

THE MARKET Cotton 6.55 to 7c Cotton wagon seed, in \$10.00

Cloudy And Colder. Today's North Carolina Weather Report: Cloudy and colder tonight preceded by rain, Tuesday cloudy and colder.

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Debate On Sale Of Light Plant Still Town Talk

Controversy Involving Special Election Becomes More Heated Here.

The light plant argument in Shelby almost reached the boiling point over the week-end.

Reports scattered about that alternative statements given out by the board appeared favorable to the sale and would be followed by the calling of an election likely caused renewed interest in a topic already of city-wide interest.

Opponents of the sale express much concern over the statements made "for the benefit of the public" contending that it is unusual that all the data in the statements are favorable to the sale.

Supporters of the sale argue on the other hand that the information published is fair information in that it shows that the S. P. U. would be popular here because of popularity elsewhere.

Few new facts were introduced in the controversy over the week-end, but the discussion was more heated than ever before and promises to increase in warmth.

Increasing heat in groups discussing the matter continue to indicate that if brought to an election it will be one of the most bitter elections ever held in the city.

Petitions Out On Light Plant Matter

Citizens Asked To Sign, Asking Council Not To Call Election On Sale

Several petitions were put in circulation Saturday asking the mayor and city council not to call an election at this time on the proposed sale of the municipally-owned light plant to the Southern Public Utilities company.

The S. P. U. company submitted an offer of a million one hundred thousand dollars for the city's plant and a franchise to operate in the city but not an exclusive franchise. The council have been making an investigation since the proposition was submitted and issued several reports on their findings to the tax payers and citizens, but opposition is strong against the sale.

No sale can be made without a majority vote by the registered voters and those who oppose the sale do not wish an election called on the matter.

Blood Poison Feared For Mr. Will King

Mr. Will King is threatened with blood poison as a result of a cut on his hand from a Coca Cola bottle. He was loading a Coca Cola truck at Cherryville last Friday when he received a cut on the finger from a broken bottle. The wound has caused him considerable pain and his arm is swollen, so a test is being made at the Shelby hospital to determine whether he has blood poison or not.

Stored Potatoes Grow Second Crop

The mild winter has caused potatoes to make a second crop. H. G. Clark, new owner of the Farmers Hardware Co., moved his family to Shelby last week from Mount Holly. When he went to the basement of his Mount Holly home to move his Irish potatoes from where they had been stored, he found they had produced a second crop. Some of the second crop potatoes are as large as a man's fist.

Smith Willing To Be Candidate This Year

Will Make No Drive Before Meeting

1932 Presidential Candidate Will Take Nomination If Offered Him.

Democratic ranks here and throughout the country are somewhat perplexed by the 1932 outlook as the result of an announcement today by Alfred E. Smith, 1928 presidential candidate, saying that he is willing to carry the party standard into the election again this year.

Smith expressed his willingness in a 144-word statement yesterday, but he will make no pre-convention campaign.

The statement in full follows: "So many inquiries have come to me from friends throughout the country who worked for and believe in me, as to my attitude in the present political situation, that I feel that I owe it to my friends and to the millions of men and women who supported me so loyally in 1928 to make my position clear.

"If the Democratic national convention after careful consideration should decide that it wants me to lead, I will make the fight; but I will not make a pre-convention campaign to secure the support of delegates.

"By action of the Democratic national convention of 1928 I am the leader of my party in the nation. With a full sense of the responsibility thereby imposed, I shall not in advance of the convention either support or oppose the candidacy of any aspirant for the nomination."

The 1928 standard bearer handed the statement to 46 newspaper men late Saturday afternoon in his office on the thirty-second floor of a Fifth avenue skyscraper.

"Here you are boys, but remember it's not to be published until Monday morning," he said with a grin.

"Does this permit your friends to enter your name in various state primaries at which convention delegates will be elected?" Smith was asked.

"I will answer that by repeating

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Form Tennis Club For Contests Here

The Shelby tennis club, an organization of tennis players in the city, has just been formed for the advancement of the game in Shelby. Courts of the club, two at present, are located on the former site of the Peter Pan miniature golf course on South Washington street, just behind the Victor hotel.

Officers of the club are Chas. R. Eskridge president and George Wray, secretary-treasurer. Present members are: Dr. Thos. B. Gold Prof. Horace Grigg, George Washburn, Everett Houser, Charlie Coble, Russell Laughridge, Charles R. Eskridge, Whitelaw Kendall, Decker Gardner, George W. Wray, Dr. H. S. Plaster, Jesse White.

Firemen Blistered In Fighting Blaze

Three members of the Shelby fire department were still undergoing treatment this week for minor burns and blisters suffered Friday of last week in preventing a blaze, which destroyed one home in west Shelby, from burning nearby residences. Ernest Johnson was blistered about the head and face and Boyce Dellinger about the hands and arms.

Cleveland County Has Paid Over Third Of 15-Cent N. C. School Tax

\$22,000 Of \$57,750 For State-Wide School Support Already Paid Here.

(Special To The Star.) Raleigh, Feb. 8.—Cleveland county had paid into the state treasury \$22,000 of the total 1932 tax levy of 15 cents on the \$100 valuation, amounting to \$57,750 on the assessed valuation of \$38,500,014 up to Saturday, it is announced by Treasurer John Stedman.

Treasurer Stedman reported that up to Saturday \$1,975,880.66 of the \$4,461,591 estimated to come from the 100 counties as a part of the state school fund had been received, which leads him to believe that half the fund will be collected within the next few days. Collections are believed to be slow in

Little Comment On Smith Stand Heard In Shelby

Some Criticize Move, Others Favor Al. While Majority Remain Quiet.

Political leaders of Cleveland county, one of the few counties in Piedmont and Western North Carolina, to give Al Smith a majority in 1928, are having very little to say today about the somewhat surprising announcement by Al Smith that he is willing to be a candidate again this year.

Opinion is very much divided, and very sharply in two classes. Quite a number who supported Smith in 1928 were inclined to criticize him today for protruding himself into the 1932 picture.

"His move will have a tendency," they said, "to bring a new rift in party circles just when everything indicated that harmony in the party would send a Democrat into the White House."

At the same time ardent Smith men of 1928 were expressing their elation over the Smith statement. They still believe he is the most capable man in either party to handle the presidency.

A third group looks at the matter in another light. One says "I do not think the statement means anything and I base that view on Al's declaration that he will not make any campaign prior to the convention to secure convention votes for the nomination. That does not mean

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Mrs. Sheppard Died Sunday Afternoon; Burial In Georgia

Had Been In Ill Health For Several Months. Husband, Children Survive.

Mrs. Helen B. Sheppard, wife of B. T. Sheppard, died yesterday afternoon about 1:30 in her home in the Weathers Apartments on South Lafayette street. She had been in ill health for around three months, but had been seriously ill only for a short time.

The deceased, who was 43 years of age, was a native of southwestern Georgia but had been living with her family in Shelby for three years and was well known and popular here. She was a member of the Central Methodist church here, but the remains will be taken to her native State for interment, funeral arrangements not yet being complete awaiting the arrival of Mr. Sheppard who is out of the city.

Surviving in addition to the husband are three children, James, a popular graduate of Central high school; Eck and Martha.

Earl Lybrand In Extreme Condition

Earl Lybrand, better known as "Heavy" Lybrand is in serious condition at the Arcade Rooming House on West Marion street where he and his family live. Earl has been suffering with diabetes for a year or more and has been gradually declining in health. He took his last breath last Wednesday and it was feared last night that he would not survive the night. Earl formerly operated "Heavy's Cafe" here.

Tryouts Tonight For Community Players

The director and play readers of the Community Players of Shelby will hold tryouts tonight at 7:45 at the Star office to determine the cast of players for "Love In A Mist," the sparkling comedy drama selected for production in March. Incidentally, "Love In A Mist" was the successful stage comedy introduced to the New York stage with Sidney Blackmer and Madge Kennedy in the leading roles.

The play is an excellent piece of amateur production. It calls for seven characters—four women and three men—and each has important work to do in every act. It is well balanced, for there are no minor roles or heavy leads. Every character figures prominently in all the comic situations and goes in for his part of the refreshing dialogue.

Hundreds Given Help By Charity Bureau In City

1,500 Days Of Work For Unemployed

Home-Owners Urged To Clean Up Premises For Summer Health Aid.

In a period of two months the central charity organization of Shelby has given 1,500 days of work to unemployed heads of Shelby families in addition to supplying food, clothing, fuel and medicine to needy people where work was unavailable.

In doing this needed work less than \$1,000 has been spent since December 1, according to J. D. Lineberger, who is supervising the handling of the charity appeals and the distribution of aid.

Schools Help. A total of 13,125 articles of clothing, canned goods, etc., was contributed to the work by the schools of the city and county and private individuals. Cash pledges of \$4,159.15 have been made and a total of \$2,185.42 collected. Total cash expenditures of \$877.18 have been made, not including the January bills.

The work given unemployed men and women, a big portion of the supporters of families, has done as much as anything else to help the charity organization get through two months of the winter. Most of the work has been supplied by the city in using idle men for cleaning city streets and property, but quite a number of citizens have worked men and women in cleaning jobs about their homes.

Offers Plan. "The people of Shelby, who are able to do so, can do much to help us get through the remainder of the winter," Mr. Lineberger said, "if they will call us and give little jobs of work about their homes and property for deserving men we have listed. This idea has been suggested because of the mild winter flues are expected to be worse this summer than in many years. Every breeding place about the home and yard is dangerous and should be removed and cleaned up. The charity bureau can supply good labor at \$1 per day and in getting your premises cleaned up you know that your \$1 is going into a home where it is absolutely needed for food, fuel, etc. The people have been liberal in answering all requests and calls, and if they will help us provide jobs, even half day jobs, about their homes during February, it will mean very much."

At present the charity bureau has 306 negro families, or 1,404 people, entirely dependent upon charity, and 49 white families, of 252 people, also upon straight charity.

The number of appeals, it is said, are on the increase, but due to the mild weather the demands for help are not as great.

Clean Now. In addition to providing a plan to care for the unemployed at least enough to provide food and absolute necessities of life the city work has cleaned the city as it never has been cleaned. Streets and back alleys are being kept in spick-and-span order and many citizens are cooperating to the extent of using the unemployed in beautifying their lot, sodding their yards and driveways, painting and repairing fences and outbuildings.

Peace Views. Washington, Feb. 8.—New proposals to halt the Chinese-Japanese fighting at Shanghai are not barred by the State Department's new "waiting policy," it was learned yesterday.

The waiting is necessary because no one here yet knows how many soldiers Japan is going to send to Shanghai, or what use she is to make of them aside from the local fighting.

Mr. Tom Fowler Of Eastside Is Dead

Succumbs This Morning With Heart Dropsy. Funeral At Buffalo Tuesday

Mr. Tom L. Fowler, a trusted employee of the Eastside Mill died this morning at 2 o'clock in the Eastside mill village, following a decline in health extending over a period of two years. Mr. Fowler was a victim of heart dropsy. He was 49 years of age and twice married.

Surviving are his second wife who was Miss Laura McKee before marriage, one son, Flay Fowler, by his first wife, four children by his second wife, Maudie, Jack, Louise and Margaret Fowler. Also surviving are one sister, Mrs. Ralph Green, of Polkville, and two brothers, J. W. Fowler of Chattanooga, Tenn. and George Fowler of Gas-ton. Deceased was born in No. 8

Funeral services will be held Tuesday afternoon by Rev. H. E. Waldrop and interment will be at Buffalo church four miles east of Shelby.

Where New Crisis Looms In China



Interest in the Far East crisis is switched, for the moment, from Shanghai to Harbin, scene of Japan's latest conquest. The occupation of the city by Japanese troops is said to have aroused tremendous resentment in Soviet Russia, which country has big interests in the city. Harbin was one of the Jap objectives in the Russo-Japanese war of 1905, and history may repeat itself and once more make the city a bone of contention between the two nations. Red troops are reported to be massing in force at Vladivostok, within striking distance of Harbin, and martial law has been proclaimed. Above photos show two views of the city. Upper is the Chinese section, easily identified as such by the Chinese signs, architecture and rickshaws. Lower is the Russian section with its distinctive atmosphere. Note the Russian droschky in the foreground. Inset is General Jiro Tamon, who is commanding the Japanese army of occupation in Harbin. The entry of the Jap troops into the city was unopposed.

Japs In Attack On Key To Port

Hope To Drive Chinese Out Of Key To Port Of Shanghai. Snowstorm Sunday

Shanghai, Feb. 8.—A snowstorm Sunday that handicapped the Japanese attack on the Woosung Chinese-controlled forts failed to stop a new Jap offensive early this morning which was aimed at dislodging the Chinese from the forts along the Wrangpoo river, which are considered a key to the Shanghai harbor.

With the guns of the Jap fighting ships laying down a barrage the Chinese defenders were pushed back on the Woosung front last night to pave the way for the drive today along the Wrangpoo.

The Japanese formations are organized at a point near Woosung, eight miles from main Shanghai. It is from this point that the Jap troops, led by 3,000 marine shock troops, began their move forward on the key for to Shanghai while the bigger cruisers moved up with the destroyers to hammer the defenders with heavy artillery fire.

A number of foreigners were said to have been endangered during the drive in the two sections of Chapel and Woosung.

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Attack Made On Boy Scout Group By Communists; Propaganda Says Scouts Are Tools Of Capitalism

Young Pioneers' Rival Red Organization To Scouts. Pamphlets Here.

A pamphlet, issued by the "Young Pioneers of America," making an attack upon the Boy Scout organization as a tool of the capitalists has reached the hands of Shelby scout officials. Peculiarly enough the pamphlet seems to be in circulation during the observance of National Boy Scout Week.

The four-page pamphlet makes a lengthy series of charges against the scout organization and ends its propaganda by urging the children of the working people join the Young Pioneers. All the charges are very similar in tone to the propaganda put out in textile centers of the two Carolinas by the Communists, or Reds, a couple years back.

The title of the pamphlet is "Smash the Boy Scouts! Join the Young Pioneers!" The pamphlet professes to be a prelude to a campaign "to expose to the workers' children the bosses' plan for a new war and for militarizing the workers' children." Excerpts from the numerous charges follow:

"The Boy Scout organization glorifies the wars of the bosses. Its real aim and object is to prepare the workers' children for good soldiers in the armies of the bosses. Even the very oath of the scout pledges him to his duty to God and to his country—which means to fight, without questioning, for the wars in the interests of the bosses and against the workers."

"The bosses are feverishly preparing for wars. Just consider the 'good-will' trip of Hoover, the plan for building an American navy 'second to none,' the building of 15 more cruisers—what are these but proof of the bosses' preparations for war? At the same time

the capitalists mumble a few phrases about peace, such as the Kellogg Pact, to put the workers off guard so they should forget about the war preparations.

"They are trying to trap the young workers and students into the Citizens Military Training Camps and into the Reserve Officers Training Corps, where they are trained for the coming war.

"For militarizing the children, the bosses have a special instrument! That is the Boy Scouts of America! This is the real purpose of the Boy Scout movement! This is the real meaning of the celebrations planned for Boy Scout week!

Attack Schools. "The schools, which carry the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX)

Farmers Discuss Five-Year Plan For This County

Gathering Held Here On Saturday

Farm Board To Consider Increase In Grain And Hay Acreage, Cut In Cotton.

An 11-point program for a period of five years in Cleveland county for improving general agricultural conditions was inaugurated at a meeting of between 150 and 200 farmers and farm women held at the court house here Saturday.

No definite program was adopted at the meeting, but a session of the county board of agriculture is to be called soon for discussing the program and making plans for another general meeting.

Features Attract. Among the features of the proposed program which interested the meeting Saturday were those calling for increased grain and hay crop acreage, better yields and selected varieties of sweet potatoes, and continued boosting of better cattle and poultry flocks.

Speakers Here. Two district extension workers addressed the meeting. They were John W. Goodwin, district farm agent, who spoke on general farming conditions and the cotton situation; and Miss Ruth Current, home economics agent, who discussed food and clothing requirements and shortages in certain lines.

Five-Year Plan. The eleven basic points of the proposed five-year plan, which will be considered by the county agricultural board with the likely addition of sub-divisions under the 11 heads, follow:

1. Not over 50 percent of crop land in summer cultivatable crops.
2. Reduce cotton acreage.
3. Increase small grains at least to 1-3 of cultivatable land.
4. Increase hay, seed and soil buildings crops to 1-3 of cultivatable land.
5. Increase acreage and production of pasture to supply of livestock.
6. Increase only Porto Rico and Nancy Hall varieties and increase yields of judicious use of fertilizers and soil practices.
7. Increase the raising of pigs to supply home needs and for markets where feeds are available.
8. Continue the practice of the use of pure bred bulls to be used. Increase the number of milking cows to supply the home needs and for the sale of milk and cream on farms suitable for this purpose.
9. Continue the use of pure bred poultry and double the number of laying hens.
10. Protect our wood land by using the crippled trees for fire wood. Preserve the good trees for lumber on repairs of farm building and for sale if any surplus.
11. Cooperation with the Cleveland Farmers Mutual Exchange in marketing poultry and other farm commodities.

Club Boy Grows Unusual Porker

Poland China Hogs Weighs 811 Pounds When Killed. Used Club Feeding Plan.

Leo Hamrick, of the Bolling Springs section, is a 4-H club boy who has a real story to tell fellow club members.

Some time ago young Hamrick, son of Ed Hamrick, purchased a registered Poland China pig as his club project. For months he fed his pig along the feeding plan suggested in the 4-H club advisory work and then killed the porker last week at the age of 17 months. The hog weighed 815 pounds and was such a hefty one that for a day it became a show in the entire Bolling Springs community.

The Hamrick incident is only one of several of successful projects carried on by 4-H club boys and girls in Cleveland county.

Annual Meeting Of Mills On Tuesday

The annual meetings of the stockholders of the Dover, Eastside and Ora cotton mills will be held Tuesday morning in the directors room of the First National bank. It is not known whether all of these mills are paying dividends from their past year's operations.

Boy Scouts Observe Opening Of Anniversary Week Here Sunday

Scouts Of Shelby And County Gather At Presbyterian Church, Hear McDiarmid

National anniversary week of the Boy Scout organization in America was observed Sunday afternoon at 5 o'clock in a service held at the Shelby Presbyterian church and conducted by Rev. H. N. McDiarmid, pastor.

Scouts from all sections of Cleveland county and Shelby gathered for the service which marks the beginning of the week honoring the incorporation of the organization on February 8, 1910. Today it is one of the strongest and most highly respected builders of young manhood in the world.

Rev. Mr. McDiarmid's talk to