

# Fairmont Messenger

Entered as second-class matter October 24, 1907, at the Post Office at Fairmont, N. C., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Vol. 8.

FAIRMONT, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 1914



## EXTRA INDUSTRIAL EDITION

### OUR TOWN

Located in One of the Best Farming Sections in the United States.--Noted as a Cotton and Tobacco Market and Commercial Center.--A Partial History.

Fairmont located in the southern part of Robeson is the veritable hub of the most prosperous farming section in North and South Carolina. To the south of her lie the flourishing tobacco fields of South Robeson and the cotton and tobacco plantations of the bordering South Carolina counties, Marlborough and Marion, while to the north famous tobacco and cotton farms of Old Robeson send their yearly

ton business and draws trade from an unusually large radius of territory. Fairmont is not an old town, indeed it has just very recently struck its stride, and the impetus given it by the tremendous amounts expended here each year and by the coming of the Beaufort County Lumber Co. which practically doubled its population seem to point to a healthy prosperous

name is due to the efforts of Mr. F. L. Blue who was mayor at that time. Mr. Blue realized the name of Ashpole had the psychological effect of suggesting to one a low swamp country so he set out to find a name that would be suitable to the town's location. In looking through the records Mr. Blue found where Fairmont in Davidson county had discontinued as a postoffice. He then directed the town's attorney to have the Charter amended and the town's name changed to Fairmont. The old town of Ashpole was devoid of distinction, however, for it was here that the Rev. Stephen Ivey, a prominent and fruitful educator in 1878 established a school under the auspices of the Cape Fear Baptist Association.

This school ever since its influence in the town has always been a source of pride to the people anywhere take me to their school and in education than do the people of Fairmont. Fairmont or Ashpole, as it then was incorporated in 1901

### To the Reader of this Edition

The Messenger wishes to thank the following merchants and business men for their support in getting out this Tobacco-Industrial Edition:

- E. V. McDaniel, Mayor
- E. Fisher, Agent A.C.L. R.R.
- Fairmont Light & Power Co.
- W. B. Brice & Son, Live Stock
- Fairmont Supply Co. Every-thing
- J. S. Thompson, General Merchandise
- Dr. F. H. Pittman, Dentist
- People's Tobacco Warehouse, Fairmont
- Tobacco Warehouse, Robeson County Warehouse, Bank of Fairmont.
- Miss Lorena Lewis, Millinery
- P. R. Floyd & Co., General Merchandise.
- O. I. Floyd Co., General Merchandise.

This edition costs money and these gentlemen have been patriotic enough to contribute to the publication. These firms are not all that Fairmont contains, not by any means, but they represent the cream of the business.

These words they are the most... We ask all readers of this edition to reward these business

### Bank of Fairmont

An Institution That has secured an Important Part in Industrial Development of Fairmont.

The Bank of Ashpole was organized on the 12th day of February 1904 with an authorized capital of \$20,000 \$9,500 of which was paid in and on the 26th day of June the same year began business in the brick store now occupied by the people's Barber shop. At the first meeting of the stock holders the following seven men were elected directors: A. S. Thompson, R. O. Pittman, A. J. Floyd, Dr. J. P. Brown, A. N. Mitchell, O. I. Floyd, and F. L. Blue, this board of directors immediately elected the following officers: A. S. Thompson, President. Dr. J. P. Brown, Vice-Pres. F. L. Blue, Cashier. For five years the bank did a consistently progressive business in this stand but the busi-



Main Street.

tribute to her merchants.

It is the strategic point for a large town and its rapid growth and development bears out the truth of this statement. The cardinal interest of Fairmont is in leaf tobacco and owing to its strategic position it has become the tobacco metropolis of Robeson county. Last year over four million pounds of leaf tobacco was sold on the floor of its two warehouses and approximately \$1,500,000 was paid to Robeson County farmers in return.

This year another huge warehouse has been erected and opened and it is only natural to suppose that even more tobacco will be sold here this year. Along with tobacco of course cotton for the ascendancy owing to the favorable rates from Wilmington via L. and the great amount of cotton raised in this county last year over 11,000 bales were marketed.

To the investors of capital or the homeseeker no town offers more alluring inducements than Fairmont. Situated in a fertile country settled by a thrifty people, law-abiding and God-fearing, who largely raise their own supplies. The rapid growth of Fairmont in the past few years furnishes no cause for surprise. The natural advantages of country is theirs and with native brawn and talent they are building up their section with magnificent strides, a hospitable people, the farmer with tobacco and the stranger within their gates is given a cordial reception. The visitor or stranger is struck with the beauty and modernness of the town. It is laid off after the fashion of a city its streets are paved its business houses are of brick and filled with immense stock of merchandise displayed with the up-to-datehess of city stores. Fairmont is comparatively a new town having only borne the name Fairmont since the late 1907. The derivation of the



The Jones Building.

and besides two years during which time it was Union City was Ashpole until 1907.

The census of 1910 gave Fairmont something over 800 but since that time the population of the town has almost doubled and

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### Errata

In the writeup of Mr. E. V. McDaniel on another page it is incorrectly printed that he came to "what is now Baltimore, in this county, about 41 years ago." When reading this remember that this should be 21 instead of 41.

**Fairmont 1914**  
First Jubilee

men with the trade. When you see a business public-spirited enough to boost the town and community in which it does business, mark it down that that firm is progressing and wants the town to progress, too.

### CONTEST ON! READ!

The Pittman Drug Co. are now conducting a Piano Contest. With each sale from their store they are giving away coupons which represent so many votes to the purchaser. These votes are good on the Piano. The person securing the highest number of votes at the close of the contest will be declared the winner of the Piano. Now is just as good a time to get started as ever. It is possible for a person even now to get ahead and take the lead for the grand prize. Get in this game. It is worth your time. Get your Sunday school or church to get to work for the piano. It will grace your hall or parlor. See coupons in regular edition of The Messenger or see Mr. H. H. Pittman at the store about getting started now. (adv.)



Interior of the bank of Fairmont.

### THE O. I. FLOYD COMPANY

The Store in Blue.



Store of O. I. Floyd.

The present handsome quarters of O. I. Floyd Co., the store painted blue is the logical evolution of one of Fairmont's oldest magnificent business houses. Its proprietor Mr. O. I. Floyd a native of Robeson born and rear-

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Street looking South.