

# THE LANCASTER NEWS

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LANCASTER, S. C., TUESDAY, NOV. 7, 1916

\$1.50 A YEAR.

## VAN WYCK FAIR SPLENDID SUCCESS

MANY FINE EXHIBITS

Business Very Active in Progressive Community—Box Supper Next Friday.

Van Wyck, Nov. 6.—The fine weather continues and the farmers are making use of it in gathering their crops and in sowing grain. Some complain that the land is too dry and hard to put grain in as it should be, but there is an old saying about "dusting wheat and smearing in oats." If this is a true saying the wheat crop will be put in right, as there has been dust for some time. The early sowing of oats is looking fine—a good stand but we have noticed a good many Hessian Fly working on it and if the dry, warm weather continues much longer the early oats will be set back by the fly sapping it.

The Van Wyck community fair was a great success and surpassed the most sanguinary expectations of its promoters. The officers of the fair wish to express their thanks to all who aided with exhibits, and in other ways, to make it so successful. Without the co-operation of the community we could not have had a fair worthy of our enterprising community. Now, as we have been successful with our community fair, let us all join in and help to make our county fair a success. We have the exhibits and we should have Van Wyck community well represented at our third annual fair for Lancaster county. The other community fairs of the county are arranging to have their exhibits there, and Van Wyck must not be behind in this movement. Why not join in, in a real co-operative spirit, and let Van Wyck lead?

Some of our Van Wyck people attended Carolina Institute community fair in Mecklenburg county last Friday. Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Massey, Miss Eva Massey, Mrs. J. A. Hyatt, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Yoder, Miss Besse Cunningham, Mr. J. D. Griffin and Misses Louise Vaughan and Kathleen Bates were among those who attended. The exhibits were good, showing that Carolina community is progressive and an up-to-date people. The horse and mule exhibit was especially good—the chicken and cattle industry was in evidence but the hog exhibit was lacking. The fancy and household departments had fine exhibits and show that this community has some experts in these important lines.

On last Sunday morning there was a little commotion among Van Wyck people when it was reported that a horse had been stolen from the stables of Mr. J. H. Crenshaw. The horse and the bridle was gone and the lot gate standing open. Parties followed the track of the horse to a point near Osceola, where they were informed by a colored man that he found the horse wandering about and put it in one of his stables. The conclusion was that some one rode the horse to Osceola and there abandoned the horse perhaps boarding a passing train. The horse was recovered and seemed none the worse for his night's outing.

Mr. Jim Graham is shipping some very fine sweetgum logs from Van Wyck. These logs are being cut and hauled out of the Twelve Mile Creek bottoms. The dry weather makes the hauling of these logs comparatively an easy job, as the land is like a paved road. There is some fine timber in Twelve Mile Creek bottom, some elm, sycamore, ash, birchwood and other hardwood, and the only time it can be handled to advantage is during a dry spell.

Mrs. J. V. Davis and little daughter, Ellen, and Miss Lethia Haywood are visiting relatives and friends at Rockingham, N. C. They will attend the Rockingham fair while there.

Mary Hicklin, an antebellum colored woman, the type that is so rapidly disappearing, died last Saturday near Van Wyck and was buried at White Oak cemetery on Sunday. Aunt Mary must have been nearing her hundred mark if not already past it, and was an interesting old person.

There will be an oyster and box supper at Van Wyck school house next Friday night, Nov. 10th. Everybody is cordially invited to attend.

## MAYOR JONES REPLIES TO RECENT ARTICLES IN NEWS

### In A Voluminous and Cynical Communication Addressed To The News, City's Chief Executive Discusses Water Question—Much Information The Citizens Will, No Doubt, Appreciate.

To The Lancaster News:  
In your issue of October 25th, 1916, taxpayer R. E. Wylie has a communication in which he contends that in view of the pending consideration of the matter of supplying the Lancaster Cotton Mills with one million gallons of water per month the city council should be sure of two things. First: Whether such a contract would give the city a reasonable profit and second, whether the present source of water supply, considering the future growth of the city, is not thereby endangered, and calls upon the city council to give the public the benefit of such facts, figures and estimates as they may have upon the subject.

The Lancaster News in its issue of October 31st followed up this subject with an editorial and expressed its understanding to be that the cost of supplying the water to the cotton mills would be \$100 per month for every million gallons, and that the city council would be generously giving the cotton mills \$30 per month, and advised caution upon the city council. In this editorial stress was also laid upon the hazard of undertaking to supply the water to the cotton mill in view of the water supply upon which the present and future needs of Lancaster citizens depend, and increasing the fire risks and cost of insurance protection, and suggests that the taxpayers do a little investigation on their own account, and urges the limelight of publicity to be thrown upon the matter.

Then again in the issue of November 3rd the editor of The News in great solemnity in view of the magnitude of his fear that the city council was about to do something ruinous to the interests of the citizens, addresses himself to the "Gentlemen of the City Council" and calls attention to a rumor that the city council have decided or are about to decide to furnish water to the Lancaster Cotton Mills and again wants to know whether the city would get a reasonable profit and whether the source of water supply would not be jeopardized.

While somewhat veiled in expression, the purpose of the communication of Mr. Wylie and the editorials, all emanating from the same source and combination in hostility to certain members of the city council and to Col. Leroy Springs, as president of the Lancaster Cotton Mills, is manifest; and the design is not to honestly serve the public, but to insinuate that there is something rotten in the scheme engineered to give the interests of Col. Springs some advantage at the expense of the public, which calls for exposure, and to suggest to the public that there is no one in Lancaster more qualified to protect the public interests than those paragons of virtue, private and civic, represented in the persons of R. E. Wylie, Luther Ellison, and their associates who egg them on to hurtful insinuations against public officials.

But, in this communication, I will assume that the inquiries are honest and intended to serve the public and make answer in like purpose, especially since some friends, whom I trust, deem it wise and proper to bring this business proposition in the public prints, although any taxpayer or citizen can get all the information he needs by proper inquiry at the office of the city council. It would seem that the fact that the city council is composed of men of good business capacity and experience and thoroughly devoted to the interests of the city would warrant a presumption at least that they would not jeopardize the interests of the citizens who honored them, and trusted them.

First. As to the Status of the Matter. No contract has been made to supply Lancaster Cotton Mills with water and Col. Leroy Springs, president, has not sought to secure water of the city council. As a matter of fact our information is that the cotton mill has an ample water supply obtained from deep wells and the overflow of the city water dam, and is installing

adequate water reservoirs without regard to obtaining water supply from the city. Our fear is that the city may lose the benefit of a valuable contract because of the captious and foolish hostility being fomented and exhibited about the matter.

It may be that such a contract would avoid litigation in case the city should in the future attempt to increase the height of its dam and thereby destroy or materially reduce the overflow of the stream's water to the mill's reservoirs. It may be the city may want to raise the height of its dam as a precaution against any possibility of diminution of the stream of water, but in doing so it might have to consider the possibility of an injunction, or damage suit in case a reasonable use of the stream water was thereby denied the cotton mill. Wouldn't it be rather generous in the mill authorities should they be willing to pay the city for water supply rather than litigate with it for depriving them of the reasonable use of the stream water? "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread."

I have said that the proposition for the purchase of city water does not come from the Lancaster Cotton Mill, but as a matter of fact it originated with the city council which, it may be, has a longer head than some of its publicity critics, who blunder in and in gross ignorance hinder the accomplishment of a contract most valuable for the interests of the city's future water supply.

The News wants the minutes of the city council. Very well, here they are, disclosing all that has transpired on the subject.

In the minutes of July 27th, 1916, is found this statement:

"The mayor called the attention of the council to the fact that the Lancaster Cotton Mills were contemplating putting in a water system at the mill village and that it might be advisable for the city to endeavor to sell water to the mill as we had plenty of water and needed the money. On motion and after discussion, the mayor was authorized to make a proposition to the mill offering to allow the mill, at its own expense, to connect with the city mains and to furnish it water at the established rate of seven (7c) cents per thousand gallons. The mill to furnish the meters."

There was no opposition to this proposition, and John D. Wylie, son of R. E. Wylie, and A. J. Gregory, son of W. T. Gregory, all associated with Luther Ellison in the usurped control of the Lancaster News, voted for the resolution. Can it be doubted that Messrs. R. E. Wylie and Ellison knew of this action of the city council? These minutes were read and confirmed at the meeting of August 9th, 1916, without any opposition from John D. Wylie who was present. At a later meeting John D. Wylie and A. J. Gregory did express some opposition to the proposed contract but the council has not changed its view as to the matter. This proposition has been communicated to Col. Leroy Springs, president, but so far it has not been accepted and we have no information that it will be accepted.

As to the Cost Per Month of Supplying Water.

Salary of engineer	\$ 40.00
Salary of superintendent	33.00
Salary of Clerk	15.00
Alum.	38.50
Oil, etc.	3.00
Coal (30 tons at \$3.50)	105.00
Repairs (based on 8-year average)	4.64
Total	\$239.47

The plant is equipped with two compound non-condensing high service pumps with a guaranteed capacity of 500 U. S. gallons per minute each. One pump therefore will produce for each ten hour day:

500 gallons per month.
30,000 gallons per hour.
300,000 gallons per day.
9,000,000 gallons per month.

The engineer says he is now pumping from six to eight hours per day, which we will average at 7

hours per day, and to be more than liberal we will assume that he is getting only 80 per cent efficiency, which will produce:

400 gallons per minute.
24,000 gallons per hour.
168,000 gallons per day.
5,040,000 gallons per month.

And by dividing the monthly production of 5,040,000 gallons into \$239.47, the total operating expense per month, we find the present cost to the city of putting the water into the houses of the consumer to be the sum of 43-4 cents per thousand full capacity for seven hours each day the cost per thousand gallons would be only 3.8 cents, and if they were run at capacity for ten hours per day the cost per thousand gallons would be even less, but for the purpose of these figures and to leave ample margin we show the present maximum cost, based on only 80 per cent pump efficiency, to be 43-4 cents per thousand gallons, and I challenge contradiction.

At my request Supt. R. S. Harper, has recently made a test run of the plant and I have in my possession his estimate of the present cost of the water, based on 80 per cent pump efficiency and a seven-hour day run, to be 4.68 cents per thousand gallons, a fraction less than my estimate.

No sane and unbiased man will for a minute argue that the interest on city bonds is an operating expense. That interest must be paid regardless of whether or not this contract is made, and must be paid whether the plant stands idle, operates one hour or ten hours a day, but if the interest was a proper charge to operating cost the city is more than compensated for that expenditure on account of free hydrant rental, insurance rate reductions, free water for sprinkling streets and public drinking fountains. If arbitrarily the \$175.00 per month interest be added as an operating expense and the plant be run at capacity for ten hours per day the cost of the water would be about 5 cents per thousand gallons. Assuming that, this proposed customer, the Lancaster Cotton Mills, will use one million gallons per month it will take less than 1-2 hours extra pumping per day or to be exact 41 2-3 hours per month to supply that amount of water and the additional cost to the city to furnish this million gallons would be—

Extra fuel	\$20.83
Extra Alum.	7.50
Extra oil	.58
Extra repairs	.92
Total	\$29.83

Or 2.98 cents per thousand gallons. Yes, the cost would be even less as it would not take all the extra coal figured for the reason that fire is kept banked in one boiler all the time so as to start the pumps on short notice in case of emergency. This extra million gallons that will cost the city less than 2.98 cents per thousand is offered for sale at 7 cents per thousand gallons to any consumer using or agreeing to use one million or more gallons, and this is the same rate fixed and published by the Water Works Commission, of which I was chairman, in December, 1908, and on that same schedule of rates the Ice Plant, Oil Mill, L. & C. Railroad and every other manufacturing plant is now paying.

Allusions have been made as to the Cotton Mill being outside of the town limits. The editor of The News, Mr. Wylie, and other critics have either through ignorance or prejudice not taken the trouble to thoroughly inform themselves as to the attitude of other cities in furnishing water to nearby manufacturing plants. For instance, I am reliably informed that the city of Chester is furnishing water to the Wylie Cotton Mills, which is two miles outside the corporate limits, at the rate of 7-12c a thousand gallons, and no doubt they would gladly furnish the Eureka Cotton Mills, which is outside the corporate limits of said town, on the same basis.

It is the general custom of all cities to furnish manufacturing

plants with water at the minimum rate, whether they are inside or outside the corporate limits for the reason that they recognize that they are the lifeblood, not only of the town but of the surrounding country.

The sale of our surplus water to manufacturing plants, business concerns for automatic sprinklers, and to out-of-town users is what kept the plant from operating at a loss before the sewerage system was installed. The foregoing shows that there is a "reasonable profit" to the city, should it be fortunate enough to electuate this contract.

As to Sufficiency of Water Supply. There is, in my opinion, absolutely no doubt of the sufficiency of the water supply now available to take care of the growth of the city for many years to come, and still have many million gallons to spare.

Before the proposition was made to the mill, I personally asked Mr. H. S. Jaudon, the engineer who installed the plant, whether or not he would advise such a contract and he unhesitatingly recommended it, stating that the city would have a handsome profit in it at seven cents per thousand gallons and that we had plenty of water to supply the needs of the city and take care of such a contract.

Should the flow of the stream in very dry seasons materially diminish the amount of water ordinarily held by the dam, ample reserve for all the needs of the city and the mill could easily be provided for by additional reservoirs which may be made at comparatively small cost. The last constructed reservoir, of about five times the capacity of the original one, cost approximately \$700.

The foregoing shows that our water supply is more than adequate for the present and for possible needs of the future.

Incidental Benefits from Proposed Contract.

As to fire protection, the interlocking of the city system with the mill system would greatly enhance the power to control a conflagration within our limits, for the reason that the mill system has two pumps with capacity of 1000 gallons, each, per minute, twice the capacity of the city pumping plant; the mill further having reservoirs and tanks, completed and contemplated, with greater capacity than the existing reservoirs of the city, all of which combined power of reserved water would be at command to fight a city conflagration. Such a system would doubtless tend to further lower insurance rates.

Furthermore, the mill village with a population over three thousand is right at our door, and we are and should be vitally interested in their health and welfare. We have absolutely pure and palatable water in large quantity and if it be possible to put such water in the homes of these worthy workers whose labors are contributing so much to the upbuilding of Lancaster no good citizen should object.

The Springs Interest a Valuable Asset for Lancaster.

Is the presence of Col. Leroy Springs and his business enterprises properly appreciated in this community, and is it wise to encourage the constant nagging to which he is subjected by jealous and envious men who would like to drive him out of business leadership so that they might play a more important role? He and his interests contribute more taxes than any other in the city and county, and many persons can testify as to his generosity and charity. Should he shut down his cotton mill and other enterprises here the grass would grow in the streets of Lancaster, many families be thrown out of employment, many homes vacated and many business houses closed, and a wall of regret would be heard on every hand. Other communities would gladly welcome him and better appreciate his worth as a citizen. The citizens of Fort Mill would welcome him there as shown by the following resolutions adopted by them

## HEATH SPRINGS ITEMS DURING PAST WEEK

MEETING MUCH SUCCESS

Interesting Game Results in Favor Home Team—Candy Stew Enjoyed.

Heath Springs, Nov. 6.—Eva Salie, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Cauthen, died at the home of her parents at Pleasant Hill Thursday night, Nov. 2. Her death was unexpected and came as a great shock to her parents and friends. She was three years of age and a very attractive child. Interment took place at Salem cemetery Friday afternoon, the services being conducted by the Rev. W. W. Boyce, pastor of the Pleasant Hill A. R. F. church.

Lillie Mae Adams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cameron Adams, died at the home of her parents near Pleasant Hill Saturday night, Nov. 4, after an illness of six weeks with typhoid fever. Everything that physician, nurse, parents and other loving hands could do was done to save the life that hung in the balance so long. Lillie Mae was seven years of age and was a beautiful and obedient child. The little body was laid to rest in Fork Hill cemetery Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, the pastor, Rev. T. A. Dabney, conducting the funeral services.

Dr. B. D. Stalkner was called to Southern Florida Saturday night to see his mother who was ill at home there. A report saying that she died Sunday was received here Sunday night. The sympathy of many friends here will be extended to Dr. Stalkner in his great bereavement.

Mrs. Hasel Vaughn returned here Friday morning from Charleston where she has been visiting her husband at Fort Moultrie.

The meeting of the Sunday School Association of the First District, held at Pleasant Hill A. R. F. church Sunday, November 5, was pronounced success in every way.

Mr. W. C. Ellis of Heath Springs, president of the association, Mr. T. Green of Lancaster, president of the county association, Miss Rave of Spartanburg, who is superintendent of the elementary department, and other speakers, were present and made interesting and helpful talks. A bountiful dinner was spread by Pleasant Hill people, to which a large congregation gathered at the meeting. The next association goes to T. H. Haw.

A candy stew given on Thursday night at Mr. P. W. Twitty's, in honor of Miss Lena McWhorton of Beville county, a former teacher of the Caston school, was greatly enjoyed by the young people in community.

Mrs. John Clyburn, who visited her daughter, Mrs. J. O. Starks, Sunday, returned to her home at Hartsville, Monday afternoon.

Mr. W. D. Ellis and son, and Messrs. Wallace and all of Hartsville neighborhood to the Flint Ridge on Thursday to visit Messrs. Crimminger and P. W. Twitty their families.

Mr. and Mrs. P. T. Twitty attended the funeral of Mr. A. D. Hill, Mrs. Twitty's brother, at Lancaster Friday.

A very helpful meeting of School Improvement League held at the school house Friday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Caskey and Brown of Bethune were guests of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Mobley Sunday. Mrs. Caskey will remain at her father's for several days.

Dr. and Mrs. Walter C. Twitty of Rock Hill visited the former's father, Mr. P. T. Twitty, Sunday.

Mr. Preston B. Blackmon of Lancaster spent Sunday with his daughter, Mrs. R. S. Watson. Mr. Blackmon has reached the age of 68 and says his health was never better and even seems to improve as he grows older.

Mr. Irby Cauthen of Rock Hill the Sunday guest of his parents and Mrs. A. Cauthen.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Mobley children motored to Kershaw, day to spend the day with Hicks Morgan.

Mr. W. B. Twitty was the guest of Mr. Henry Halle at Hartsville.

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