

Yes, Horatio, there were divorcees back in ye olden days. A divorce was granted at the first term of court in this county the record shows. An interesting account of the first Cleveland county court may be found in this issue. See if you recognize any of the jurors.

Shelby High school students made a fine record in the recent state-wide Latin contest according to a belated announcement from Chapel Hill.

Still another 50-year married couple is reported in The Star today.

Superior court is in session here today 86 years and 19 days after the first court ever held in the county. Watch The Star this week for complete court news.

Shelby lost a game to Charlotte here Saturday. Sport fans will find an account of the game on this page.

There are several more questions in around Our Town today. Can you answer them?

The president of State college addressed members of the Hoey and Gardner Bible classes at the First Baptist church here yesterday.

A Cleveland county man, alleged to be a yegg broke jail Sunday in Charlotte, says a news item.

Another candidate for alderman today. What's wrong with activity in the mayoralty race?

DR. BROOKS TALKS TO MEN'S CLASSES

Joint Meeting Of Men's Bible Classes Of First Baptist And Central Methodist Churches.

A crowd packed the church auditorium of the First Baptist church Sunday morning at the Sunday school hour, when the pens strong Bible classes of the First Baptist taught by Max Gardner and of the Central Methodist church taught by Clyde R. Hoey, heard Dr. E. C. Brooks, president of N. C. State College, Raleigh. It was one of the largest gatherings of Christian men interested in Bible study that has assembled here, for each class has a membership of from two to three hundred and added to this were many visitors and ladies.

Dr. Brooks complimented the "spirit" of Shelby which he declared to be its best asset and is illustrated by the unity of its leaders in political, business, industrial and religious matters. Dr. Brooks took for his subject a quotation from Tennyson's Locksley Hall, "Through the ages one increasing purpose runs. And the thought of men is widened in the process of the sun." Briefly Dr. Brooks traced the development in thought and ideas that have been brought about by changed conditions. What was thought right years ago, is considered wrong today and the thoughts of men have so widened that no mind can comprehend all. This development has not only come in religion, law, medicine, but it has come in government. A few decades ago the purpose of government was to protect property, but as the thoughts of men have widened, the present conception of government has shifted from property to humanity. Society sets certain standards, to which men must measure up to in all of the professions and in public office and at this point Dr. Brooks touched on county government of which he has made a special study. He would have the antiquated methods abandoned and more modern and satisfactory systems applied, so that they are uniform throughout the state in order that business principles might be applied that will measure up to standards set by society. Because of limited time, Dr. Brooks was unable to finish his discussion, but the thought running through his remarks was a prayer, "Teach me to know the right and I will do it."

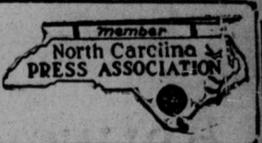
With the Methodist men's class present the attendance of the First Baptist Sunday school was boosted to over 1,000. A mission program was rendered at the close of the Sunday School hour.

Kings Mt. Hurler Turns In No-Hit And No-Run Game

Kings Mountain, Mar. 25.—Doc Ledford, premier southpaw hurler of the Kings Mountain high team, turned in a no-hit, no-run performance today, the first of the season. He shut Boiling Springs out by 5 to 0.

Ford, Kings Mountain, got three hits out of five trips, and Falls, also of the local team, got two out of three.

The Cleveland Star



VOL. XXXIV, No. 37

SHELBY, N. C. MONDAY, MARCH 28, 1927.

Published Monday, Wednesday and Friday Afternoons. By mail, per year (in advance)—\$2.50. By carrier, per year (in advance) \$3.00.



One of the reasons why the beach is so popular are the nice places like shown above. The young lady is Miss Joan Fairfield, and this picture was taken at Palboa Beach.

GIRL INJURED IN CAR FALL IMPROVES

Miss Mary Roberts, severely injured when she fell from a moving car on the Fallston road, is slightly better according to reports early this afternoon from the Shelby hospital where she is a patient. A complete examination of her injuries were made last week and several fractures of facial bones, including the nose, were found, it is said. However, unofficial reports are that no serious injury of the spine was located, such an injury being feared somewhat it is said. The young girl still remains in a semi-stupor and is only partly conscious at times. Her face and head is badly swollen and she is considerably bruised.

Geo. Hoyle Joins Frank In Business

George A. Hoyle, well known in business circles in Shelby where he has been in the mercantile business for many years, has purchased a half interest with his brother Frank L. Hoyle in insurance and risks of all kinds. Together they have purchased the fire insurance business of Rev. C. J. Woodson and combined it with the agencies held by Mr. Frank Hoyle who bought out A. C. Miller some years ago when Mr. Hoyle quit the office of clerk of superior court. They begin business as Frank L. and George A. Hoyle the first of April in rooms over the Shelby and Cleveland County Building and Loan association where Mr. Frank L. Hoyle has been conducting an insurance business for a number of years. With the companies represented by Mr. Woodson and those represented by Mr. Hoyle, the new firm has some of the strongest companies in America, handling fire, health, casualty and public liability insurance.

Heavy To Operate Rooms At Arcade

The Arcade rooming house, in the Arcade building of the Hamricks on East Marion street, is now being operated by Mr. Earl Lybrand, better known as "Heavy" the proprietor of the cafe of the same name. Mr. Lybrand announces that the Arcade will cater to regular roomers and tourist travel and that all of the 20 rooms will be prepared completely for occupancy. In addition to continuing the operation of the rooming house he will also continue the operation of the big Arcade dining room.

Mr. C. L. Eskridge left Shelby Monday afternoon for Newberry, S. C., on a business trip. At Newberry Mr. Eskridge will join his brother, Mr. L. G. Eskridge. Later the Shelby Ford genius will visit Charleston, and look around generally over the sights of his neighbor state.

County's First Divorcee Charged With Retailing At Next Term Of Court

One Of First Cases Disposed Of In This County Was Divorce. First Court In 1851. Judges, Jurors, Sheriff And Clerk.

Back in the infancy of Cleveland county folks were much like they are today. They loved, fought, drank a little, and got into debt just as they do nowadays. The first court records of the county prove it. The first court ever held in Cleveland county, after the county was established was on March 8, 1841 at Squire William Weathers place, northwest of Shelby, and incidentally a lot of gossip must have been created by court cases in those days just as they are in these—for the woman granted the first divorce in this county was charged with retailing without license at the next term of court.

That the world changes very little in its fundamental events is shown by the old court record, which is remarkably well preserved and written clearly. The elderly folks who worry about the "carrying on" of the present youth should remember that 86 years ago getting parties were not known but still the extreme equivalent of such parties brought several boys and girls into court on such charges as adultery.

An Early Divorce. One of the first cases on record was a divorce. It came up for trial at the first court, but as the erring husband failed to show up it was continued until the next term. A year later the complaining wife came in the court and petitioned for a divorce saying that "the defendant is a drunkard and a spendthrift and has definitely abandoned his wife and family and failed to provide for them, and that said conditions have existed for a period of six months."

A jury found that all the issues in the petition were correct and the divorce decree was granted. It read like this: "It is ordered, adjudged and decreed by the court that plaintiff be divorced from the bad and board of her husband, and that she may hereafter sue and be sued without joining the name of her husband, and have and hold all property which she may hereafter acquire or receive by decent device or bequest or otherwise free from the power and control or debts of her husband, and subject to her own control and such rules as govern the property of a single woman."

Back She Came. The decree apparently pleased the divorced woman but no doubt she found it hard to provide for the family after divorcing her husband, for at the next term of court, in 1843, the divorced woman but no doubt she found it hard to provide for the family after divorcing her husband, for at the next term of court, in 1843, the divorcee was charged with retailing, or selling liquor without license, it is presumed. However, the case ended in a mistrial by the jury and no further record of the county's first divorce is to be found in the book.

At the same term another wife secured a divorce on the much-used, present day grounds of adultery. On the same docket the erring husband and his paramour were charged with adultery, but the man failed to show up although his mistress did. By the coming of the next court in 1843 the bondsmen of the divorced husband had brought him back to the county and on the adultery charges he was fined \$50 and the woman in the case \$10.

A good percentage of the cases listed contained adultery and other free-living charges—the world isn't growing bad so fast—but the average fine recorded was \$25 and a good behavior bond to show that the man and woman had not been living together again. Usually the records reveal the woman was not fined.

Debts and Affrays. The civil calendar and the criminal docket were apparently taken up together and the cases disposed of alike. The charges for the most part concerned debts, affrays, and ejection.

The first case ever listed for trial in the county was that of a debt. The defendant, the record says, admitted the debt and the court order was that he pay the plaintiff the sum of \$236.78, of the amount \$120 being the principal. The second case was also a debt case, while the third was a criminal charge preferred by the state, but the nature of the charge is not recorded, the fine being \$10 and the costs.

Moved to Shelby. The second court was held in Shelby, the minute book says, in an old log house. Old timers here say

BOBBLES DEFEAT SHELBY IN GAME WITH CHARLOTTE

Locals Outwit Visitors But Kick Ball About Field. Weather Better for Football

Loose playing by the outfield lost a game for Shelby High here Saturday when Charlotte administered a 14 to 9 defeat on the locals.

The game was played on the Ella park and the roughness of the field together with the cool weather aided both teams in making errors with the result that a poor game the some 1,000 and more spectators was offered.

Wood, small southpaw hurler for Charlotte, worked out a creditable game after the first frame when Shelby drove in five runs on five hits and an error. On the other hand Casey Morris called all four of his pitchers to the mound, Cline the first to handle the mound duties performing as well as any. Several pitiful errors by the Shelby outfield however were responsible for exactly half of the Charlotte runs although all the Shelby hurlers were hit hard at times.

Lutz, starting the game in left, dropped a couple that let in several runs. Harris stumbled and dropped one to let in another and a bobble or so by Bridges contribute to several more runs.

The brilliant fielding of Lee, Shelby short, and the hitting of Gillespie were features for the locals, while Mason, Charlotte firstsacker, performed well in the field and with Henderson and Gribble led the Charlotte hitting. Gillespie drove out four hits and scored two of the Shelby runs. Tommy Kerr played a nice game at second but was not up to his old form of getting on the majority of his trips to the plate.

Shelby outwit the visiting team and on runs earned led by one marker.

Charlotte scored four to start off the game then Shelby hit around in their half for five hits. In the fourth, sixth and seventh frame the Shelby defense already weakening tottered to extent of permitting six more Charlotte runs. Two of Gillespie's hits were doubles while Spark drove out a double and turned it into a homer on several bad throws. With the team back on the city park, which is being renovated, the errors of Saturday will not likely show up again and if the local hurling staff can come through a very good season is in prospect. The Shelby infield, all veterans from last year, looks even better than a year ago. The entire team can hit is the opinion of fans after witnessing two games here.

Table with baseball scores: Charlotte AB. R. H. O. A., Willie, ss, 5 2 1 2, Mason, 3b, 5 3 2 1 2, Hinson, rf, 4 3 2 2 0, Gribble, cf, 5 3 2 1 0, Shelby, lf, 5 1 1 0, Wood, p, 4 0 0 0 1, Sharpe, 2b, 3 0 0 4 3, Ashbury, 2b, 1 1 0 1 1, Rogers, 2b, 0 0 0 0 0, Shore, 3b, 4 0 1 1 1, Scott, c, 5 1 0 4 0. Totals 42 14 10 29 9. Shelby AB. R. H. O. A., Kerr, 2b, 6 1 0 3 3, Lee, ss, 5 1 2 1 2, Cline, p, 5 2 1 1 0, Gillespie, c, 5 2 4 5 0, Harris, cf, 5 0 1 1 0, Anthony, 3b, 5 1 2 1 2, Sparks, rf, 5 1 0 0 0, Lutz, lf, 1 0 0 0 0, Whisnant, p, 1 0 0 0 1, Moore, p, 1 0 0 0 0, Gold, p, 1 1 1 0 1, Bridges, 1b, 4 0 0 14 0. Totals 44 9 11 27 9. Errors—Wilkie 2, Sharpe 2, Anthony, 2, Lutz 2, Bridges 2. Home runs, Gribble. Three-base hits, Mason, Scott, Gillespie. Two-base hits, Mason, Shore, Cline. Umpire, Long.

Dr. Gold Enters Alderman Race

Dr. G. M. Gold, well known South Shelby physician announced this morning that he had yielded to the urgency of friends and would become a candidate for alderman in ward three since John Schenck, jr., has declined to run again. This is the first contest that has developed for alderman in the spring election of city officials, Mr. Sam Morrison having declared a few weeks ago that he is a candidate. Dr. Gold is one of the most influential citizens of South Shelby and a man of mature judgment with a host of followers. It is his first entry in politics.

It is not much trouble to poison cutworms as a little poisoned and sweetened bran will do the work.

That Million Dollar Libel Suit



Aaron Sapiro, organizer of a number of farm co-operative organizations, is suing Henry Ford for a million dollars in Detroit federal court, charging Ford, through his newspaper, the Dearborn Independent, libeled him. Sapiro cited articles accusing him of being part of a "conspiracy of Jews to control the world's food markets." Above (left to right) are Senators (left) Fred B. Dent, defense attorney, and Aaron Sapiro, plaintiff, in court.

DANIELS LEANING TO SMITH TICKET RALEIGH REPORTS

Anyway Supposition Has That Trend. May Be Possible Running Mate.

Raleigh.—Is there a possibility that Josephus Daniels, former secretary of the navy and editor of the "Old Reliable," could be a candidate for vice-president on the Al Smith ticket?

Interesting rumors to that idea are playing about Raleigh. The Raleigh Times enumerates three reasons for believing that such is likely. The Times in an editorial speaking of the Smith leaning says: "One is a recent failure to denounce as anarchists in accordance with the Bryan ultimatum all who suggests a lack of virtue in the Volstead act."

"Another is the advocacy of the abolition of the two-thirds rule in the Democratic convention."

"Another is a care restraint in applause of the Anti-Saloon league, of which he once was state president, and a significant absence from the recent meeting at which Tom Hefflin denounced the Catholic religion. This position has been diluted only by a faint criticism of the abolition of the presidential primary and an indorsement of Hefflin's platitudes that 'wet' money could not buy up North Carolina 'dry' morals."

The Durham Herald points the suggestion even more broadly, in its analysis of what Mr. Daniels told the women: "The McAdoo followers can find little comfort in the Daniels suggestion. Too many of the objectors set forth by the former secretary of the navy fit Mr. McAdoo. While some of his objections to fit Smith, a careful weighing of the qualifications set forth by Mr. Daniels will show a slight preference to Smith as asked by McAdoo. One question asked by Daniels is significant. In telling of the qualifications that the party's candidate should have, he emphatically declared that the nominee should be the composite of Tilden, Cleveland and Wilson, and then he asked: 'Is there any significance in the fact that all three went from the gubernatorial chair to the presidency?' That is significant in view of the fact that Smith, Ritchie, Dohoney and McLean are governors, while McAdoo, Walsh, Meredith and Reed and Daniels himself are not."

SHELBY YEGG IN CHARLOTTE JAIL BREAK ON SUNDAY

Brady Barrett, of Kings Mountain, Picks Lock of Mecklenburg Rural Station and Departs.

Charlotte, Mar. 28.—Brady Barrett, 22, described by police as a notorious safe-cracker of Kings Mountain arrested here Saturday made a daylight escape from the Mecklenburg rural police jail early yesterday.

Picking the lock to his cell door with a flat piece of metal, Barrett is believed to have walked to freedom from a window in the basement where the cells are located.

His absence was discovered at lunch hour, when chief Vic Fesperman found the door flung open and the cell empty.

How Barrett walked to freedom after escaping from the barred-cell could not be explained by police. Mrs. E. J. Killian, day desk sergeant, went on duty after the escape. She had been ill recently and did not come to work at her usual hour.

Chief Fesperman was not at head quarters when the escape was made and he was unable to say who was on duty. It was not believed that Barrett walked through the police station when he escaped, but instead climbed from a basement window. The basement is a half-story above ground and the windows are even with the ground.

The lock picked by Barrett is covered with a heavy coat of steel and was considered burglar proof. There was one witness to the escape, an unidentified drunken negro who occupied a cell in the row opposite Barrett.

No information could be obtained from the negro, who remembers only that Barrett left his cell. Barrett was arrested by Rural Policemen R. R. Hazelwood and J. E. Irvine. He is wanted in Spartanburg, S. C., for robbing a postoffice at Arlington near that city. He escaped jail, following his arrest there, authorities reported.

Several charges, ranging from carrying concealed weapons to safe cracking, are held against the youth. Shelby police declare he is wanted at that place on a store-breaking charge.

SUPERIOR DOCKET OPENS GRIND HERE DURING MORNING

Pleadings in Elizabeth School Case Heard During Lull. McElroy Presiding Judge.

There is considerable activity about the county court house today with the spring grind of Superior getting underway.

The court convened this morning with Judge P. A. McElroy presiding and Spurgeon Spurling, native of Cleveland, prosecuting here for the first time since being elected solicitor to succeed R. L. Huffman. B. G. Logan, of the Kings Mountain section, is foreman of the grand jury and Deputy Gus Jolley is the officer in charge, while Deputy Jerry Runyans is court officer.

Early in the morning session the court took a run over the docket labelling the cases for trial and those to be continued as well as disposing of several good behavior matters. During a lull pleadings and briefs in the Elizabeth school matter were presented. The arguments and other details of the suit will be taken up later by Judge McElroy so as not to interfere with the criminal grind. The afternoon session of the court saw the grind getting down to active disposition of cases with the grand jury returning true bills.

Generally speaking it was a very busy day about the court house. While the big court held sway upstairs County Recorder Mull, temporarily routed from the big court room, was holding forth in the clerk's office below, and by the number of defendants and the large gallery of spectators he was having a very interesting court of his own.

Smallpox Cases In Several Sections

Mild Epidemic, However, Doctors Say. "Flu" and Tonsillitis Seem Prevalent.

The sick list of Shelby and Cleveland county has mounted quite a bit during the past week, it is learned. The usual spring attacks of "flu" are to be found over the town and county, and there are numerous cases of tonsillitis, doctors say. In addition to these annual complaints there are quite a number of smallpox cases in various sections of the county.

There is no smallpox scare as usually follows in the near wake of such an epidemic, but it is learned that a few cases are scattered over practically every section of the county and in the various manufacturing centers of Shelby are several cases. One doctor speaking of the smallpox today said that it was not the severe epidemic, but a rather mild run. Of course, there are several severe cases, but the general run is only a light touch of the dreaded disfiguring disease.

Highs Play Away From Home This Week; 3 Games

Take Cherryville, Belmont Abbey, and Forest City. Fifty-fifty Season so Far.

The Shelby Highs, opening a base ball season somewhat erratically, played three games away from home this week, it is announced by Alex George, manager and what-not of baseball activities at the school.

The first game is this afternoon with Cherryville at Cherryville, while on Wednesday the Highs journey up to Forest City for a tilt. On Tuesday Coach Morris will take his team to Belmont Abbey for a fray with the young Catholic athletes.

Next week several return games will be played here and fans have the idea that the weather then will be more suitable.

To date Shelby has a fifty-fifty rating in games played. In other words, they are just as good as any team they have met, but not any better. Four games have been played, two with Kings Mountain and the count stands even, Shelby winning one and losing one with each team.

Mr. Pink Suttle Is Dead In Asheville

Mr. and Mrs. Sim McMurry went Saturday to Asheville to attend the funeral of Mr. Pink Suttle who died there on Friday. He was born and reared in Shelby, the son of the late Dob Suttle. In young manhood he moved to Asheville where he has since lived. Deceased has a number of relatives in Shelby, being a nephew of D. B. F. Suttle and a cousin of C. B. Suttle, sr.