THE FORT MILL TIMES.

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SPOTLESS WILLEMSTAD.

Picturesque Dutch Town in Caribbean Sea.

A strike in Curacao, in the West Indies, won first page mention for that quaint Dutch colony of the Caribbean a few days ago even in the midst of our own industrial troubles. It was news because the cool, stable government of this little island, set down in the midst of the turbulent Latin republics, has made it a synonym for peaceful efficiency.

The island and Willemstad, its capital, "The Spotless Town" of the Caribbean, are described in a recent bulletin of the National Geographic society.

"The traditions and customs and language of Spain are written large over the entire mainland border of the Caribbean, the famous and infamous Spanish Main," says the bulletin. "But a bare 40 miles off the coast lies a true fragment of old Holland. When your ship noses into the narrow channel that leads into Willemstad's harbor you must pinch yourself and keep your attention centered on the desert background rather than on the architecture, lest you think you are skirting the coast of the Zuyder Zee. For more than three centuries the Hollanders have maintained this spot surrounded on all sides by strong alien influences, and to all outward appearance it is still as Dutch as when its first families were planted by the old Dutch West India company.

"Curacao is some 40 miles long and 3 to 7 miles wide and practically a desert. If its value were determined by its products it would never be of much worth. But location, the possession of what has repeatedly been called the best harbor in the Caribbean and ownership by a nation of traders have made Curacao the Hong Kong of the West.

"One phase of life in Curacao, which is less marked now that government is becoming more stable in the Latin American republics, has to do with political fugitives. The town is the haven and heaven of ex-dictators. It used to be a poor day in Curacao when one could not find his half dozen or so generals or doctors who had been on the wrong side of a revolution and were there waiting for 'something to turn up.'

"Willemstad, with its 20,000 inhabitants, is situated on the shores of Curacao's most valuable possession—its landlocked, clover leaf shaped harbor, so deep that ocean liners can anchor close to shore. Some of the streets are wide, but many are narrow, tortuous lanes, and from all rise a welter of gable ends and dormers that proclaim this unmistakably a Dutch town. The houses are pink, yellow, green and red, with red tile roofs, and from a distance look like toy houses set down in careless array.

"One thing the traveler in search of 'atmosphere' resents: there are many Hollanders but few of them have retained the baggy trousers and wooden shoes of the homeland. About half the inhabitants are negroes or mulattoes. Dutch is the official language, English is generally spoken, and the negroes speak a lingo which is a mixture of those two tongues and French, Spanish, Portuguese, Indian, and Hebrew as well.

"Obtaining fresh water is a serious problem in Curacao. Water from the few rains is caught in cisterns, but those who are able import their drinking water along with their meat from the South American mainland, and ice is brought from the United States. The dryness of the climate is a blessing to the island, though little less valuable than its harbor. Damp Puerto Cabello, a few miles away on the mainland, is one of the unhealthiest places washed by the Caribbean, while desert Curacao is one of the healthiest. Neither malaria nor the dreaded 'Yellow Jack,' the twin scourges of the tropics, has ever been able to get a foothold there.

"In spite of its annual loss in administering Curacao, Holland holds on to it, largely because she cannot let it go. The United States has never shown any desire to purchase the island, and the Monroe doctrine probably would not sanction its transfer to any other power.

"Curacao is governed by an official sent over by the queen of Holland, assisted by appointed councilors. Holland frankly is not interested in ultra democracy and though the negroes of the island were freed in 1861 they do not vote."

McLEOD WINS RACE FOR GOVERNOR

Thos. G. McLeod of Bishopville, Lee county, Tuesday was nominated for governor of South Carolina in the second Democratic primary over Cole L. Blease. Fewer than 100 small precincts scattered throughout the State were to be heard from Wednesday morning, when McLeod had a lead of 15,097 over Blease. The vote then stood: McLeod 98,390, Blease 83,293.

The vote yet to be reported will not make any material difference, as fewer than 10,000 votes remained to be counted.

J. H. Hope of Union defeated John E. Swearingen, incumbent, for the office of State superintendent of education. In a total reported vote of 178,071, Hope received 104,543 and Swearingen 73,528, Hope's lead being 31,015.

WRITES OF FORT MILL.

John M. Banks Gives Impressions of "Old Home Town."

Editor Fort Mill Times:

Before returning to my home in Columbia I would like to express my gratification at once again having been able to visit the town which I hold near and dear to my heart. It was in Fort Mill that I was born and although I have not actually lived here, I have visited "the old home town" enough to feel that it is my home.

The memories of Fort Mill have been handed down to me by my father and mother, both of whom have now gone to the great beyond. It is but natural that, having heard them speak so fondly of this town, where, they often declared, they spent some of the best years of their lives, that their son should cherish for the town a love and gratitude that will never fade away as long as there is a spark of life in his veins.

I am glad to see that Fort Mill is fighting onward and upward in this time of depression which has laid its hand on the whole State. I have heard and read of the gallantry of the Fort Mill men in the Civil war, in the troublous days that followed and of the magnificent record set up by those men, some of whom did not return alive, in the great World war. I can see in the few days that I have been here that this same never-say-die spirit still manifests itself here. I am glad to learn of the steps now under way for permanent street and road improvements, which I am told are to be started in the very near future.

I am also glad to see the prominent part the young men, especially the World war veterans, are playing in the civic, commercial, agricultural and religious activities of the town. I am further proud of the way these young men are being treated by the citizens of the town.

Fort Mill has a glorious and historic past of which she should be proud, a present that is creditable to the town, and her inhabitants, and I am sure that the future holds bright prospects.

There is only one regret that I have in visiting Fort Mill and that is the time when I must leave. But distance cannot lessen the love and pride I hold for the town. "Absence makes the heart grow fonder."

John M. Banks.

An old Democrat said the other day that hard times and Harding times mean about the same thing.

Thomasson, Brown, Houston.

W. D. Thomasson for treasurer, Hugh G. Brown for supervisor and J. L. Houston for judge of probate were nominated in the Democratic primary by the voters of York county Tuesday, following contests in each race especially spirited since the first primary on August 29, when other candidates for the offices were eliminated. The vote in the three races follows:

For Treasurer—W. D. Thomasson 2,701, Mrs. Lucia Ewart Quinn 2,482.

For Supervisor—Thos. W. Boyd 2,191, Hugh G. Brown 3,007.

For Judge of Probate—J. L. Houston 2,642, G. P. Smith 2,580.

Fort Mill's Vote.

Twenty-five more voters cast their ballots in the State and county primary Tuesday than went to the polls on the same mission two weeks ago, the vote in the first primary being 368 and in the second primary 393. Much quiet interest was noticeable throughout the day in the result of the election and the workers for various candidates were active in their efforts to get out as large vote as possible.

Next to the race for the governorship, interest in the choice of a county treasurer seemed to claim peculiar attention among the Fort Mill voters, although the conests for county supervisor and judge of probate were given much consideration.

As in the first primary on August 29, Cole L. Blease got the big end of the local vote for governor, his vote here being 259 to 125 for Thos. G. McLeod. John E. Swearingen, running for reelection for State superintendent of education against J. H. Hope of Union, fell down badly in Fort Mill, securing only 87 votes to his opponent's 290.

In the races for county offices, the vote was: Treasurer, Mrs. Lucia Ewart Quinn 217, Walter D. Thomasson 162; supervisor, Hugh G. Brown 174, Thos. W. Boyd 208; judge of probate, J. L. Houston 197, G. P. Smith 185.

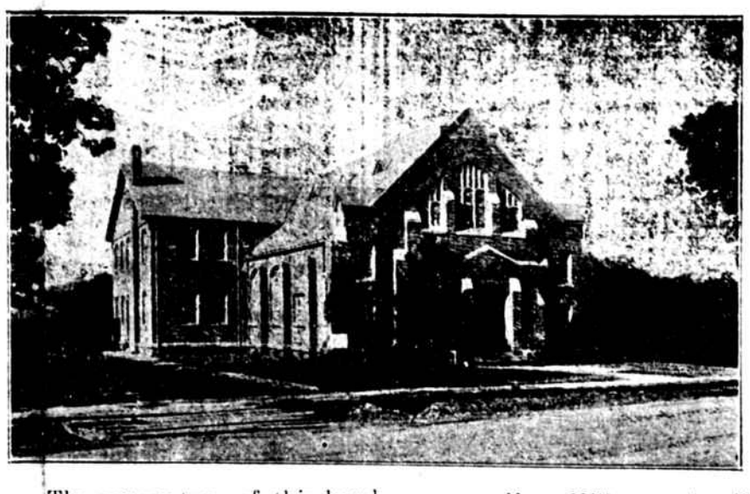
Won't Confirm Tolbert?

In a statement given to the press in Spartanburg Friday, Senator N. B. Dial expressed the opinion that the senate would never confirm the nomination of Joe W. Tolbert as United States marshal for the western district of South Carolina, adding that the investigation of Tolbert's record disclosed that it was even worse than his enemies supposed. It is the duty, Dial said, of the people to keep unworthy people out of office and as a senator he proposes to see to it that a man who is confirmed for a federal office in South Carolina is a man of good character.

Egg Eating Snakes.

The catchig by W. Frank Nisbet of Jacksonham of a large chicken snake a few days ago did not bring the desired results, so we are informed by a neighbor of Mr Nisbet, says the Lancaster News. The Nisbet family are still short on eggs, caused, it is presumed, by the presence of a mate to the snake captured a few days ago. Mr. Nisbet has his trap set again and we expect to hear favorable results within the next few days.

ST. JOHN'S METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH



The cornerstone of this handsome new Fort Mill church will be laid Sunday morning, September 17. The building was erected during the summer of 1921 and is one of the most modern church edifices in the upper part of South Carolina. A feature of the building is the arrangement for departmental Sunday school work.

FARRIS TRIAL DELAYED.

William C. Farris, whose rampage at Clover last Wednesday cost four lives, will not be tried until the term of criminal court for York county convenes in November. His defense will then be insanity, it is said. These developments came in court at York Monday afternoon when the case was reached shortly after 5 o'clock, following the finding by the grand jury of true bills in each of three indictments for murder, with a fourth indictment for the same charge pending.

When the case was called, Thos. F. McDow, counsel for the defendant, made a motion for a continuance until the November term of court on the ground that he had not had time to prepare the case for trial, coupled with the allegation that the state of public sentiment against his client just now, only a few days after the killing, was prejudicial to a fair and impartial consideration of the case by a jury.

Judge James E. Peurifoy, presiding judge, before granting the motion for a continuance, said he was an earnest advocate of speedy trials for all cases and thought the greatest criticism of the courts was based on alleged delays, but in the light of the facts advanced by the defendant's counsel he thought there was merit in the motion for a continuance.

With the Farris case continued, no other criminal matters were left for consideration at the September term of court and all the jurors were discharged Monday evening.

Road to Be Improved.

Col. T. B. Spratt, chairman of the Fort Mill township bond commission, yesterday stated that the commission will invite bids during the next week for the grading and surfacing with top soil of the Steel Creek road from the limits of the town to the North Carolina line, at a point where the York county road connects with the Mecklenburg road leading to Charlotte and the Steel bridge which York and Mecklenburg counties are erecting over the Catawba river, two miles upstream from Wright's ferry. The stretch of road to be improved is about five miles in length and the successful bidder will be required to begin work on it at once, it is stated. The road will be widened throughout its entire length and such grading as is necessary to make it a modern highway will be done.

Covers Entire Cotton Belt.

The boll weevil has now infested practically the entire cotton growing area in the United States and has shown that it can live in the extreme northern portions of the belt. The damage that the insect caused in 1911 was only 1.28 per cent of the normal crop, but by 1921 it had grown to 31 per cent, and it increased more than 10 per cent last year. Should it continue to gain at that rate it would be only a few years before there would be no American cotton.

Baptist Body Meets.

The York Baptist association, composed of messengers from the 18 churches of the denomination in York county and having a membership of 2,700, convened in its 44th annual sessoin at Flint Hill Baptist church Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock. James F. Boyd of Fort Mill township is moderator of the association; W. A. McAfee of York, vice moderator; J. D. Smith of York, R. F. D., secretary, and E. B. Johnston of Rock Hill, treasurer. The association will be in session two days and will hear reports on religious literature, stewardship, missions, education, temperance and public morals, benevolences, W. M. U. work, Sunday school work, B. Y. P. U. and colportage, laymen's work and the seventy-five million campaign.

Besides addresses by local speakers, it is expected that the following speakers from a distance will be present to discuss the particular work which they represent in the State: Dr. J. S. Dill, The Baptist Courier, Greenville; Dr. W. T. Dericux, missions; Dr. C. E. Burts, the seventy-five million campaign; Dr. T. J. Watts, Sunday schools; Dr. W. M. Whiteside, Baptist hospital; Dr. C. A. Jones, education; Dr. E. M. Lightfoot, temperance; Dr. W. J. McGlothlin, Furman university; the Rev. G. C. Epps, stewardship, and Dr. A. T. Jamison, Connie Maxwell orphanage.

Loses Life in Fire.

Luther Brown, 19 year old negro boy, lost his life at 5 o'clock Tuesday morning in a fire which destroyed a two story tenant house on the farm of J. H. Sutton, two miles from town. The boy was spending the night with his uncle, Lon Gaddy, and was sleeping on the second floor. When the fire was discovered by Mr. Sutton the roof was about to fall in and it was with difficulty that he succeeded in arousing Gaddy and his family in time for them to escape. It is thought that the Brown boy was overcome by smoke and in an effort to get to the stairway fell to the floor unconscious. No explanation of the cause of the fire could be given by the negroes. The house was built of logs and had been in use many years.

Mrs. T. H. Wilson Dead.

Mrs. Blanche Wilson, wife of T. H. Wilson, well known farmer of the Gold Hill community, died at her home early Friday morning, following an illness which extended over several months. She was 26 years old and was the daughter of Frank Culp of Pineville, N. C. Following funeral services at the home, the burial was at Flint Hill Baptist church late Friday afternoon.

Winthrop to Open Wednesday.

The regular fall session of Winthrop college will open on Wednesday, September 20, and all new students are expected to report on Friday, September 15, for registration.

TALKS OF POSTOFFICE.

Maj. Jones Discusses Story Given Out by J. C. McElhaney.

"I see you have me indicted in the Yorkville Enquirer for selling postoffices," said Maj. John F. Jones, collector of internal revenue, as Views and Interviews stepped into the major's office in Columbia last Wednesday morning, says the Yorkville Enquirer.

"Yes," replied Views and Interviews. "How's that?"

"I refer to the article from the Fort Mill Times," went on the major. This story of McElhaney of Fort Mill having paid me $50."

"There is something to that. He paid me the $50 all right, but I have wondered whether Parks has made good to him. Seems to me he should have done it, but I don't know.

"Selling offices? That's the way they put it, but I don't feel that way about it. No, I have not thought of it like that, and if I have anything to conceal I don't know what it is."

Maj. Jones pulled out a drawer of his desk, in which there was a large quantity of bills, $5s, $10s and perhaps larger denominations.

"There are several hundred dollars there," he said, "and this memorandum tells where it came from and also what is being done with it.

"Somebody has got to pay the expenses of county and State conventions and you don't expect me to do it, do you? You Democrats, who are thoroughly organized, have your own way about it. Why, I was reading not long ago where your State executive committee and your county committees were levying assessments on candidates from a few dollars up to several hundred dollars, according to the importance and income of the office. I do not see anything wrong with that. Somebody has to pay, and it seems reasonable enough that the man who gets the benefit should pay the bill."

Bridge Ready in Three Months.

The York-Mecklenburg steel bridge which will span the Catawba river at the old "Buster" Boyd ferry, 13 miles northwest of Fort Mill, will be completed in about three months, according to W. W. Miller, county engineer. The substructure has been finished and work is now progressing on the superstructure. Considerable delay was occasioned in sinking the concrete piers on account of quicksand encountered in the river bed.

The new bridge will cost about $100,000, one-third of which is to be paid by York county and the remaining two-thirds by Mecklenburg county, which agreed to pay the major part of the cost of the structure because of the benefits which are expected to accrue to Charlotte as a result of opening up trade territory in York from the bridging of the river. The bridge will also make accessible a route between York and Charlotte that will shorten the distance between the two towns from 45 miles to 30 miles.

Four Terms for Auditor Love.

The reelection of Broadus M. Love in the primary two weeks ago makes the fourth successive time this popular official has succeeded himself without opposition and constitutes a record in York county politics of recent years. Mr. Love was first elected in 1910 and was reelected in 1912, 1914, 1918 and 1922, the term having been lengthened from two to four years in 1914.

The fact that no one has opposed Mr. Love in four successive elections, not even this year, when there was a general scramble for office, carries its own compliment of the high regard in which the voters of the county hold his services.

No more games of baseball are expected to be played on the local diamond this season, The Times is informed by a member of the Fort Mill club.