

Showers Tuesday. Today's North Carolina Weather Report: Probably local showers to night and Tuesday.

500 People Drown. St. Nazaire, France, June 15.—Nearly 500 excursionists are believed to have lost their lives when the excursion steamer, St. Philbeck sank yesterday afternoon between St. Gildas Point and Pornic, about five miles from here. Only eight survivors had been picked up by rescue boats last night. It was believed that, except for these, all the passengers and crew on the boat were lost. The excursion steamer was carrying large holiday crowds on its run between Nantes and the island of Noirmoutier. It left Nantes yesterday morning. The eight who were rescued from the water by boats which put out for the scene shortly after the catastrophe were men. There were a number of women and children aboard the boat. A squall struck the boat, the survivors said, and knocked the small steamer over on her beam ends. The crowd, becoming panicky, rushed to the opposite of the deck, causing the boat to capsize and spill its passengers into the sea.

Mrs. Farthing, Shelby Native, Dies In Canada

Sister Of Mrs. Clyde R. Hoey Of Shelby And Governor O. Max Gardner Passes.

News was received here Saturday of the death in Alberta, Canada, of Mrs. R. M. Farthing, nee Addie Gardner, only surviving sister of Mrs. Clyde R. Hoey of Shelby and Governor O. Max Gardner. Mrs. Farthing's death was a great shock to her family and friends in Shelby. It was known that she had been in poor health but her trouble was not thought to be serious.

Brilliant Teacher. Mrs. Farthing was better known here as Miss Addie Gardner as most of her married life she had lived in Canada. She was a daughter of the late Dr. and Mrs. O. P. Gardner and taught for many years in the public schools of Shelby. She possessed a brilliant mind and was a teacher of marked ability. Her pupils who are now grown are numbered by the hundreds and she was respected and honored as one of the outstanding teachers in educational circles in Shelby. A few years ago she made a return visit and a number of her former pupils honored her with a most delightful banquet.

Mrs. Farthing is the fifth death in the Gardner family of children in a little over five years. Col. J. T. Gardner, for many years mayor of the city, was the first to die. Then followed Mrs. J. J. McMurry, Mrs. Cleo Robinson, and Mrs. J. A. Anthony. Surviving are her husband and three children, one sister, Mrs. Clyde R. Hoey of Shelby, three brothers, Governor O. Max Gardner of Raleigh, Mr. Bate Gardner of Gastonia and Mr. Will Gardner of Seaside, Oregon.

Her remains were buried in Alberta, Canada, yesterday.

What? White Man Gets Negro's Chicks

Tables Turned As White Man Is Convicted For Robbing A Roost.

A famous editor, erroneously said to be Charles Dana, once said that "it isn't news when a dog bites a man, but it is news when a man bites a dog."

This, then, should be news, for it reverses the customary trend of things.

In county court here last week a white man was convicted of stealing chickens from a colored man.

Ed Fredell, of No. 9 township, was given three months suspended sentence by Judge Maurice Weathers for stealing chickens from Sam Ruddy, colored. Sam had only five chickens in his roost, three were taken, and having such a small number, he could readily identify them.

On an automobile license charge Fredel was given another sentence.

Try 40 Cases. Last week was a busy week in the county court, sessions being held daily. Approximately 40 cases were disposed of by the tribunal during the week, according to Deputy Clerk Charlie Woodson.

Revival Gains At Tabernacle Tonight

Evangelist C. F. Wright will run a revival at the Tabernacle on South Washington street each night beginning at 7:45 p. m. The services begin tonight, June 15th, and run for several days. He is a good preacher and will preach at any church on invitation. Arrange to hear him during these services. All are cordially invited to attend.

Finish First Paving Project In 3-Mile Loop

Horseshoe Bend Road Is Surfaced

New Surface Down On Road From East Graham Street To Highway 20 At Fair Ground.

The surfacing of a little more than three miles of roadway, the first of 10 surfacing projects being carried on by the No. 6 road commission, was completed Saturday by noon. The construction forces moved this week to three other projects in the north Shelby sector.

The three and three-tenths miles of roadway on which the oil-and-gravel surfacing was finished Saturday is what is known as the old Kings Mountain road. The newly surfaced strip of roadway leaves Shelby at the end of East Graham street, at the bridge there, and follows the old Kings Mountain road, by Horseshoe Bend, at Hickory creek, to the Post Road and out the Post Road to Highway 20 at the fair ground.

Route Taken. The route of the road, as it leaves the city going east, is by way of the Clayton Peeler place, owned by the O. E. Ford company, at Horseshoe Bend, then on around the loop by the Clarence Cabanis home and the Elzie Borders place into the Post Road, just north of the Post Road gin, and along the Post Road by the County Home to Highway 20 at the west entrance of the fair grounds. An automobile speedometer registers the distance as three and three-tenths miles. Coming back into the highway a loop of around six miles is formed south-east of the city by the newly surfaced road and highway 20.

To Other Jobs. Completing the surfacing of the loop road Saturday the construction forces moved to the surfacing projects outlined on Sumter street, the Shelby hospital drive, and the North LaFayette street extension. Sumter street will be surfaced from North Washington to where it runs into Suttle street. The crescent driveway at the hospital will be surfaced, and North LaFayette street will be surfaced from the end of the present pavement down by the Washington school to the Hopper park bridge.

In the loop completed Saturday the city pays its portion of the construction cost from the East Graham street pavement end at the bridge to the bridge at the city limits at Horseshoe Bend. The remaining portion of the stretch is beyond the city limits and is to be paid by the township.

When the three stretches are completed in north Shelby this week the construction forces will move to the south and west sections of the city for six other projects there.

When the construction bid was let for \$10,332 it was stated that the total mileage in the 10 projects would be six miles. The work is being done by the Biltmore Concrete company.

Eight Cleveland County Laws Turned Out By Legislature; Group Is Listed

These In Addition To General Public Laws, Changes In County Courts.

(Special To The Star.)

Raleigh, June 15.—Cleveland county had a total of eight laws enacted by the 1931 general assembly which relate to the county or its activities or the communities in the county, designated as public-local or private laws, the records of the secretary of state show.

These, of course, are in addition to the numerous other public laws which relate to the state as a whole or to some large part of it, such as the school, the road, the local government and other enactments which reach every county, and the numerous laws which touch each county in a general way only.

The local government act, which, in many respects is equal in importance to the school and road acts, is already showing its value in bringing about a readjustment and stabilizing the financial affairs of counties, cities, towns and other units, some of which needed the aid the law gives.

Some of its value is to be nullified, especially for this year, and in particular by those units which take advantage of the law enacted which permits county commissioners to postpone the collection of 1931 taxes, or foreclosures for refusal to

Lincoln Tomb Transformed



The tomb of Abraham Lincoln, at Springfield, capital of Illinois, which has been completely transformed and remodeled, is ready for formal dedication by President Hoover on June 17. This exterior view shows the imposing design of the monument which rises over the tomb of the martyred Civil War President.

Bottlers Agree To Pay Their Tax Despite Error Relieving Them; School Savings Are Figured

Cleveland County Has Small Schools That Must Be Consolidated In New Plan.

By M. R. DUNNAGAN Star News Bureau.

Raleigh, June 15.—The most glaring and most expensive error made as a result of the discoveries following the recent hectic general assembly session, involving about \$100,000, although glaring, will not be expensive at all, unless some technicality prevents the North Carolina bottlers from making a gift of about that much money to the state of North Carolina during the next two years.

The tax on bottlers, about \$100,000 for the biennium soon to end, was to be doubled for the next two years. Then the luxury tax measure entered and its 10 per cent caused the tax on production machinery of the bottlers to be cut back to the figure of the past two years. When the luxury tax failed, the tax was again doubled by the conferees, but this reversal failed to get in the revenue act as ratified. The revenue department discovered the omission.

But the bottlers had agreed to a doubling of their tax, reluctantly, to be sure, but preferred that to the 10 per cent tax. So, J. Elmer Long, former lieutenant governor and attorney for the bottlers, comes to Raleigh to announce that the bottlers had agreed to the doubling, they did it in good faith, they intended to

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Paved Highway To Marion Hope Of This Section

Golden Valley Road Is Needed

Shelby May Be District Headquarters In New System Of Highways.

Highway Commissioner Will Neal of Marion, will be urged by citizens of Cleveland, Rutherford and McDowell to do what possible to build a paved or oil-surfaced highway from Shelby to Marion through the fertile Golden Valley section.

For years citizens of this section have urged the creation of this road, which would open up one of the best areas in Piedmont and Western North Carolina. Efforts so far have been unsuccessful but as Mr. Neal, highway commissioner under the recent reorganization of the State system, lives in Marion and knows first-hand the value of such an important highway link it is hoped here that favorable action may be secured.

Boosted Here. Attorney Henry B. Edwards, Cleveland county representative in the last general assembly, is taking a leading part in asking Shelby civic organizations and business men to get in behind the movement. Within the next week or so a meeting of representatives of the Kiwanis, Lion and Rotary clubs of Shelby may be held to organize the movement in which other sections which will be touched will be asked to cooperate.

As the two county seats are connected along the hoped-for route now by separate highway links it is pointed out that the improvement of the route as one link would not be so expensive and would be of great worth to citizens of three or four counties.

When the new highway organization was mapped out last week by the highway commissioners five main divisions were created. Cleveland county was placed in District "E" with 21 other Western Carolina counties. Asheville is headquarters for this division. The five divisions were then divided into 25 highway districts, each district having approximately 2,000 miles of highway. There is a possibility, according to reports here today, that Shelby may be made district headquarters for one of the five districts in this division. Each district, it is understood, will have a district prison camp for convicts and road workers.

The No. 6 road commissioners have already offered the State the use of the No. 6 conviet camp which, will not be needed by the county seat township any more after the State takes over road work and convicts the first of July.

Three Local Nurses Pass State Board

Have Finished Their Training And Will Be Graduated Here Next Fall.

Three graduate nurses from the Shelby hospital school for nurses have been certified as passing the state board examination and are now licensed to practise. They are Misses Margaret Allen, Laura Elizabeth Shepard, Novella White, who have completed the course of training, although graduation exercises have not been held.

Miss Etta MacNichols, superintendent of the Shelby Hospital says the graduating exercises will be held in the fall. By that time two or three other nurses in training will have completed their training and will be graduated at the same time.

Misses Allen and White are from Cleveland county while Miss Sheppard is from Wadesboro.

County Couples Help Cherokee Wedding Total

Thanks to scores of Cleveland county couples who journeyed to Gaffney in 1930 to be married, Cherokee county was one of the few South Carolina counties to have more marriages in 1930 than in 1929.

Cherokee had 1,157 marriages in 1930 or 53 more than the 1,104 in 1929. York marriages dropped from 3,050 to 2,800.

High priced marriage licenses and costly marriage regulations combined with the business depression sent more Cleveland couples across the line in 1930 than ever before.

Cleveland Cited As Model County In Finances For Entire State

Finest Wheat Ever In County; Heads Six Inches Long, Filled

It is wheat-cutting time out in rural Cleveland county and even those farmers who are pessimistic in their statements readily admit that it is the finest wheat crop the county has known in years.

Just one indication as to the type of wheat this champion cotton county is producing: I. S. Sosebee, who farms on Sam Ellis plantation, was in Shelby Saturday exhibiting wheat heads averaging six inches in length and every head perfectly filled. The stalks in Mr. Sosebee's wheat average 60 inches in height and in some spots are even higher. Practically all of his wheat was ready to be cut this week.

Smart Is Held Without Bond

Slayer of Forest City Chief Given Hearing To Seek Special Term.

Rutherfordton, June 15.—The preliminary hearing Saturday afternoon in the courthouse for Fred Smart, charged with killing Chief Austin A. Price of Forest City drew more than 1,000 people.

The courtroom was packed to overflowing, and many stood outside. County Recorder Fred McBrayer heard the testimony of seven witnesses and then made the following order:

"The court finds probable cause of the guilt of the defendant of the charge of murder in the first degree and commits him to jail without bond to await trial at next criminal term of superior court of Rutherford county."

Attorney Fred Hamrick, N. C. Harris, and J. S. Dockery represented Smart. They offered no testimony and did not ask for bail.

Judge J. L. Murphy, of Hickory, County Solicitor O. J. Mooneyham, C. O. Ridings and R. R. Blanton prosecuted. The prosecution decided after the hearing to ask Governor Gardner for a special term of court in July.

Traffic Officer Garrett Edwards said he removed Smart to join in Rutherfordton soon after the killing. On the way Smart asked Edwards if he cut Price and when told he did Smart replied, "I cut him and shot him and do not care if they lynch me, I am in so much trouble."

It developed today that about 90 percent of Forest City people want Charles R. Price of Charlotte, brother of the dead man, as an officer again. He was chief five years in Forest City.

Nearly 100 Square Miles Of Land In York Nearing Sale For Taxes There

Figures Show Large Amount Of Property Under Execution By Sheriff.

Land to the amount of 62,596 acres, nearly 100 square miles, is under execution in the hands of Sheriff Fred E. Quinn to sell for taxes, besides 841 town lots and including 1,168 buildings, in York county, says the Yorkville Enquirer.

Continuing the Enquirer says: This real estate subject to sale for taxes this year has a taxable value of \$651,521, and in addition the sheriff is ordered by the law to sell for taxes personal property with a taxable value of \$454,829. This is a total of \$1,106,350 worth of property subject to sale this year for unpaid taxes on it, appraised at only what was its value on the tax returns—of course its actual value is several times the taxable value of all property everywhere.

For \$65,177 anybody can buy at sheriff's sale for delinquent taxes all that property assessed at over a million dollars and worth some indefinite amount above that. For \$65,177 is the taxes and penalties on it all.

Nearly 4,000 Persons. There are 3,287 different executions and about that number of persons and corporations involved.

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\$1,500 Diamond Ring Is Stolen From Mrs. Riley

It was learned today that a diamond ring, valued at \$1,500, has been stolen from Mrs. Madge Webb Riley, daughter of Mrs. J. L. Webb and the late Judge Webb and a sister of Mrs. O. Max Gardner, wife of the governor.

The ring was taken from a jewelry box in the Webb-Gardner residence, S. Washington street, about three weeks ago when Mrs. Riley and Mrs. Webb returned from Raleigh to open the residence here. It was missed about the time the residence was being renovated and cleaned up. So far there have been no clues to the theft.

Hour Changed

Beginning today the local Western Union telegraph office, on W. Marion street, will close each evening at 8 o'clock. Heretofore the office hours were 7:45 in the morning until 9 at night. The closing an hour earlier is temporary, Manager R. E. Blackwelder states, due to general business conditions.

Near Perfect System, Official Says

County Officials Cut Down Indebtedness By \$112,000 In Just 22 Months.

(Special To The Star.)

Raleigh, June 15.—Cleveland county, just about near perfect in handling its financial and business matters as any county in North Carolina, is held up as a model for other counties in the State to aim at by Chas. M. Johnson, director of local government.

Mr. Johnson points out that the assessed valuation of real and personal property for the year 1929-30 was \$38,500,000. Cleveland has a county-wide bonded indebtedness of only \$189,000 and bonded debt of \$568,500 for township roads, and \$240,375 in special school district indebtedness. The total bonded indebtedness of the county, townships and school districts is \$997,875, against which sinking funds have been set up amounting to \$100,703. From these figures, it will be seen that the county and all of its township and districts have a net total indebtedness of \$897,172.

Reducing Debt. Moreover, Cleveland county is reducing each year its bonded indebtedness. In 1929-30, the indebtedness was reduced \$73,750 and in ten months of 1930-31, was reduced \$38,775.

County Home Work. In addition to these reductions, Cleveland county built a new jail at a cost of \$80,000 and improved the county home at a cost of \$18,000, all of which came out of current revenues.

Director Johnson points to Cleveland as one of the most progressive in handling its financial and business affairs of any county in the state.

Over \$11,000 In Pensions Here For Confederate Vets

32 Soldiers, 79 Widows And One Colored Laborer Who Followed Men In Gray.

Pension checks to the amount of \$11,390 have been received from the State treasury by A. M. Hamrick, clerk of the superior court, and are ready for distribution among the Confederate pensioners of Cleveland county. On the list are 32 Confederate veterans, 79 class A and Class B widows and one colored laborer, "Buck" Cabanis who received \$100.

The pension checks are for the six month period ending July 1st. The 32 veterans received \$182.50 each, 64 class A Widows received \$50 and 15 class B Widows received \$150 each.

Mr. Hamrick says the checks are now ready for distribution among the pensioners and checks made out to pensioners who have died since the last payment, must be returned to the state treasurer.

Mrs. Eskridge Made Executrix Of Estate

Mrs. Lella Porter Eskridge, wife of the late Chas. L. Eskridge has been made executrix of the Eskridge estate under a will written March 8, 1926. The will was written by Mr. Eskridge himself over five years ago on a single letter head and is concise and complete, leaving everything to his wife and designating an equal division of his estate among the children upon her death. It was his will that all be given a good education, especially along the lines of business.

The Ford agency here will continue under the management of his son, Chas. R. Eskridge and his brother, Herman Eskridge, both of whom have been associated with Mr. Eskridge for a number of years.

American Legion To Elect New Officers On Wednesday Night

On Wednesday night at 8 o'clock at the court house in Shelby the Warren Hoyle post of the American Legion will elect new post officers. This announcement was made today by Solicitor W. S. Beam, president commander of the post, who urges that all members attend the meeting Wednesday evening.

In addition to the election of officers the post will also elect delegates to the North Carolina American Legion convention which begins at Morehead City on July 26.