

THE COMMONWEALTH

A Family Newspaper: For the Promotion of the Political, Social, Agricultural and Commercial Interests of the People

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TWICE-A-WEEK

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., TUESDAY, SEPT. 19, 1916.

READ IT FIRST IN THIS PAPER

NUMBER 63.

CORRESPONDENCE LETTER FROM THE STATE'S CAPITAL

Raleigh, N. C., Sept. 19.—Four children of the Medlin family who are "accused of having negro blood in their veins" have stopped the Mount Vernon public school in House Creek township, Wake county, located four miles from Raleigh—and this in face of the fact that both the County Superior Court and the State Supreme Court have decided recently that there is no taint of negro blood in the Medlin children, according to evidence produced at the trial of the case in court.

The neighbors of the Medlin family think the court does not know itself, or that they know more than the court. So the parents of all the white children accompanied their children to school on the opening day of the school term, and when the school superintendent declined to bar the Medlin youngsters, all withdrew their children from the school. At present they have the teachers and county superintendent Giles "up a tree," and there is no school going on at Mount Vernon. The county board of education at last accounts had taken up the matter, and is now wrestling with the question of what is to be done under these remarkable conditions.

Paper Mills for North Carolina.

Newspaper publishers and other large consumers of paper will be interested in the efforts that are being made to establish wood-pulp paper mills in North Carolina. The State Forester is preparing a wonderful exhibit for the State Fair at Raleigh, the third week in October, showing the possibilities of North Carolina in the field of production of wood pulp and of high grade paper from our native woods—proving that this State can manufacture paper and establish splendid paper producing mills here if the proper effort is made.

The State Fair management is particularly stressing the economic value of the Fair to the people of the State. The Better Babies Contest will be under greatly improved conditions, and will be under the direction of the Woman's Club of Raleigh, and all parents are requested to communicate with the Club for full information.

The Fair, through the North Carolina State Board of Health, will put on a motion picture exhibit equal to that of any first-class theatre as a free attraction. The black tent will comfortably seat from three to four hundred people, and there will be ushers and music, and the films will be fine in every respect, ranging from Charlie Chaplin and comic cartoons to illustrations of the origin and treatment of typhoid fever, flies, tuberculosis, etc.

Risky Thing to Elect Republicans to Office.

Appropos of the misleading "criticisms" of the "Butler crowd" and the Republican spell-binders now stumping the State, of the Democratic State administration of affairs, it is pertinent to show how the sixteen counties of the State which have been under Republican rule the last two years or more have fared. Take the tax rate levied in the State managed by Republican boards of commissioners in 1914, the last year for which complete figures are available. The tax rate levied by these sixteen counties and by the other 84 counties in 1914 is shown on page 282 of the annual report of the State Tax Commission for 1915. This shows that the average tax levy in the sixteen counties managed by Republicans (including the State tax, which is the same in each county) is \$1.019 on each hundred dollars' worth of property. The average tax rate in the 84 Democratic counties was 96.7 cents on each one hundred dollars' worth of property. So if Mr. Butler's premise is correct, and the governing party is responsible in each case for the increase in taxes for public improvements, the citizens of those sixteen counties should retire their Republican boards of county commissioners and put Democratic boards in charge. And notwithstanding the lower average tax rate in the Democratic counties, those counties in the State that have made most progress in public improvements will be found in the Democratic list of counties. Not one in the list of Republican counties has made a conspicuous record for building public roads and other improvements.

Comparisons of Democratic and Republican records in their latitude always show up the Republicans in a bad light—to say nothing worse. When it wasn't incompetency it was corruption that featured Republican direction of public affairs and their last performances and the great majority of voters know how risky a thing it would be to ever give them another trial in this State.

All that was Expected.

Democrats here who talk about the Maine election last week invariably express satisfaction over the result. The Republican plurality is much smaller than it has been in any presidential election year in a generation, with the single exception of 1912, when the Republican vote was split between Taft and Roosevelt. If the same ratio shows up in the doubtful States, Wilson will defeat Hughes badly in the electoral college. The Democrats who were in office in Maine were elected in an off-year when local and State issues controlled the voting. This year national issues overshadowed all the other issues, and Maine ought to have given the Republicans a majority twice as large as they received if the Democrats had a less popular candidate for President in the field. For Maine is normally Republican by from 20,000 to 30,000 in a Presidential election year, when national issues (the tariff especially) influence the voters above local questions and policies of State government. Cutting down the normal Republican majority there was all the Democrats expected.

Of Interest to Newspaper Men.

For all these years newspapers have been called upon to publish certain classes of legal advertising for a mere pittance. Now the editors propose to ascertain whether the legislature can be induced to fix a uniform rate for this kind of matter and allow the publishers a "living wage." A joint meeting of the legislative committees of the N. C. Press Association and the Association of Afternoon Papers was held in the office of the Commissioner of Labor and Printing here on Thursday evening, at which a tentative bill bearing on the subject was agreed upon, and the General Assembly will be asked to enact the same into law. The joint committee organized * by electing Commissioner M. L. Shipman chairman and Mr. J. L. Horne, Jr., of the Rocky Mount Telegram, Secretary. "Simple justice" will be the slogan of the campaign, in which all editors of the secular press are expected to cooperate.

GERMANS BEING PUSHED BACK, IS THE REPORT

Rumanians Have Received Reinforcements and are Making a Stand near Dobrudja.

Berlin, Sept. 18., via London.—The allied (entente) forces in Eastern Rumania have received reinforcements the war office announced today. They have taken up a line across Dobrudja, a few miles south of the railroad running to Constanza on the Danube.

Abandonment by the Germans of the village of Bemy and Danicourt, together with positions between Barleaux and Varnandovillers, south of the river Somme, is reported in today's official announcement. North of the river, the statement says, the fighting developed favorably to the Germans.

Notes from Rosemary.

Rosemary, Sept. 18.—The Christian Church of Rosemary of which R. L. Topping is minister, was organized on August 2, 1914 by the present minister. The church now has a membership of 260 and continues to grow. Believers are added at almost every service. The Sunday School is one of the best in the county.

Dr. W. S. Martin, professor of the Biblical Department at Atlantic Christian College will conduct an institute under the auspices of the Christian Church on Sept. 29-30 and Oct. 1. The public generally is invited.

Two were added to the church on Second Sunday and 186 were present in Sunday School.

A community Sunday School Association has been organized and has been organized with Prof. A. M. Proctor as President.

Mr. R. A. Harris of Weldon, was here yesterday, making preparations to open up a first-class plumbing and sheet metal works. He is associated with the Weldon Plumbing and Sheet Metal Works and has conducted quite a lot of work here for the citizens. His work is said to be of the highest order. Watch this paper for his announcement soon.

UNIVERSITY OPENS 121ST SESSION; 1090 STUDENTS

Regular Class Work Began on Thursday; Welcome in Memorial Hall Friday.

Chapel Hill, Sept. 18.—The University of North Carolina opened its doors to students on Tuesday, September 12, when registration for the session of 1916-17 began. It is now 121 years since the first student, Hinton James, reported to the first and only professor at that time, Dr. David Ker, for work at the University. Registration has likewise increased from the one and only student registered that year to the 1090 students reported by President Graham at the formal opening on Friday. Registration continues to go on, and the total has already passed 1100, the largest yet known this early in the year.

Regular classes met for the first time on Thursday. The welcome to the new men and the formal opening of the University was held in Memorial Hall on Friday at that time. Dean Marvin H. Stacy at that time made an excellent talk to the students on the topic, "College Student Investments." President Graham also addressed the students at this time. Among other impressive things he said: "The great question that you bring to the University today has a deeper center than a desire for either physical satisfaction or success in the world. It is the question that the young man came to the Master with—'What shall I do to inherit eternal life?—the large, abundant life that will satisfy all the passions of my life.' The Master made him a fairly easy answer; He told him, for one thing, to play the game according to the rules laid down. The young man replied that he had always done that. Then the Master shifted the whole point of view to the heart of the mystery. He told him that the source of life was not a set of rules, a ceremonial, a doctrine, an organization; but an attitude, an atmosphere, a life."

"College Night" was held on Thursday, when the new students were informed concerning the many student activities at the University and college yells were practiced. "Yank" Tandy talked to the freshmen about athletics. Marion Fowler told of the student publications. "Buck" Wimberly made known the value of Glee and Dramatic work. Clyde Miller spoke on scholarship, and Francis Bradshaw on the work of the Y. M. C. A. A reception was then tendered the new men in the gymnasium.

Many new members have been added to the University faculty to care for the growth in numbers. There have also been a few faculty changes for the year.

DANIELS ADVOCATES INLAND WATERWAYS

Secretary of the Navy Speaks to Atlantic Deeper Waterways Convention.

Philadelphia, Sept. 18.—A series of inland waterways by which submarines might travel from Boston to Key West without entering the Atlantic Ocean is necessary to national defense, Secretary of the Navy Daniels told the Atlantic Deeper Waterways convention here. The convention is working for establishment of 131 miles of canals to link eighteen hundred waterways from Maine to Florida.

In an address at the Philadelphia navy yard Secretary Daniels said in part:

"The importance of sheltered water paths up and down our Atlantic coast, through which small boats may proceed from point to point, has been enormously increased by the conditions of modern warfare."

"Every inland channel adds that much more to the protection of our coast, to the safety of our ports and it is not too much to say to the safety of our entire country from invasion."

Cowan Baker.

Mr. Bennie Cowan and Miss Viola Baker, both of East Scotland Neck, were united in marriage Sunday morning by Rev. R. A. McFarland, pastor of the Scotland Neck Baptist Church.

Hon. Garland E. Midgett of Jackson, N. C., was in town today for the purpose of hearing the matter of J. L. Hooker vs. W. T. Hancock Co., he having been appointed by the Superior Court as referee in the matter.

A party composed of Messrs. L. R. Mills, Jr., L. J. McKeel, Mrs. L. R. Mills, Jr., Miss Anna Mills and Mrs. L. B. Suter of Weldon motored to Greenville today.

AN APPEAL TO STATE DEMOCRATS IS MADE

"Others may follow the lords of war who ride among the corpses of mankind. We follow the President of the United States and seek inspiration of humanity that aspires to higher things."

We must have money to defray the expenses of the Democratic campaign. This is the people's campaign and it is all-important that it be conducted with the people's money.

There are innumerable items of legitimate expense never thought of by the average person. To mention only a few, there is the cost of maintaining national and divisional headquarters, of printing and mailing tons of literature and millions of letters, of effecting organizations in every town in every one of the forty-eight states, in preparing and distributing publicity matter, in maintaining a speaker's bureau, in printing and circulating pictures of candidates, etc.

A Record of Achievement.

The Democratic party has been in control of the government for nearly four years, and in that time has written more of constructive legislation than any other administration in the nation's history, and guided the ship of state safely through crises more numerous and more grave than had arisen in the preceding fifty years of our diplomacy.

The Democratic Administration has kept the country out of war, while preserving its honor unsullied and unstained.

It has provided for adequate preparedness against aggression by any foe.

It has preserved that strict neutrality which Washington declared should always be the policy of the United States.

It has followed in Mexico the policy of Lincoln, who asserted the right of that unhappy people to order their own government.

Dinner Pail is Full.

It has established prosperity more general and genuine than all the people ever enjoyed before, so that every dinner pail is full, every factory working, every man employed, and the average of wages higher.

It has given the nation a system of banking and finance that shielded it from panic and depression when the whole structure of European credit was destroyed by war, and which overwhelmed other neutral nations whose statesmen lacked the foresight and capacity of America's Democratic statesmen.

It has amended the anti-trust laws making guilt personal, defining for the first time without ambiguity what constitutes restraint of trade, and preventing trade monopoly with prohibition of interlocking directorates, and has set up in the Federal Trade Commission a court of business.

Labor Not a Commodity.

It has afforded the farmer easy credit and diminished the burden of interest he must carry.

It has opened up new avenues and created new markets for the products of American factory, field and farm, charted new routes for commerce, and is in way of establishing an American merchant marine which will put the Stars and Stripes in every harbor in the world.

It has forever taken the tariff out of politics by the creation of a non-partisan commission.

It has laid the groundwork for a national system of good roads, guarding against extravagance in use of the people's money with a provision that for every dollar appropriated by the federal government the states must appropriate another dollar.

Patriotism Reawakened.

It has kindled anew the fires of patriotism, reminding men and women of the meaning of Americanism, awakening the nation to a lively sense of its perils, its powers, its weakness, its mission, and quickening the pulse with fervor of devotion to the flag and all it symbolizes.

These are only some of the larger achievements of the Democratic Administration, accomplished not only without disturbance to business, but with acceleration of business.

"The ring of the anvil, not the rattle of the sabre; the song of the reaper, not the shriek of the soldier; the clatter of the shuttle, not the crack of the rifle, have won us the place we occupy to-

day in the councils of the world."

Do You Approve This?

Does this record of the Democratic administration, this very remarkable record made in "times that try men's souls," appeal to you? Does it appeal all the stronger when you take thought that ahead are more dangers, times not less trying, when one false step may plunge the nation into war, when the hand of inexperience may make error irreparable?

If this record of the Democratic administration with the assurance it carries of future wise conduct of the nation's affairs, appeals to you, won't you contribute some money to re-elect it?

The Democratic administration has served the people. Let the contributions and the votes of the people re-elect it.

The Southern States, and particularly North Carolina, have a peculiar interest in the contest. The Republicans are making a campaign, based largely upon sectional lines. They are vicious in their attacks upon the South and the Southern people. In the election just closed in Maine, they used as their chief campaign argument their contention that the South had too large a share in the management of the government. They are trying to prejudice the voters of the North and West against the South on this account. With the campaign being conducted in such a manner, our people ought to be more liberal than ever in furnishing the means to get the truth to the people in the doubtful States.

We cannot expect to get money from that class who expect special favors at the hands of the government. The Republican party has a monopoly on that class. They are furnishing and will continue to furnish money in unlimited quantities to the Republicans.

The Democrats are making a direct appeal to the average citizen who does not want or expect to receive special privileges and who is opposed to restoring the Republican party, which has always been a party of special privilege, to power in the Nation.

The undersigned know from personal conversation with the officers of the National Committee, that they are in urgent need of immediate funds to carry on the necessary work of the campaign and we earnestly urge you to make your remittance now.

The National Committee, at our instance, has appointed local finance committees in practically every town and county in the State and these are urged to begin work immediately and make quick remittances as the need is urgent.

Contributions in any amount will be gladly received.

Make checks payable to Hugh McPee, Treasurer, Wilmington, N. C., or to the Treasurer of your local committee.

A. W. McLEAN, Chmn.

HUGH McPee, Sec.-Treas.

Finance Committee for North Carolina Wilson-Marshall Fund.

Notice.

Our store will be closed Sept. 28. M. HOFFMAN & BRO. 3t.

A protracted meeting was begun at the Baptist Church Sunday under very favorable conditions and will continue throughout the week. Rev. G. V. Lamb of Missouri is conducting the meeting with Prof. J. P. Schofield of Kansas in charge of the music. The public is invited to attend each service.

Mrs. H. F. Badare of Beyroot, Syria, gave a lecture at the Methodist Church Sunday evening, her subject being upon the history of Jerusalem and Bethlehem, discussing the birth of the Saviour and depicting the early years of his life. Her discussion was very interesting and showed a close study of the subject.

EXCURSION TO FLORIDA

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH

Fares from Scotland Neck:

To Jacksonville ----- \$ 9.00

To Tampa ----- 11.50

To St. Petersburg ----- 11.50

To Fort Myers ----- 12.50

(Proportionately low fares from all points in Virginia and Carolinas.)

Tickets sold to Jacksonville will be limited, returning until Oct. 3rd, and those sold to Tampa, St. Petersburg and Ft. Myers to Oct. 6th, 1916. Return trip must be completed by midnight of return limit specified.

For schedules, reservations and further particulars inquire of EPP L. BROWN, Ticket Agent, Scotland Neck, N. C., Phone 7. THE ATLANTIC COAST LINE Standard Railroad of the South

Shower for Bride-Elect.

(Reported)

Showers of different kinds were on the program Thursday, the 14 of September, when Miss Mary Weldon Smith entertained at her lovely Colonial home, "Woodstock," in honor of Miss Cornelia Josey, who is to be married next month. Five tables were arranged for bridge and shortly after arrival the guests were presented with dainty hand-painted score cards. There followed an interesting game of cards, after which the hostess, assisted by Mrs. Richard Johnson and Miss Sallie Neal served a delicious salad course. Then, to the complete surprise of the honoree, Miss Nannie Shields played the wedding march and Master John Hinsdale presented Miss Josey with a lovely shower bouquet of roses. At first sight one might have thought the roses had unusually well rounded and thornless stems, but investigation disclosed the fact that the mysterious "stems" cunningly concealed the chief event of the evening—a linen shower for the bride elect. It was then that the showers of gifts and good wishes on the inside vied with the showers of rain on the outside. The presentation of these many and exquisite gifts was a fitting end to this original and unique entertainment. Among those who enjoyed Miss Smith's hospitality were: Misses Cornelia Josey, Mattie Josey, Louise Josey, Mattie Josey, Hattie Leggett, Lizzie Leggett, Rebe Shields, Eleanor Smith, Laura Clark, Susie Hill; Mesdames Richard Johnson of High Point, Sam Hinsdale of Raleigh, I. H. Smith, T. D. Kitchin, C. H. Herring, J. B. Hall, G. H. Johnson, D. R. Boyette, R. F. Coleman and E. W. Hall.

If the human family continues living at its present gait, and teaching the young its present ideas of extravagance, what can possibly be interesting to the next generation? Possibly some one will invent something new for which to spend money, or some new method of getting rid of it. It looks like everyone is dead bent on spending these days. Economy and saving seem to have lost their place in the present age. Better apply the brakes before it's too late. Don't forget that there will come some rainy days. You can be economical and save without being stingy. This latter day style of trying to keep pace with your rich neighbor will finally cause you sorrow, if you don't be careful. When sickness or other calamities come, what consolation will your past elegance bring you? The money you've spent in trying to keep up with some one else, instead of laying it by for just such, will not pay your doctor's bill. This idea of beginning about seven hundred miles ahead of where your parents left off, is mighty expensive and absolutely unnecessary. Better get in low gear and take it along slow easy!

The Mighty Haag Shows will be here tomorrow, coming through the country in time to give a parade at 12 o'clock, noon. The tent will be pitched on Main street next to the city market. The performances are scheduled for 2 and 8 o'clock.

Twenty six Pullman cars were brought to New Bern today to transport the N. C. National Guard to El Paso, Texas.

PARTY SUFFRAGE RECORDS

Only Democratic Congressmen Appeared for Action.

Congressman C. C. Dill, of Washington, cites the records of the committee hearings on suffrage in Congress to prove that "the only Congressmen who have gone before the Judiciary Committee of Congress this year to ask that a suffrage amendment be voted upon have been Democratic members." He adds that "no others have appeared to ask for consideration of the measure. That is, I think, sufficient answer to any claim that the Democratic Party opposed Woman Suffrage."

This record need only be supplemented with the personal voting history of the rival Presidential candidates to show who is the real friend of suffrage. President Wilson made two trips from Washington to New Jersey to register and vote for Woman Suffrage when it was submitted in his State. Candidate Hughes did not take the trouble to register or to vote the same year—1915—when the suffrage amendment was submitted in his state.

"There is no means of judging the future except by assessing the past. Constructive action must be weighed against destructive comment and reaction." — From President Wilson's Speech of Acceptance.

ADDITIONAL LOCAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

Mr. C. J. Cox of Hobgood was in town today on business. \$ \$ \$ \$

Mr. — Bellamy of Enfield was in town Monday on business. \$ \$ \$ \$

Mr. Ernest Applewhite of Tillery is here today on business. \$ \$ \$ \$

Mrs. M. Oppenheimer is visiting her sister, Mrs. G. Hoffman. \$ \$ \$ \$

Mr. W. C. Allsbrook went to Halifax Monday on business. \$ \$ \$ \$

Mr. Moses Strickland went to Halifax Monday on business. \$ \$ \$ \$

Miss Mary Crowley of Littleton is the guest of Miss Olivia House on Route 2. \$ \$ \$ \$

Miss Alice White of Washington returned to her home Sunday after a visit to Mrs. P. E. White on Route 1. \$ \$ \$ \$

Miss Evelyn Kitchin left today for Danville, Va., where she will enter school. \$ \$ \$ \$

Mr. and Mrs. John House of Oak City were in town Tuesday on business. \$ \$ \$ \$

Mr. Henry Coleman has made a deal with the N. A. Riddick Motor Car Co., for a Buick car. \$ \$ \$ \$

Mr. Kelly Cooper and Miss Sadie Pearson are visiting relatives in Weldon this week. \$ \$ \$ \$

Mrs. Jane Bunch of Norfolk is the guest of her son, Mr. Jere Bunch. \$ \$ \$ \$

Miss Maud E. Flythe of Tarboro is visiting the family of Mr. C. C. Allsbrook near Scotland Neck. \$ \$ \$ \$

Miss Julia Alexander returned to her home in Norfolk Tuesday after a visit to Miss Evelyn Kitchin of this town. \$ \$ \$ \$

Mrs. Pope of near Enfield, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. E. F. Allsbrook, has returned to her home. \$ \$ \$ \$

Attorney R. C. Dunn and little daughter motored here from Enfield today. Mr. Dunn is over on professional business. \$ \$ \$ \$

Mr. N. E. Winslow is remodeling his sales stables on Main street at Ninth. He expects to do a good business this fall and winter in the horse and mule line. \$ \$ \$ \$

Mr. Frank Cross of Scotland Neck, R. F. D., has accepted a position with the Hardy Hardware Co., this city, and will be glad to have his friends call and see him. \$ \$ \$ \$

Messrs. J. Ashley Bryan of Linton, Costa Rico; Paul Bryan of Moultrie, Ga., and Herman Bryan of Jacksonville, Fla., spent a few days recently with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Bryan. \$ \$ \$ \$

Mr. Clee Vaughan's grocery business continues to grow, as is evidenced by the fact that he has purchased a horse and buggy to add to his delivery system. He continually advertises in this paper, and is better prepared than ever to serve his trade. \$ \$ \$ \$

Our store will be closed Sept. 28. M. HOFFMAN & BRO. 3t.

Notice.

R. G. Shackell as Editor.

The Commonwealth is glad to make the announcement of the coming into our midst of Mr. R. G. Shackell, for several years a resident of Winston-Salem, N. C., but who is well known in this community, and today he takes charge of the Commonwealth as editor and business manager.

Mr. Shackell has had considerable newspaper experience and will be a valuable addition to the staff of the paper, and our readers and supporters are asked to extend to him the right hand of fellowship in his work in making the Commonwealth the county organ that Halifax is entitled to.

Mr. C. F. Carroll, who has been identified with the paper for the past year will remain in charge of the mechanical department, so with these two gentlemen working in harmony, and with co-operation in mind, we should have a paper, of which we all will be justly proud.