students.

Chickens come high at times—that is, when Recorder John Mull sets the price, 90 days for one and about \$30 for the other. Details in a news story in The Star.

A list of patients at the Shelby hospital is published in this issue.

If local officers keep active the No. 6 chain gang may have to be increased. Ten of the 12 colored fellows charged with stealing coal will have to raise some money or go to making "little 'uns out of big 'uns."

Cleveland county representatives at the present legislature will do their utmost to protect the interests of the deaf in connection with auto driving, it is learned.

The latest news at the smallest cost in the state—in The Star.

P & N NAMES NEW ROAD ENGINEER

Charlotte, Jan. 18.—President W. S. Lee of the Piedmont and Northern railway yesterday announced the appointment of Frank H. Cothran as chief engineer for the railroad. Mr. Cothran as chief engineer will have supervision of the construction work on the new extension to be built by the Piedmont & Northern from Charlotte northward to Lexington and, it is understood later to Winston-Salem and Durham, and the "missing link" from Gastonia to Spartanburg which will tie together the North Carolina and South Carolina divisions of the railroad.

Pushing Plan. The addition of Mr. Cothran to the executive staff of the railroad and his immediate assumption of the duties of the position indicate that the Piedmont and Northern is rapidly pushing forward its plans and that actual construction work is likely to begin in the immediate future.

Mr. Cothran is a native of Greenwood county and a member of one of the outstanding families in the Palmetto state. He is recognized as one of the ablest construction engineers in this country. One of his first important engineering engagements was in connection with the building of the Clinchfield and Ohio railroad from Johnson City to Spartanburg. When the Piedmont & Northern railway was built by the Duke interests in 1911 Mr. Cothran was a division engineer on that job. Later he was put in charge of work on the Bridgewater hydro-electric development of the Southern Power company.

Soon after the completion of the Bridgewater development Mr. Cothran was elected vice-president of the Quebec Development company and was put in charge of construction of the huge hydro-electric plant built by the late James B. Duke and his associates at Isle Malgine on the Saguenay river in the province of Quebec. The construction of the Isle Malgine plant is regarded in engineering circles as one of the outstanding engineering achievements in the western hemisphere.

In becoming chief engineer of the Piedmont & Northern railway Mr. Cothran is coming back home. He assumed the duties of the new position immediately after his formal appointment yesterday, having arrived in the city from Quebec a few days ago. His family is still at Isle Malgine but will arrive in Charlotte in the immediate future.

Lattimore Pupils To Perform Here

The pupils of the Lattimore school will present "The Gypsy Rover" and operetta in three acts in the South Shelby school auditorium Friday evening January 21, at 7:30 o'clock.

Including the character parts more than 65 of these pupils will take part in this operetta. An hour or more of real enjoyment awaits all who come. A small admission will be charged. The South Shelby school will get one half of the door receipts.

CHICKENS COSTLY TO COLORED MAN WHO TOOK THEM

Four Colored Fellows Give Entertainment to Court in Relating Chicken Catching.

Doug Ray, colored, will likely hereafter consider his chicken dinners rather costly and will be particularly anxious to get them. Meaning that Doug, unless something unforeseen turns up, will labor about 30 days for the last chickens he annexed and during that time be satisfied with the meals served to the laborers on the county road force.

Doug's sentence together with that of others came as the result of a wholesale raid by Deputy Bob Kendrick who brought in Doug and two brothers, Broad and Bird, and Andrew Williams Tuesday charged with stealing chickens from Coleman Blanton, for whom one of the culprits worked. Broad and Andrew Williams were considered too young to be tried by the recorder and were turned over to the juvenile judge of the county. Judge Mull first let Bird and Doug both take 90 days each. Bird's chickens were not so cheap, the price tag Judge Mull put on them ranging around \$30.

The court was entertained quite a bit by the confession of the chicken thieves, they telling, it is said, practically what happened. Six chickens were taken by them, they said, one an old, white rooster that they choked to death getting away from the roost.

More chickens than they accounted for, however, it is said, disappeared from Mr. Blanton's flock. Officers say that Mr. Blanton undoubtedly had been 50 and 100 chickens missing.

Mrs. Allen Buried At Patterson

Mrs. P. S. Allen, faithful and devoted member of Pleasant Hill Baptist church was buried Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock at Patterson Springs Baptist church, the funeral services being conducted by Rev. Hoyle Love, of Grover. Mrs. Allen before marriage was Miss Sallie Whisnant, daughter of the late David and Martha Whisnant. She was born June 18th, 1865 and died Monday, Jan. 17th. She was twice married, the first time to H. D. Dillingham who preceded her to the grave some thirty odd years ago. To this union were born four children, two sons and two daughters. Her second marriage was to Mr. P. S. Allen and to this union were born four children, three sons and one daughter. Fourteen grand-children also survive. Mrs. Allen was converted early in life and joined the Methodist church. After her marriage to Mr. Allen she joined Pleasant Hill Baptist church where she remained a faithful member until death.

The Poetess—The poem, "What Santa Brought Me" appearing in The Star recently was written by Lavonda McRary, 11-year-old girl of the LaFayette school. No name was with the poem and at the time The Star published it the name of the young poetess was unknown to the paper.

Coal Thieves Get A Chance To Pay It Up

Unless some 10 colored fellows can produce some of that stuff the whole world chases—meaning mazzama—the No. 6 chain gang is likely to be overcrowded with occupants.

It was recorded recently that Kings Mountain officers brought over a record bunch to be jailed, there being an even dozen in the party, charged with stealing coal from the Kings Mountain cotton company.

Tuesday the dozen construction hands were given a hearing before Recorder John Mull, who gave them an opportunity of paying for the coal with a little sum to go to the court. Two of the group were able to produce, but the 10 others were not at the time and were remanded to jail for a restricted time to see if they could secure the necessary money.

"If they don't get it," says Judge Mull, "it may be 30 days, and it might be 60—better wait and see."

Hoey Contest To Be Staged Here Friday, January 28

Webb Contests Will Follow One Week After Boys Oratorical Contest For Annual Coveted Gold Medal

The Hoey Oratorical contest, the annual event of the year for Cleveland county high school boys, will be held Friday night, January 28, in the Shelby Central school auditorium, it is announced by J. H. Grigg, county superintendent of education.

Forney Last Winner. Charles Forney Jr., of the Piedmont school, won the medal given last year by Hon. Clyde R. Hoey and his successor will be picked at this contest.

Two boys from each high school in the county may enter the contest.

Webb Contests Coming. One week later, Friday night, February 4, the Selma Webb recitation contest will be held at Central school. The winner of the Webb essay contest will also be announced during the evening. Each high

school in the county is allotted one entrant each for the Webb recitation contest, and the three best essays from each school may be submitted in the essay contest. The essays, it is announced, must be in hands of Judges by January 28.

So far, Mr. Grigg says, the judges for the contests have not been selected, but an effort will be made to secure out-of-town judges.

The Webb and Hoey contests have been annual affairs in Cleveland county for years. Mr. Hoey and Miss Selma Webb in establishing the contests created the high lights of the school year for Cleveland county boys and girls. The honor of winning either of the medals ranks as about the highest achievement in high school life for boys and girls of the county.

Educational Commission Split Over Long Term School In Annual Report

Daily News Writer Explains How Commission Was Divided. Cleveland Member of Commission Against But Favorable

(Post in Greensboro News) Raleigh—Division in the North Carolina educational commission on the proposal to give North Carolina a uniform school term of eight months, will not stop the agitation before the present general assembly, and that body will have to say whether the issue shall be submitted to the people in the 1928 general election.

The story in the Greensboro Daily News purporting to give the vote carried something of a shock to the capital in which former state superintendent James Yarkin Joyner lived officially as state official 16 years and has since lived as a private citizen for eight years, for it is no longer secret that Dr. Joyner's vote made possible the defeat of the recommendation. There has been no statement from anybody, the chairman of the commission has not even disclosed the result. But notes of this magnitude do not remain secret. The story is out. Seven men voted down the recommendation, three women stood up with two men for it, and this wholesome minority will make itself heard whether it files a report or not and it is expected to do so.

To Be Carefully Worded. The findings of the majority will be so carefully couched that they will be an apologetic rather than a pronouncement of policy. The vote of no man expresses the same conviction as that of Dr. Joyner, chairman James O. Carr is a well-known attorney, business man and publisher of Wilmington; always conservative and loyal to his administration, James K. Norfleet, of Winston-Salem, hails from the richest county which is all-sufficient and more than able to care for itself. Captain Nathan O'Berry, big lumber man and capitalist, comes from Wayne county, which has Goldsboro. That city has its eight months term and more. Sam C. Lattimore is resident of Shelby and Cleveland county, the most progressive of many of the smaller places, but smitten sorely on cotton. Shelby and Cleveland are, however, well-fixed for schools. Edward W. Pharr is from Mecklenburg which hasn't failed on any occasion to say what it thinks about the general policy of making the rich counties put up for the smaller ones. And Mr. Pharr has been on the side of disaster more than two years. Stanley Winborne never got in the game. In the 1921 session on the good roads movement he was unconvertible; on the proposal to furnish women with machinery to vote after Tennessee ratified in 1920, Mr. Winborne, a bitter-ender forevermore, voted against the women. He could not be counted on any proposal to give more of anything. But Dr. Joyner isn't so easy an animal.

Dr. Joyner Puzzles Them. There is no assault on Chairman Carr. He is known to be friendly to the longer term, so is Mr. Lattimore, and so are they all conditionally. But somehow the school experience of Dr. Joyner, the thousand cries that he has met with faith, gets his neighbors. They can't quite work out his vote. They do not feel hostile to him; they do not censure him; they act as if some near neighbor had died. They are utterly lost for an explanation of such a vote.

Analyzing the minority attitude it is found that Mrs. McKee, wife of a big business man; Mrs. Brown, wife of a planter and business man in a section hard smitten with disaster; Mrs. Fearing, wife of a prominent Pasquotank man and resident in a section greatly respected for years by hard conditions; Mr. Andrews, superintendent of a city system and loser of much by going into the eight months term; Mr. Teague, head of a town system and fixed on his own school account, all voted for the longer term. The two men do not need any help and they go out for others. The city was very happy that all the women voted for the eight months term.

Of course the succeeding reports will give some light on the findings. The criticism of the commission will not be rank. The censure that it will meet is that it lacks faith in the school and fears to take steps beyond which it cannot see. And Dr. Joyner will get more of this than any other member will receive.

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Art Exhibit On For Benefit Of Shelby Schools

As this goes to press final preparations for the Elson Art exhibit to be held in the old Best furniture building under the auspices of the schools of Shelby, from Wednesday afternoon, January 19, through Friday night, January 20, are being made. The hours for the exhibit are 3:30 to 5:30 p. m. and 7:30 to 9:00 p. m. daily.

The proceeds from the sales of the fifteen cent tickets being sold by the school children will be used for the defrayal of expenses of the exhibit and for the purchase of master paintings to be placed on all the school room walls of the city. Every one to whom a ticket is offered for sale is being urged to purchase it. The advantages to be gained from a visit to the exhibit hall are extremely educational and pleasant.

Orders for copies of any picture on exhibit will also be taken by Miss Gertrude Samuels, of the high school faculty of the city, who is in charge of the work. To see the originals of the masterpieces would require a visit to practically all the large art galleries of the world. Since this is not a possibility for everyone, the Elson Art company of Belmont, Mass., has collected over two hundred reproductions of the masterpieces of art of many different countries and periods from the greatest public and private galleries and is sending them to various schools over the country to be exhibited by and for the benefit of that school. The Shelby schools are most, if not the most successful ones conducted in the state. So varied will the selections be that everyone will be sure to find his or her favorite picture on exhibit. Information concerning any painting will be furnished by those people in charge of the exhibit. The hall, as already stated will be open at convenient hours both afternoon and evening.

The people of Shelby are especially invited and urged to visit the exhibit at some time during the three days on which it is to be held.

WELL DIGGER IS STRUCK IN HEAD BACK AND FRONT

Rock Strikes Him In Back Of Head and Knocks Forehead Against Pick Point

Raymond McSwain who lives between Earl and Blacksburg is a patient in the Shelby hospital in a semi-conscious condition suffering with a double injury received Monday while engaged in digging a well. Mr. McSwain was working in the bottom of a well when a rock fell from the sidewalk or top and struck him in the rear of the head. The force of the impact not only injured his head, but forced his head downward, driving his forehead against the sharp point of the pick he was using. Sustaining an injury going and coming in this peculiar fashion, he was rendered unconscious and rushed to the Shelby hospital where he is now receiving treatment, but the nature of his injury is quite serious and he was still in a semi-conscious state this morning.

The rock that fell from the top of the well or sidewalk of the well was knocked off unintentionally, according to the best information obtainable by The Star. No one from the neighborhood where the accident happened could be seen this morning to give more of the details and Mr. McSwain was unable to talk. While his condition is serious, it is thought that he will pull through all right.

Their Mother Dies In Polk County

Word has been received in Shelby of the death of Mrs. Nancy Philbeck who passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Della Turner at Columbus, Polk county, this state. Mrs. Philbeck died Monday about noon and was buried Wednesday at Cool Springs Baptist church in Spartanburg county. S. C. Mrs. Philbeck was about 70 years of age and was a victim of paralysis. She is survived by the following children: Mrs. J. N. Turner, of Columbus; Mrs. P. E. Shields, of Shelby, R-7; Mr. Claude Philbeck, Shelby; Mr. Sloan Philbeck, of Alabama; Mrs. Charlie Car, of Oklahoma.

Lincoln Hatchery Turns Out Chicks

Demand for Custom Hatching at Lincoln Hatchery Very Brisk. Overflow of Eggs.

Lincolnton—"You will never fill that 12,000 egg hatchery at one setting," was what promoters of the Lincoln county hatchery heard when the 12,000 hen was being installed. But you don't hear that anymore. At a setting last week the large 12,000 incubator was filled to overflow and two 400 egg incubators were filled and there were 300 eggs left over, so great was the demand for hatching at this season.

SCHOOL BOY IS BADLY BURNED

Buford Hamrick of Union Section Is Burned When Clothing Catches Fire

Buford Hamrick, ten year old son of Zeb Hamrick poured gasoline through the crack of a stove in a school room at Union Consolidated school Monday and the fire flashed out, igniting a can of the volatile fluid which he held in his hand. As a result, his clothing caught fire and he was badly burned from the knees down. He was rushed to the Shelby hospital where he is undergoing treatment and will be out in a short while.

Young Hamrick did not know there were hot coals in the stove. After pouring a small quantity of gasoline through a crack in the stove, the hot coals ignited the fluid and flashed out. He was standing some distance away holding the can of gasoline in his hand and this was ignited by the explosion. With his clothing on fire he started to run with his school mates after him. Shortly, he gained presence of mind to strip himself of his flaming clothes, but his flesh was painfully burned before he got his clothing off. A number of his school mates were in the room at the time but no one else was hurt.

Many County Couples Must Have Married Over In S. C.

One Shelby Jeweler Sold 76 Wedding Rings During December But Only One-Third That Many Marriages Here

SCOUT GATHERING DRAWS BIG CROWD

Piedmont Council Elects Officers At Meeting Here and Discusses Boys Work.

The annual meeting of the Piedmont Council of Boy Scouts and their supporters was held Tuesday evening at Cleveland Springs hotel here.

The meeting was featured by a number of talks, election of officers and a survey of important scout work, and the hearing of reports.

Hugh E. White of Gastonia, was elected president of the council for the new year, while Dr. Reuben McBrayer of Shelby was named as one of the vice-presidents.

Brief talks were made by 15 or 20 members of the council and active scout leaders, while one of the main features of the program was a short, but inspiring talk by O. Max Gardner, chief speaker of the evening.

Approximately 125 men and boys were in attendance at the meeting it is reported.

TAR HEELS SPEND QUARTER MILLION DAILY FOR AUTOS

Raleigh.—Tar Heels spent more than one-quarter of a million dollars on automobiles in every working day during the past year, according to Sprague Silver, head of the automobile bureau of the state revenue department.

Records of Mr. Silver show that a total of \$70,200,000 was spent on automobiles in North Carolina during 1926, and that of this amount \$54,000,000 was spent for the purchase of 68,000 new automobiles. For 63,300 used cars automobile buyers of the State spent \$15,800,000.

The average working day expenditure for automobiles during 1926 is estimated at \$270,000. This heavy purchase of automobiles by North Carolinians brought the number of cars and trucks in the State to more than 400,000 at close of 1926.

The total value of motor vehicles of all types in North Carolina at the close of 1926 is estimated by the automobile at \$268,000,000. It is also estimated that two-thirds of the automobiles purchased are bought on the partial payment plan and that one-third are bought for cash.

Health Is Better During This Winter

According to the physicians, the general health of the community is much better this winter than it has been for several years. Usually there is much sickness prevalent in the dead of the winter, but there is comparatively little sickness with no epidemic of any kind. One case of small pox and a few cases of mild influenza are reported, but these are not sufficient numbers to say there is an epidemic. Undertakers report the lowest death rate in several winters which is further evidence of the fact that the general health of the community is good.

Sue Shelby Mill For Smith Injury

Attorneys Peyton McSwain and Speight Beam have filed a complaint at the court house, asking \$5,900 damages against the Shelby Cotton mill for personal injuries to their client Charlie Smith. It is alleged in the complaint that while Charlie Smith was in the employ of the mill, a lap pin fell from his rack and the end of the pin struck his foot which later became infected and caused considerable trouble. The complaint alleges that the mill was negligent in the proper care of its employes and therefore asks damages for the injury.

OFFICERS TRAIL STORE BREAKERS TO LOCAL COURT

Have Been Cornering Men Who Broke in Mauney's Store and Others of County.

Store breakers who have of recent months been giving quite a bit of trouble to county merchants are now being rounded up by Officers Buren Dedmon, Bob Kendrick and others.

Two have already been tried and another awaits a hearing in Superior court along with one of the others who was bound over.

It will be remembered that P. A. Mauney's store at Buffalo has been broken-in in early December and followed an entry of about 1 month before.

Brady Barrett, said to have been connected with the last entrance, is already bound over to court under a bond of \$500, it is said, while Monday night Deputy Dedmon returned from Marion with Barrett Moore, who is charged, it is said, with entering the store about one year ago. Barrett, officers say, waved a preliminary hearing and will get a trial in Superior court.

Sold Goods Back. Henry Lazarus, colored, is said to be doing 60 days time on the county roads over his connection with the same store. Lazarus, who will also, officers say, face another charge in Superior court, is said to have taken goods at Mauney's store. On occasions it is said Lazarus took cigarettes and resold them to the rightful owner.

Several of the entries were rather mysterious in that few clues were left behind but officers kept what they learned to themselves and slowly rounded up those under suspicion.

Business School Opens January 27, In Webb Building

Georgia-Carolina School of Commerce to Open in Shelby. Notice to Enroll Pupils.

The Shelby branch of the Georgia Carolina School of Commerce will open for regular class work on Thursday, January 27, it is announced by J. H. Owens, special representative of the school.

The school will be located in the Webb building on Warren street and will be on the second floor over Pendleton's and the Electric Service company. The day class will report at 9 in the morning and the night class at 7:30 in the evening. Those who have enrolled are requested to be present at one of these classes at which Mr. McLane, vice-president of the school, will be in attendance.

Mr. J. H. Owens, who has been here for several weeks organizing the school, feels elated over the success he has met and is of the opinion that the entire school in its work will be successful.

Mrs. Ledford Is Buried Saturday

Mrs. Sallie Ledford, wife of George Ledford died Saturday at her home at Fallston, to which place she had removed after living in Shelby for awhile. Mrs. Ledford was 58 years, four months old and joined Friendship Methodist Protestant church in early girlhood, remaining a faithful member until death. Her remains were buried at Friendship Saturday, the funeral services being conducted by Rev. J. M. Morgan. Mrs. Ledford is survived by her husband, a step son, one brother and one sister, together with a host of friends.

Deaf Assured Auto Driving Bill No Good

Cleveland County Representatives Will Fight for Rights of The Deaf of State.

T. W. Hamrick, Jr., of Shelby, who entered a protest against the proposed bill introduced by a legislator that in a way would prohibit deaf people from driving an automobile, has been assured, he says, by members of the legislature and senate that such a bill stands very little chance of getting through.

Both Representative B. T. Falls and Senator Tom Fulton have communicated with him, it is understood, and given him the assurance that they will not support it, one, it is said, going so far as to indicate there was little likelihood of the bill passing.

LIST OF PATIENTS IN LOCAL HOSPITAL

School Boy Receives Broken Arm. D. Parker, Confederate Vet. Is Hospital Patient.

Harlan Ledford, son of Mr. Zolie Ledford who lives near Salem church on the Shelby-Kings Mountain road, had his arm set at the Shelby hospital yesterday, his arm being broken when he fell from a base in a game of baseball on the school ground. Young Ledford is 12 years old and a student in the Roberts school in the eastern part of No. 6 township.

D. Parker, one of the county's oldest Confederate veterans, is a patient in the Shelby hospital suffering with a head trouble, but is getting along nicely.

Pearline Anthony of R-2 Shelby is getting along nicely from an operation for appendicitis.

Mrs. Foy Lemons of R-2, a patient for treatment, is improving and will be able to leave the institution soon.

Miss Donnie Sain, a Shelby high school student, is rapidly recovering from an operation.

Miss Margaret Allen of Shelby, R-7, operated on a few days ago improving.

Mrs. J. H. Williams of East's is a patient for an operation which has been successfully performed.

Mrs. Paul Quinn, severely burned some weeks ago when gasoline of the stove exploded, is improving rapidly.

Mrs. R. G. Stockton has entered the institution for treatment.

Mrs. W. F. Davis of Shelby, operated on two weeks ago is improving and will be out soon.

Mrs. J. F. Peeler and little daughter will be able to return to their home on Lattimore, R-1, in a few days.

Mrs. C. R. Doggett is much improved after a stay for treatment and has gone to her home on N. LaFayette street.

Rev. Andrew C. Miller has sufficiently recovered from an operation to be dismissed Sunday.

Masonic Notice—Cleveland lodge No. 202 A. F. and A. M. will meet in called communication Friday night for work in the second degree. Visiting brethren are cordially invited. Lodge opens 7:30 p. m.

Firemen Sponsor Picture—The city firemen will sponsor a moving picture at the Princess theatre on Tuesday. The title of this picture is "Going Crooked" and Mr. Beam who has seen the picture says it is one of the best shown here recently.

The Society for the Prevention of Useless Giving could probably recruit a large membership right after Christmas.