

The Markets. Cotton Seed, per bu. 67 1/2 Cotton, per lb. 19c

Rain On Saturday.

Today's North Carolina Weather Report: Increasing cloudiness followed by rain Saturday and probably late tonight.

HALF MILLION IN SHELBY BUILDING IN FOUR MONTHS

Building Program Here Big During Latter Part Of Year.

Shelby's building program up to the first of December, 1928, totaled nearly one half million dollars in a period of a little over four months.

To be exact building permits were issued in the city for a \$495,285 building program from July 19, when Mr. E. A. Rudasill first became building inspector, up to December 1, permits for the final month of last year not being assembled as yet in the City Hall.

These figures, it might be explained, contain the estimated cost of the First Baptist church educational annex and the new Hotel Charles structure which were not included in the permits, but are now under construction.

Many Dwellings. Despite the fact that the latter part of the year is not particularly a big building season the permits show that 60 dwellings were erected during the four-month period. Numerous structures were listed as being of brick material.

Other buildings listed in the permits follow: Nine store structures, five garages, two warehouses, two cafes, two repair shops, one barber-shop, and one apartment, with one combination apartment and store.

Permits listed in addition to these covered remodeling, repairing, and roofing of numerous varied structures.

SHELBY FOLKS IN REUNION PROGRAM

Mrs. Gardner To Be Official Hostess To Confederate Veterans At Charlotte.

Charlotte, January 4.—Appointment of Mrs. O. Max Gardner, of Shelby, wife of the governor-elect, as special hostess for the south for the thirty-ninth annual reunion of United Confederate veterans, to be held in Charlotte in June, was announced by General Harry Rene Lee of Nashville, Tennessee, adjutant general of the veterans.

General Lee made the appointment public in a telegram to The Observer. The post was tendered Mrs. Gardner several days ago, but no statement was made until she had accepted. She has received one of the most important appointments of the long list to be made.

Mrs. Gardner is the former Miss Fay Lamar Webb, daughter of Superior Court Judge James L. Webb and niece of United States District Judge E. Y. Webb.

Hoey On Committee. Simultaneous with the appointment of Mrs. Gardner by General Lee it was announced here by Captain Edmond R. Hoey, reunion manager, that Clyde R. Hoey of Shelby, prominent lawyer, in a letter to Mayor Reed, chairman of the reunion committee, had accepted a place on the state legislative committee.

License For Dogs Moving Slowly As Car License Plates

No Big Rush Here To Pay City Dog Tax. Time Limit Up January 15.

Shelby people seem almost as slow about purchasing city license tags for their dogs as they did about purchasing license plates for their automobiles, according to City Clerk Fred Culbreth.

Yesterday information was to the effect that less than a half dozen canine owners in Shelby have paid their dog tax for the year, although the time limit is up on Tuesday, January 15.

City officials are of the opinion that all the dogs in Shelby did not have license paid upon them this year and after the 15th the threatening news about the City Hall is that dogs without license tags may be disposed of by the city.

Masonic Notice. Cleveland Lodge 202 A. F. & A. M. will meet tonight, Friday, in called communication for first degree work.

Rural High Schools Of This County Facing Same Crisis As Do City Schools Shelby

May Be Unable To Complete School Year Unless Legislature Aids. Expenses Cut.

The Shelby city school system is not the only one in Cleveland county to face a crisis this year. Unless aid bobs up, in the nature of legislative spread of the equalization fund or otherwise, three, and possibly five or six rural high schools in the county will be unable to complete the full eight months term.

This statement was made yesterday by Mr. J. H. Grigg, county superintendent of schools, who adds that the situation did not develop just this year but originated last year and before and is near a climax this year.

Six Ran Short. Last year it is said six of the larger rural high schools—Fallston, Belwood, Casar, Piedmont, Lattimore, and Mooresboro—ran shy of funds before the school year was completed. In other words school expenses in the half dozen big schools for the year surpassed the income from the taxable source of revenue.

Last year all, are practically all of the schools named above completed the term upon borrowed money hoping for a county-wide long school term. This failed to materialize and at first this year it was believed that the schools might have to be removed from the standard list. However, many delegations of patrons besieged the office of the county board in the interest of maintaining the full eight months, and with the hope that the legislature this year would not cut down the equalization fund, but would permit it to be used in aiding extra month schools, the schools reopened this year with the determination to remain open the full term if possible.

Expenses "Cut To Bone." Present indications are that such will not be possible even though expenses in all six of the schools have been literally "cut to the bone."

By drastic economy in the operation of the schools, which necessitated a lower grade of teachers and crowded conditions, all but three of the schools are running within their taxable income this year, reports say, but whether or not they will be able to finish up the entire year in such a manner remains to be seen. On the other hand the other schools are unable to operate within their income despite the rigid economy practiced and it seems a certainty that these three—Casar, Fallston, and Belwood—will be unable to complete the full high school year unless some provision by the legislature this month aids them. And ere the school year is over the same may apply to the other rural high schools.

In practicing rigid economy this year these rural high and consolidated schools are doing without teachers they actually need and less than the number required for the work handled. In some instances, particularly at Lattimore, there are far more pupils per teacher than should be for beneficial work, it is stated. Realizing last year that something must be done the county school board and district committees selected many teachers with low-grade certificates thus cutting down their salary budget considerably.

Others cut down upon their regular number of teachers, cut out one or two transportation trucks, and did everything possible to lower expenses, but at the best figures available it seems as if at least three of the schools will be unable to break even with the income.

Taught Without Pay. In one county school last year, it is said, loyal teachers wishing the school to stay on the standard list taught for two weeks without pay in order to permit the school to complete the term.

No More Tax Levy. The perplexing end of the problem is that every one of the six high schools, with the exception of Piedmont at Lawndale, has already voted the maximum tax levy for a special school district, which is 50 cents. By law the levy cannot be voted any higher in special districts, therefore no additional income can be expected from that source. The difference between the taxation income and the school expenditures, even when "cut to the bone," is due to the fact that the schools are in rural district with little other taxable property than farm lands. The situation is particularly acute at Casar, Fallston, and Belwood because neither of the three districts have taxable corporate wealth, with no corporate

YOUNG COUNTY BOY MAY BE CHAMPION GROWER OF COTTON

Aston Adams, Of Lattimore, Makes Two Bales Per Acre. At Banquet Today.

Cleveland county, the champion cotton county of North Carolina, has today attending a Bale-Per-Acre Cotton banquet in Charlotte a 14-year-old boy who stands a good chance of being acclaimed the champion cotton grower of this state.

The youth is Aston Adams, 14-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Adams, of near Lattimore, and the record he presents at the banquet today is nothing less than two bales per acre produced at a remarkably low cost, thanks to the instruction the youth received in the agricultural vocational department of the Lattimore high school under the direction of Prof. V. C. Taylor.

Others Attending. Young Adams was only one of a group of leading farmers of the Lattimore section attending the banquet given in Charlotte today by the Chilean Nitrate corporation honoring bale-to-the-acre cotton farmers of the Piedmont section.

Among those going down from the Lattimore community, where the agricultural department of the school has aided the fine farming section, were F. S. Crowder, W. A. Crowder, R. G. Adams, D. P. Washburn, Aston Adams, Raymond Jones, Walter Davis, Ladd Brooks, Wade Harrell, Ryan Washburn, Rayburn Washburn, Julius Wilson, Lyman Martin, Morgan Walker, Luther Walker, Everett Brooks, Woodrow Humphries, Prof. Taylor, Lawton Blanton, principal of the Lattimore school; and J. Horace Grigg, county superintendent. Invited as honor guests were Governor-elect O. Max Gardner, U. S. Mail, and George Blanton.

What They Produced. On 37 1/2 acres planted in cotton the above group of Lattimore farmers produced 169,632 pounds of lint cotton, or 450 bales, somewhat more than a bale to the acre over the entire 37 1/2 acres. The average weight of the bales was 495. The total income from the cotton was \$3,351.10, the total expense \$26,138.00, making a net profit on the 37 1/2 acres of \$1,212.00, or a net profit per acre of \$48.03. The cost of production per pound over these acres was 56 cents.

Young Adams' Record. Topping the list of fine farmers, however, was the Adams youth. In cotton sections for years his record will be discussed. On two and one-half acres the youth produced 2,508 pounds of lint cotton, which was 6,800 pounds of seed cotton, or five 500-pound bales.

But that isn't the big story of the young fellow's records, the story being the low production cost. His total income from the two and one-half acres was \$571.25, while his expenses totalled only \$163.98, leaving him a net profit of \$407.27, which means a profit of \$162.90 per acre.

Figured out by his agricultural teacher the cotton was produced at a cost of only 2.9 cents per lint pound and was sold at 19 1/4 cents per pound, which was near 17 cents profit per lint pound. The low production cost was brought about by the use of very little fertilizer on the fertile Adams farm. On the two and one-half acres only 1,400 pounds of fertilizer and 600 pounds of soda was used.

And if any one at Charlotte today can surpass the record of the Lattimore youth, Prof. Taylor declares himself ready to doff his hat in that person's presence. Young Adams is in the ninth grade of the Lattimore school and has taken vocational training for a little over two years.

Buick Agency In Larger Quarters Now

Lackey Secures Lease On Gardner Building For More Commodious Quarters.

This week the Buick agency held by J. Lawrence Lackey moved into the Max Gardner two story garage building on S. LaFayette street, formerly occupied by the Jordan Chevrolet company. Mr. Lackey is very proud to secure large quarters for the Buick agency which has grown by leaps and bounds since Mr. Lackey has had charge.

It is understood that the show room in the Gardner building will be greatly enlarged to accommodate a number of cars. This change in the building will be made by an addition to the front where Mr. Lackey expects to keep on display at all times a number of the latest models of Buicks.

In addition to the sale and service of cars, the second floor of this mammoth building provides large storage space which will be utilized for public storage.

The Crawford agency which recently purchased the Jordan Chevrolet agency has moved into the building on Sumter street vacated by the Buick agency. This shift in locations was made this week and registers the most important turn-over in the local motor world.

The President-Elect in Chile



Photo shows, l. to r., President-elect Herbert Hoover and General Carlos Ibanez, president of Chile, as they rode through cheering lines en route to the American embassy in Santiago, Chile.

Find Pistol With Five Empty Shells In The Vanderburg Ruins

Identified As Owned By Enemy Of Vanderburg Family. May Clear Boy.

Gastonia, Jan. 3.—Unearthing of an empty-shelled pistol in the fire blackened ruins of the J. W. Vanderburg home, near Gastonia, discovery of its recent ownership by an enemy of the family and the present surveillance of the suspect in this immediate section was made public here tonight by a private detective co-operating with attorneys for the imprisoned son, Jacob Vanderburg.

The newest developments of this sensational case in which the elder Vanderburg, his wife, two daughters and a son were slain mysteriously and their bodies subsequently burned to ashes in their home early last Friday was advanced as the latest theory of the quintup murder by H. K. Williams, head of an investigation agency of Greensboro. Mr. Williams announced that he had been drawn into the case today by Marvin Ritch, of Charlotte, associated as counsel for the defense with George W. Wilson, former solicitor, and J. M. Hoyle, both of Gastonia, in representing the sole survivor of the family now awaiting an unfinished coroner's inquest here at 10 o'clock Saturday morning which was continued from last Saturday by Solicitor John G. Carpenter.

"During the day one of my operatives and I, working in conjunction with defense attorneys, made the very startling discovery of a pistol in the ashes of the wrecked home," declared Mr. Williams. "It was a .32 caliber revolver with empty shells in its five chambers and gives us the very best foundation for the plausible theory that the five members of the Vanderburg family were killed by a person with this pistol and their bodies placed in a heap in the back room and burned when the house was destroyed by fire."

"We do not hesitate to say that the pistol once was the property of Jacob Vanderburg. He owned it until something like a month or so ago when he pawned it. We also are in possession of indisputable proof that the pistol was purchased at the pawn shop by a person who was an enemy of the elder Vanderburg and the family as well."

Sheriff Eli P. Lineberger, who has had a leading part in the investigation and proved one of the important witnesses at the opening inquest, asserted tonight that no facts of additional importance had been uncovered by the county forces but that "all my men have been hard at work on the case and we're ready for the inquest Saturday."

Five-Year-Old Boy Escapes By Miracle

Rutherfordton, Jan. 3.—Jessie Lee Martin, the five-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Martin, of Henrietta, had a most miraculous escape from an awful death yesterday morning. A man called at a nearby house to the little boy's home, driving a Ford touring car. He was waiting for some friends. They were late and he decided to take another friend across Broad River, while they got ready. Graham Hughes, the driver of the Ford, started his car not knowing that the little fellow was around. Jessie Lee had climbed on the back of the car and was perched on the tire carrier. When the car started, he fell, but his overalls caught in the cover for the time and his head hung down. The driver, all unconscious as to what was going on, started his car and dragged the boy over a half-mile, while the frantic mother ran after the car screaming, as she happened to see him, just as the car started across the Broad River bridge, which has heavy iron tracks, though a wooden bridge. The little fellow had presence of mind enough to hold his head up, keeping it from striking the ground, as he bounced along, fastened to the cover. He was painfully, though not seriously injured.

People May Control The "Flu" Says Head Of N. C. Health Board

Watchfulness And Preventive Measures Urged. Doesn't Think Serious Situation. is much about influenza that is unknown to the medical profession, but I think the wise course is to let the children and young people go on to school and college and watch them closely. At the first sign of fever, that person should be sent to bed and watched very carefully. "Influenza is no respecter of persons, and the young, middle-aged and the old all seem to be subject to it. Therefore, everybody should be careful. "There is no occasion for alarm or excitement at present. The number of cases is very large, but the disease is not nearly so severe as it was in 1918, and the number of cases with complications is very much smaller than in that epidemic. Those cases which do become complicated do not seem this year to have as severe complications as was true in the past," Dr. Crowell said.

Much Colder Here In 1928

Records Show Thermometer 10 Above Year Ago Wednesday. Yesterday Coldest Of Winter.

The cold snap which struck Shelby and section Wednesday night and Thursday morning was the coldest of the winter season, or equally as cold as the November cool spell, but it lacked 14 degrees of being as cold as it was just one year ago. Thursday morning the Ebeloff thermometer was down to 24 above, which ranked with the same temperature on November 26, 1928, as the coldest of the present winter. But one year ago Thursday, which was Jan. 3, 1928, the same thermometer was registering a bleak 18 above, six degrees lower than yesterday. On the preceding day, January 2, 1928, the thermometer was down to 10 degrees above freezing. A year ago today the temperature was the same as it was yesterday—24 degrees above.

TOM S. ELLIOTT PASSES AT AGE 82

Beloved Veteran Of The County Succumbs To Long Illness. Buried At New Hope.

Mr. Thomas Esley Elliott, valiant Confederate veteran of the county living at 206 McBrayer street, answered the last roll call Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock when he quietly passed away at age 82. For several years he had been in declining health, more recently confined to his bed. He was a man of excellent habits, however, strong physically and a hard worker in his younger days as he weathered the storm of years with unusual strength.

Mr. Elliott was a fine, upstanding fellow, thrifty, friendly and sympathetic and held in high esteem by his comrades and friends. He was the son of Sydney Elliott and Sallie Cabanis. Surviving are his wife and three children, Mrs. D. G. Mauney, T. S. and Jake W. Elliott and 13 grand children. Two sisters, Mrs. Mary Humphries and Mrs. Annie Thompson and one brother Wade Elliott of Grover survive.

He was one of the oldest living members of Zion Baptist church. Funeral was conducted from the residence at 2 o'clock this afternoon by Revs. D. F. Putnam and Zeno Wall and interment was at New Hope church, Earl.

High Cagers Meet Hickory Grove In Can Here Tonight

Fifteen More Games On Schedule. Tough Frays Are Coming.

The Shelby highs have 15 more basketball games on their schedule, and the next game is on tap tonight, Friday, in the "tin can" here with the strong Hickory Grove quint from South Carolina furnishing the opposition.

To date the highs have played two games, winning one and losing one. Of the 15 games on the schedule seven are booked for the Shelby "tin can" seven away from home, and one open date on January 18. The next home game after tonight will be played with Belmont Abbey here on Tuesday night, January 15.

Games scheduled by Manager Ralph Gardner follow: Jan. 4—Hickory Grove, here. Jan. 8—Gastonia, there. Jan. 11—Cliffside, there. Jan. 15—Belmont Abbey, there. Jan. 18—Open. Jan. 22—Belmont Abbey, there. Jan. 25—Forest City, here. Jan. 28—Lincolnton, here. Feb. 1—Kings Mountain, here. Feb. 5—Lattimore, there. Feb. 6—Gastonia, here. Feb. 8—Kings Mountain, there. Feb. 13—Lattimore, here. Feb. 15—Lincolnton, there.

The big home games of the year will come when the strong Forest City, Kings Mountain and Lattimore quints play in Shelby, the three games attracting record crowds last year.

At Episcopal Church. Services will be held Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the Episcopal church here, it is announced. Rev. S. R. Guillard, of Lincolnton, will conduct the services.

Clyde Hoey Will NOT GET IN RACE. STATES DEFINITELY

Declines To Run For Congress Although Suggested To No-Name District. "I will not be a candidate for Congress two years from now and you may say that definitely," said Clyde R. Hoey, North Carolina political leader, today. He was last night when queried about his name being mentioned in Charlotte as a candidate two years from now to redeem this district for the Democratic party. In the last election Congressman-elect Chas. A. Jones, Republican, defeated Congressman A. L. Bulwinkle, Democratic incumbent, and since that time Democratic leaders have been discussing a candidate who could redeem the district.

Resigned Once. Incidentally, the Shelby man who states now that he will not be a candidate two years hence is one of the few congressmen ever to resign from that body. Mr. Hoey was elected to succeed Federal Judge E. Yates Webb, when the latter was appointed to the United States district court bench by Woodrow Wilson, but resigned his job after taking office. He was succeeded by Major Bulwinkle.

Hoey Suggested. The news here of the resignation of News suggesting Mr. Hoey as a likely winning candidate follows: "A fetching little political rumor floats around among the Mecklenburg politicians—that Clyde R. Hoey may be a candidate for congress in the next campaign. "The idea is compelling in its political strategy and amazing in view of everything. Now—Hoey's running for the senate, is the first reaction here to the notion, and in Shelby the suggestion meets with looks of perfect astonishment—maybe too perfect, but, anyway, perfect enough. "Still, it's worth discussing. It looks at it this way. Hoey is generally considered as an aspirant for the United States senate four years from now, or when Overman retires. He and Morrison are looked upon as the real contenders for the place. Both men are strong politically and both reside in the ninth congressional district, which was Republican in November. The Democrats are straining at the leash to rebound the district. With a man like Hoey as their candidate they could put on a congressional campaign that would arouse the state. The congressional victory, the restoration of the district to the Democratic column, would, had the Hoey candidate who had the right, that would improve his position in the eyes of a senatorial candidate two years later. "Objections to the rumored possibility were that Mr. Hoey once was elected to congress and resigned, and that the people would not take kindly to the idea of picking him back in the house—unless, of course, they saw in him their best bet in redeeming the district. The usual explanation of his resignation was that he did not like being in congress and, so resigned. While that is not fully accepted, there are suggestions of valid though not readily explainable political reason actuating the retirement. "The entry of Mr. Hoey in the race, should that come, would further complicate a district situation already complicated. Charles A. Jones, Republican congressman-elect, is expected, of course, to make the fight of his life for re-election. Congressman A. L. Bulwinkle, of Gastonia, who was a victim of the fight of his life for re-election. Congressman A. L. Bulwinkle, of Gastonia, who was a victim of the political whirlwind of November, is considered as a possible candidate. Several of the counties up the district were understood as playing with the idea of introducing a Democratic candidate. In Mecklenburg it would be possible for the Democrats to draft anywhere up to a dozen or so congressional candidates without any trouble at all. "Among those mentioned are D. B. Smith, Walter Clark, J. A. Bell, John A. McRae, Hamilton C. Jones, James L. DeLaney, J. D. McCall, J. Frank Flowers, and some others."

Couple Gets Start On New Year's Day

Cleveland county's first couple to secure marriage license during the New Year made a good start by securing the license on Tuesday, the first day of 1929, but up until today the couple was the only one to apply for marriage papers according to Register A. F. Newton. The county's first 1929 couple listed as follows: William and Viola Mullender, 30, and Viola Mullender, 30.