

**ROCKINGHAM
POST-DISPATCH**

Isaac S. London
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

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SALUTATORY.

ANY salutatory, or public "bow," must of necessity be couched in a personal form, and so I ask you to bear with the personal pronoun.

I have bought the Rockingham Post from the Post Company and the Rockingham Dispatch from Charles P. Russell, and consolidating the two under the name of the Rockingham Post-Dispatch I, as editor and proprietor, hereby make my formal announcement to the readers of the two old papers, who I trust in due season may be classed as loyal friends of the new. The subscription lists of both papers are being merged, and all who have paid in advance for either paper will continue to receive the new paper just as though no change were made, and all who are in arrears for, or are in debt to, either of the old papers will owe such debt to me. And right here let me say that inasmuch as I must send the paper to those who have paid in advance, I hope you who are behind will attend to the payment of such arrears without waiting for me to request such payment by mail or in person. And in advance, I thank you.

For eight and a half years I edited and published the Siler City Grit, and whatever measure of success attended my efforts there was due to the friendship of the Chatham county people for the paper. Truly, a paper is just what the people would have it—no better, no worse. I left my Chatham home buoyed with the idea of literally "hitching my wagon to the stars"—and with the encouragement of the people of my new Richmond county home I "will not fail." I simply don't intend to.

The paper will be devoted to assisting in the upbuilding of Richmond county. It is for ALL the people, for town, mill and county. As our section grows, so will the paper. The paper is named the "Rockingham" Post-Dispatch, but in reality it will be the "Richmond County" Post-Dispatch, for the field is to be county-wide and not merely confined to a small section of the county known as a town. A town after all is merely a larger assemblage of our country brethren, a closer community of interests, a correlation made possible by co-operation. For half a score of years I have been a visitor in Rockingham and have watched the steady growth with interest and pride. Our town is destined for big things, for a larger growth, a wider expansion. And with ALL pulling together the inevitable growth will come the quicker.

As regards the paper, I am en-

deavoring by various improvements, both in prospective and present fulfillment, to give our readers a mechanically "fit" paper. If the paper falls short in this respect, it will not be for lack of effort. Both presses of the Post and the Dispatch have been sold and a splendid larger Babcock press bought in their stead. This improvement will enable the paper to be published four pages at a time, and in that way we get out a 6-column, eight page, all 'home' print. And then, too, with this better press, we will be in position to handle all sizes of poster work for those who desire such forms of advertising. We have ordered a larger and new job press, and will cater to this department; we trust our readers will bear this in mind.

Charles Lamb said that "news-papers always excite curiosity; no one lays one down without a feeling of disappointment." But if YOU individually give the paper your hearty support, if you will help and not hinder, boost and not knock, then you and that 'feeling of disappointment' will be strangers.

Promises are worth but little; dreams rarely come true. It will be my utmost endeavor to give to the people of Richmond county a live, clean, aggressive newspaper—one that may prove a welcome visitor in every home.

In politics the Rockingham Post-Dispatch will stand foursquare on the principles of the Democratic party.

I come with neither flame nor sword—the mission of the paper is to build up, not tear down; to boost, not knock; and to live in charity with my fellow-man, and exemplify the golden rule. (But from this don't draw the conclusion that the paper is to be afraid or will hesitate to condemn or criticize when occasion warrants.)

I want the friendship of every reader, and my gratitude will know no bounds; for gratitude is the fairest flower which springs from the soul and the heart of man knoweth none more fragrant.

ISAAC SPENCER LONDON.

A number of the State papers have been very kind to the editor in referring to his Rockingham move, for which expressions of friendship and interest on the part of our brethren of the Fourth Estate we are sincerely grateful.

EVER stop to think how miserable you would be if all your fears were to be realized? A jolly old editor kept this gem at the head of his paper: "I have suffered many misfortunes, most of which never happened." Quit worrying and go to work.

INASMUCH as Congress convened Monday, the public is anxiously waiting to see if the "dryness" of the nation's Capital will have any effect on the quality of the oratory; by the way, a wag suggests that Congress might economize fuel by arranging to utilize its "heated arguments."

FUNNY how fate always gets wrong men in the right place, or the right men in the wrong place, or both, or vice versa, or some other kind of a mix-up. There is a man in every town and community (know him?) who could have had the war fought to a finish and the Kaiser whipped to a frazzle if he had only been consulted. You know it, because he says so.

BEECHER is credited with "no man is half a man who has lost out of him all the boy." How does that apply to you? Have you lost the boy from your make-up? If you have, then your life and the lives of your friends will be brightened by your getting back to the boy spirit. Be serious, yes; be business, too. But keep the boy-spirit alive within you. 'Tis as important to the mind as exercise is to the body.

THE first year under the salary system for Register of Deeds for Richmond county shows a saving to the county of \$568.02. The fees etc received into the Register's office from Dec. 1, 1916, to Dec. 1st, 1917, were \$2918.02; the salary of the Register is \$1800, and \$600 for Clerk hire, making a total of \$2400, though only \$350 was expended for Clerk hire this past year as one was not secured for the first month.

The Clerk of Court will go on the salary basis Dec. 1st, 1918.

Day Time 'Possum Hunters

A. G. Corpening and Coney Steele are bird shots of a feather. In fact, they are rather proud of their excellence in the bang-up line. And to this accomplishment must now be added the prowess that should attend daylight 'possum hunting.

These two gentlemen were bird hunting on and around the farm of School Committeeman D. A. Parsons, the 28th. Daylight was waning; the bouyant steps of early morn were lagging from the quest over hill and dale; spirits drooped—the end of a perfect day, from a hunting viewpoint, was approaching. Suddenly, their dog electrified them with a dead point. Gingerly and aquiver, the two sportsmen slipped forward. The quarry was under a brush pile. The frantic actions of the dog indicated the point was no lie, but no birds arose with startling swiftness to b-r-r-r-r their way to yon wooded haven; nor any rabbit of the Chatham species sped his white-tailed way like a streak of light. But still the dog bespoke his faith. Said Corpening: "My dog is named George; he can't lie. We'll tear this brush heap to bits." And suiting the action to his words, he laboriously began the dessecting. When the last brush had been removed, lo, cuddled before their eyes was a huge mass of blackish-brown—a 'possum of large proportions and heavy weight!

And yet Mr. Corpening had been bragging just five minutes earlier that HIS dog never chased a rabbit, much less any other form of four-legged meat!

Additional Personals.

Miss Lucille Elliott returned Monday from Greensboro, where she had been since the 30th.

Mr. Leake S. Covington left this morning for Greenville to attend the Methodist Conference. Also, Mr. H. E. Gibbons, of Hamlet, went to Greenville today.

Mr. Minor Hinson went to Raleigh on Wednesday night where he will take the entrance examination for the third officers training camp. He has many friends who wish him success.

Mrs. George P. Entwistle, Mrs. A. M. Watson and Miss May Covington are in Winston-Salem visiting Miss Mary Entwistle, who is a senior at Salem College.

A number of Rockinghamites are 'camping' this week at "Lem-mego," on the John L. Everett farm about seven miles from the city; they are: Mr. and Mrs. Fairley Long, Misses Mossie Long, Berta West, Elizabeth Haywood, Ruth Russell, of Monroe, James Covington, Conie Steele and Perry West. The campers encamped Monday and will de-camp Saturday.

CHRISTMAS JEWELRY

Christmas Jewelry! Where will I get it? Why at Helms & Co. I got it there last Christmas and it proved to be of the BEST QUALITY--and therefore I'll revisit that up-to-date store for my Christmas goods THIS year. : : :

We are able to state that we have secured a splendid line of watches, diamonds and various articles of jewelry, and most everything will be at or near the old price. we would advise all to buy early, as goods are scarce, especially watches. However, we are ready for you and it will pay you to see us FIRST. --Moral--Shop early.

T. R. HELMS & CO.

Opposite Rockingham Hotel.

FOR SALE

One second hand
FORD Touring Car
in excellent condition.

One Liberty Six
Touring Car, practically new.

One Piedmont
Touring Car, brand new---a car worth two hundred dollars more--for \$765.00.

SEE

L. G. Fox.

FOX DRUG STORE

The place to meet your friends.

Everything in our line can be had here. Tell us your wants - we will be glad to show you.

A Fresh Line of Wiley Delicious Candy Just Received.

Phone 20 for anything you want.

Fox Drug Stores.