

THE FORT MILL TIMES.

Established 1891.

FORT MILL, S. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1921.

\$1.50 Per Year.

BORN IN MECKLENBURG.

Charlotte Paper Slips in Giving Birthplace of President Polk.

"One of the Charlotte papers a day or two ago printed in its news columns the statement that Jas. K. Polk, 11th president of the United States, who was in office from 1845-49, was born in western North Carolina," yesterday said a Fort Mill citizen to The Times. "The statement was of course incorrect, as all familiar with our country's history know; but the surprising thing was that a newspaper published in the very county in which Polk was born should allow such a misstatement of fact, to creep into its columns. Polk was a native of Pineville township, Mecklenburg county. The house in which he was born stood one mile south of Pineville, near the road leading to the South Carolina line, a few miles away. The house long since disappeared, but the site it occupied was marked 20-odd years ago by the Mecklenburg county Daughters of the American Revolution by a monument. This monument is in plain view from the public road, but I dare say that many who see it do not know that it marks the birthplace of a president of the United States. The monument, built in pyramid shape, is about 15 feet high and is of granite blocks. It is of substantial construction and is apt to stand for many generations.

"As a boy Polk moved with his father from Mecklenburg county across the Blue Ridge mountains into Tennessee, where he became a leading citizen. He was elected governor of that State and stepped from that office into the presidency. He was a close personal friend of Andrew Jackson, one of his predecessors in the White House, who also was elected from Tennessee, but who likewise was born in this section, just across the line in South Carolina, not more than 25 miles from the birthplace of Polk.

"It is a singular thing that of the three presidents Tennessee furnished the country, not one of them was a native of that State. Andrew Johnson, the third Tennessee citizen to fill the presidency, succeeding to the office from the vice presidency upon the death of Lincoln, began his mundane existence in Raleigh, N. C.

"Polk never distinguished himself as president and held the office for only one term, but Andrew Jackson was a real president and Johnson was among the strongest men who ever held the office, in my opinion. Both he and Jackson began life handicapped by extreme poverty, and it has been said of Johnson that up to the time he was married he did not even know how to read, that after he had finished his day's work at his tailor shop his wife taught him his letters. The story may or may not be true, but one thing is true—his state papers are among the strongest of any of the presidents."

Old Water Tank Torn Down.

The old water tank of the Southern railway which had been in use many years 100 yards north of the passenger depot in Fort Mill has been torn down. Use of the tank was discontinued some time ago. A railroad man speaking of the demolition of the tank said that during the third of a century it had stood in Fort Mill, the tank had supplied water to passing locomotives perhaps as many as 50,000 times. There are now only three tanks from which locomotives operating between Charlotte and Columbia may replenish their water supply, these being at Rock Hill, Chester and Wimsboro.

Announcement was made in the Columbia papers a few days ago of the engagement of Miss Bess Spratt and Dr. R. D. Durham of Columbia, who are to be married in November. Miss Spratt is a daughter of Mrs. Jennie Spratt and was reared in Fort Mill. She has been making her home in Columbia for several years, but the announcement of her engagement is nevertheless a matter of much interest to her friends in this community.

GRADED SCHOOL NOTES

Pupils Hear Talks on Selection and Care of Fruit Trees.

Mr. Owens of the extension department of Clemson college was at the school here Thursday morning and talked to the three higher grades and a few town folk on the selection, planting and care of fruit trees. Miss Juanita Neely, county home demonstration agent, was present and delivered a talk on the use of fruits in the diet.

A called meeting of the Parent-Teacher club was held last Thursday afternoon to decide whether Fort Mill would have a booth at the York County fair. The question was decided in the affirmative and any one in the community who has anything they would like to put on display in the booth should see Mrs. A. O. Jones as soon as possible, as the dates for the fair are November 9, 10 and 11.

Chester's football team played the Fort Mill high school Friday evening at Whiteville park, Fort Mill. The visitors outweighed the Fort Mill boys 30 pounds to the man. Some of Fort Mill's best players were knocked out during the first quarter and Chester walked off with the game, 93 to 0. It was a grand game of slugging by the Chester men all the way through. Referring to the Fort Mill team a neutral spectator said, and it has before been said, that he had "never seen better sportsmanship displayed than that of the Fort Mill boys; they played a clean, upright game."

Alfred O. Jones, Jr., Monday morning assumed his duties as teacher in the high school. He is teaching part of the English and history classes.

A large crowd was at the school auditorium Monday evening to see "Mr. Bob," a comedy given by pupils of the Winthrop Training school, Rock Hill. There were only seven characters in the play, but they acted their parts well. The proceeds of the play were divided equally between the training school and the athletic association of the local school.

Practice by the girls in basketball is now going on. The season opens November 1. Representatives of the Catawba Athletic association Saturday met in Rock Hill to arrange the schedule of games.

Friday afternoon the Kershaw football team will play Fort Mill in Fort Mill.

Threatens to Sue Town.

Two young white men from Chester who accompanied the Chester high school football team to Fort Mill for the game which was played here Friday afternoon with the local high school boys forfeited cash bonds of \$10 each to the town of Fort Mill on the charge of drunkenness and disorderly conduct. They were arrested at the football game, Saturday one of the young men phoned the mayor of Fort Mill, F. E. Ardrey, from Chester that upon arrival at his home the evening before he was examined by three physicians, who declared him absolutely sober, and that if the town of Fort Mill did not refund the \$10 he had been required to put up for appearance to be tried on an "unreasonable and false" charge he would forthwith bring an action for \$10,000 damages against the town.

Gold Hill Notes.

Robert Caldwell of Chester was the guest of Pruitt Blankenship for several days last week.

The home demonstration club of the Gold Hill community met at the school house Monday to hear a discussion of the value of fruit trees by Miss Juanita Neely, home demonstration agent for York county. A delicious lunch was served by members of the club.

S. C. Faris has returned to his home from a recent visit to his daughter, Mrs. Wilson, who was critically ill at her home in Orlando, Fla., a few days ago.

A number of Gold Hill people attended the play given by the Winthrop training school in the auditorium of the Fort Mill high school Monday evening.

NEWS OF YORK COUNTY.

Current Items of Interest From the Yorkville Enquirer.

The condition of J. S. Brice, Esq., who has been ill at his home in Yorkville many weeks, continues to improve slowly but steadily. Mr. Brice, though still very weak and unable to consider business matters of any kind, is spending much of his time in his front piazza.

Three cases of scarlet fever have been discovered among primary grade pupils in the Yorkville graded school. Children of Dr. J. D. McDowell, Rev. T. Tracy Walsh and J. S. Brice, Esq., have the disease. The school trustees have dismissed the first, second and third grades for the balance of the week. The three little patients are doing nicely.

Several hundred Winthrop students are either sick now with bad colds and coughs or else have been during the past two weeks, according to reliable sources. Reports are out that the girls are suffering from a mild form of influenza, but it was learned Saturday that such was not the case, but that the sickness is in the form of bad colds. Most of those who have been sick, it is said, are freshmen.

A meeting of the York county legislative delegation, called by Senator Hart to be held in Yorkville Saturday, failed to materialize since no member of the delegation showed up at the appointed hour. The meeting was called to consider providing for an appropriation to meet the deficit in the appropriations for the operation of the court of general sessions and common pleas and for the jail, which has run short of sufficient funds to run the institution until the meeting of the next General Assembly.

Merritt, five year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Neely, who lives near Rock Hill, lost her life Friday as the result of severe burns. While an older sister was lighting a fire in an open fire place with kerosene, little Merritt was standing nearby. When the kerosene blazed up her clothing was ignited, and before the fire could be extinguished her body was terribly burned. The child was taken to the hospital at once, but the burns were too extensive and healing could be done. Death followed a few hours later.

Approximately 100 Masons of Chester, Armenia, Yorkville, Clover, Sharon and other places attended a meeting of Hoodtown Masonic lodge, R. L. Vinson, worshipful master, Monday evening to participate in a big supper and to witness the conferring of the third degree upon four candidates. O. Frank Hart of Columbia, grand secretary of the grand lodge of South Carolina, was present for the occasion and addressed the fraternity after the work had been conferred.

Rock Hill is in the midst of the greatest religious revival in the Gypsy Smith meeting now in progress that it has known in years, perhaps the greatest it has ever known. Everybody is talking about the powerful sermons that are being preached by the noted evangelist and almost everybody is hearing him preach at some time or other. Services are held every night and the meeting is to continue through next Sunday. Attendance on the services is not confined to Rock Hill alone. People from all sections of York county are present for the sermon at night. Many people come from Lancaster. Scores come nightly from Chester.

Much Liquor Stolen.

Liquor and wines to the value of \$300,000 assembled by Joseph E. Leitner at his country estate on the Virginia shore of the Potomac river has disappeared, and the three inch steel door built to guard the treasure, now swings ajar and useless upon rows of empty bins. A gang of liquor cracksmen, equipped with an acetylene torch, melted their way into the liquor store room and soon had loaded the hundreds of cases on automobile trucks and disappeared.

HUNTING SEASON HARD BY.

Many Will Soon Answer Call of Field and Woods.

In South Carolina as in other States of the union the hunting season is close at hand. For days the greens of the woods have been turning red, yellow and gold in the age old cycle of the passing years. It is a time of falling leaves and to some it is a time when the old hunting call runs strong. All through the spring days many a man and boy has listened hungrily to the partridge drumming, in the early summer evening to the clear, sweet call of the quail—"bob white, bob white"—has floated. Out in the depths of the woods the squirrel's rascous squawking has filled the air. All this sound of the wood and plain has brought to many the thought that soon the autumn would come and that with dog and gun the "happy hunting days" could again be enjoyed.

The youthful hunter usually gets his gun down and is off to the woods or field for the first day of the season. Not so late experienced hunter. To him the comparatively easy killings of the early fall hold no lure. He prefers to wait until later in the season when there is more sport in bagging the game.

In Canada the duck season is a busy season for the Indian. All summer long nature has been raising the little ducklings into strong pinioned, plump breast-birds for his delectation. The Indians around the larger lakes in western Canada make autumn a special hunting time. No sporting thrills, however, go quivering up their spines; theirs is no red blood lust call, but a call of the inner man, a call of necessity. The Indians around many of these western lakes kill and salt down barrels and barrels of wild duck for winter use. As they get them late in the season when the weather is sharp, virtually no chance is given the flesh to decompose. Financed always with the smallest of bank rolls, the red man demands of himself that every shot fired must tell to the fullest extent. Hidden among the reeds he waits for his prey to light upon some favorite spot, close by. Or again, his canoe covered with grass and reeds till it might be taken for a muskrat house top or floating log, he lets his bark drift down upon some great and drowsy gathering of wildfowl in the center of a bayou. Closeness means everything, for large must be the kill. At last the proper position is reached. His gun speaks out and death and destruction follow the report. And on some cold night in the winter he will feast on a wonderful stew of ducks' breasts, the four quarters of a muskrat and a little onion, all boiled together for a few hours over a slow fire.

Likes "The Times."

Editor Fort Mill Times:

Please allow me a little space in The Times to say a few words:

1st. I want to commend you for the many improvements in The Times in the last few years. It is gratifying to note that the paper is now all home print—that all the news is printed in the home office. In former years we did not especially enjoy reading old news that was first published elsewhere.

2nd. We are glad to have "Eagles" and "Spinner" report the news from their respective communities. We only wish others would contribute the happenings in their neighborhoods. It would be worth while and would prove decidedly interesting.

The Times is always a welcome visitor to our home and we would feel lost without it. So let's help the publisher make The Times the best weekly in the State.

W. C. McGinn.

Fort Mill, Oct. 19.

Sixty bales of cotton belonging to Lowry & Moore, York cotton buyers, went up in smoke in a fire on the public weigher's platform in York Sunday morning at 2 o'clock. The loss was upwards of \$5,000. The origin of the fire has not been determined.

FLOW UP COTTON STALKS.

Clemson Urges Prompt Destruction of Boll Weevil Resort.

At the closing session of the annual meeting of the extension forces at Clemson college a few days ago a resolution was passed urging the farmers of the State to lose no time in plowing under cotton stalks to destroy the chief hibernation place of the boll weevil. The resolution declared that the early fall destruction of cotton stalks is the most important single step in the fight against the weevil. The discussion brought out the suggestion that if the cotton stalks cannot be plowed under they should be burned, for these winter hotels of the weevil "must be destroyed," but that plowing under is just as efficient as burning and is much more economic as a matter of soil building.

It is claimed that if the earlier stalks and other hibernating places are destroyed, the fewer weevils will survive the winter. In infested fields it is common to find weevils at the rate of 5,000 to 25,000 per acre at the time of first frost, and that the weevils developing late in the fall are the ones most likely to survive the winter, as they are not worn out by long flights and the rearing of the young as are the older weevils. "For this reason, development of weevils in late fall must be prevented as the first step in making the next crop."

Cotton Fire in Rock Hill.

Fire Monday morning in the cotton warehouse of T. L. Johnson in Rock Hill resulted in damage estimated at from \$15,000 to \$25,000. There were about 300 bales of cotton in the warehouse, but the fire was confined to one of the compartments in the building. Some of the bales were almost wholly consumed by the fire, while many other bales were considerably charred. The fire was discovered at 6:30 o'clock Monday morning. Damage to the warehouse and cotton was said to have been covered by insurance.

Methodists Give for Church.

Approximately \$40,000 was subscribed Sunday by the congregation of St. John's Methodist church, Rock Hill, as the nucleus of a building fund to be used in the erection of a modern and commodious house of worship. The Methodist girls at Winthrop college pledged \$1,000 for the new building.

PLEASANT VALLEY NEWS.

Interesting Items From Progressive Community.

Miss Ethel Loftis, teacher in the Fort Mill graded school, spent the week-end with her sister, Mrs. L. R. Therrell.

Mrs. Ed Bailes and her children of the Gold Hill community visited Mrs. Bailes' parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Taerrel, during the last week.

Miss Kathleen Hall of the Harrison section of Mecklenburg county visited relatives in this neighborhood last week.

Philo Cunningham of Williamston, N. C., Mrs. Rena Cunningham and Miss Janie Harris of Pineville, N. C., visited Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Potts last Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. Potts accompanied them home on their return trip.

Mrs. Dorcas Davidson of Charlotte, N. C., visited Mrs. Lavinia Davidson the past week.

"Spinner."

To Address Ex Service Men.

John D. Frost of Spartanburg, former adjutant general of South Carolina, has accepted an invitation to address the World veterans of this section on Armistice day at the York County fair. The American Legion posts of Rock Hill, York, Fort Mill and Hickory Grove have agreed to have their members present to participate in the exercises of the occasion, according to the Rock Hill Record, which adds that if the tentative program for the day is carried out it will be the biggest celebration and demonstration that the people of York county have taken part in since the World war.

CHESTER OFF LIST.

Fort Mill School Cancels Athletic Events With Neighbor.

In a letter which he is today mailing to Prof. R. C. Burns of Rock Hill, president of the Catawba Athletic association, composed of high schools in the Fifth congressional district, Capt. F. M. Mack, superintendent of the Fort Mill schools, protests strongly against the conduct in Fort Mill last Friday afternoon of members of the Chester high school team in the football game with the local school team and says "we have decided to sever athletic relations with the Chester high school."

In his letter to Prof. Burns, Capt. Mack says that "many ladies who went out expecting to see a clean game, such as were all the other games we have played, were disgusted at the conduct of certain Chester players, one of whom in particular used very vile language which a majority of those present could not help but hear. This has given football an ignoble name in our town; to use a slang expression, it has killed football in Fort Mill."

After praising the strong, aggressive Chester team, which he says is one of the best high school teams he has seen lately and that it outclassed Fort Mill and deserved the victory over the local eleven, Capt. Mack adds: "As to their being unnecessarily rough, engaging in slugging, illegal use of hands, feet, etc., I have nothing to say, as that was a matter for referee and umpire who officiated at the game, and has nothing to do with our decision to sever athletic relations with the Chester high school."

READY FOR SERVICE.

Battalion Headquarters Company to Be Mustered In.

Organization of headquarters company, third battalion, first regiment, S. C. N. G., is expected to be completed this week when either R. W. Grant, adjutant general of South Carolina, or Maj. F. W. Glean visits Fort Mill and Rock Hill to muster into the service of the State 41 men who have recently enlisted in the company, 20 of whom are residents of Fort Mill and 21 at Rock Hill. The headquarters of the company will be in Fort Mill, with Arthur C. Lytle, first lieutenant, in command.

Following the report to the militia bureau of the federal government by the inspecting officer who musters the company into the State service, Col. F. R. Day, militia inspector for the federal government in South Carolina, is expected to visit Fort Mill and Rock Hill to muster the company into the federal service.

Yesterday Mr. Lytle said the company headquarters probably would be in the building recently occupied by The Times on Confederate street.

Many Fruit Tree Orders.

The fruit tree campaign that was put on several days ago by Miss Juanita Neely, home demonstration agent for York county, has resulted in a large number of orders being taken for trees at the various meetings held in different sections of the county. At the meetings, Miss Neely, assisted by representatives from the horticulture department of Clemson college, gave valuable information about the varieties of fruit adapted to this section, as well as the planting and care of trees in general. Among the orders taken for trees by Miss Neely were a number from Fort Mill township.

Request in Franklin's Will.

In giving his daughter a picture of the king of France, set with 108 diamonds, Benjamin Franklin requested "that she would not form any of those diamonds into ornaments, either for herself or daughters, and thereby introduce or countenance expensive jewels in this country." Franklin concluded his will with this clause: "I would have my body buried with as little expense or ceremony as may be."