

The Laurens Advertiser.

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VOLUME XXV.

LAURENS, SOUTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1909.

NUMBER 20

THE THACKER REVIVAL WILL CLOSE TO-NIGHT

Series of Services Have
Resulted in Great
Awakening.

SOME COMMENTS BY
VARIOUS CITIZENS

Religious Meetings at First Presbyterian Church Have Been Productive of Much Good—Expressions From Dr. Thacker and Prof. Fisher.

Tonight, the series of revival services that have been in progress since December 1st, at the First Presbyterian church of this city come to a close. The service at 7:30 will be the last of what has been one of the most remarkable meetings ever held in Laurens; productive of so much good, resulting in a great awakening of the people and turning their thoughts to things religious, the means of converting many to a profession of faith in Jesus.

According to a statement of Rev. C. F. Rankin, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, at the close of the service Tuesday afternoon, there had been 431 who had signed the re-consecration cards, that is expressing a desire and intention of leading more consecrated lives and being more faithful to their professions; there had been 83 professions of faith, and 16 who had declared their intention of securing their church letters which are at present elsewhere, and uniting with some church in Laurens.

In addition to the above, as a result of the one service held at Clinton yesterday morning at the Thornwell orphanage, there were 143 who signed the re-consecration cards and 25 professions of faith. Dr. Thacker went to Clinton early Tuesday morning, preached at the orphanage and returned to the city for the afternoon service yesterday.

Tomorrow, Dr. Thacker goes to his home in Norfolk to spend the Christmas holidays with his wife and children. In January he goes with many others evangelists into the state of Maine for a religious campaign.

The services that come to a close tonight have been a blessing to this entire community; there can be, nor is there, any question about this. The influence of them has been felt. Vast throngs of people have attended the services; they have listened with unusual attentiveness; and the results can never be computed. The singing has been the best church music ever heard in this city; it has been by a chorus of something like seventy-five voices from all the choirs of the city. Prof. Fisher is an accomplished leader and director, and seemed to be able to get the people to sing as they have never sung before. Mrs. Fisher at the piano contributed much to the beauty of the music.

While the meetings have been under the auspices of the Presbyterian evangelistic department, all denominations have been made to feel that the work was for them as well, and the hearty co-operation of all in Laurens has been a feature of the meetings.

A free will offering amounting to something over \$300 was raised and presented to Dr. Thacker. This is in addition to the expenses provided for by the members of the Presbyterian church; people of all denominations contributed to this free will offering.

Following are some expressions regarding the meeting by a number of representative citizens, together with a word from Dr. Thacker and Prof. Fisher:

Dr. H. K. Aiken.
Dr. H. K. Aiken, president of the chamber of commerce, says, regarding the meetings that close today:
"Dr. Thacker has delivered remarkable able and forceful sermons. His earnestness, his sustained eloquence, his thorough knowledge of the Bible and the spirit of the Master that so clearly dominates all that he says and odes, combine to chain the attention of all his hearers. Nothing is said or asked for that need embarrass any one. The love of Jesus for a lost world is held up as the magnet to draw men unto Him. And there can be no stronger plea than this. Force, compulsion, ridicule, abuse nor legislation have never, nor can ever, move

men to reformation in morals like gratitude and an awakening self interest. If Christ's way is not better than the way of the world, Christianity would retrograde rather than grow."

"Dr. Thacker avoids personalities and sarcasm while enunciating clearly his fixed and logical views upon the life that now is as well as that which is to come. Consciously perhaps, he seems to keep ever before the admonition in Essentials—unity in non-essentials—liberty in all things—charity."

He has been heard by all classes and creeds here and if the feelings of anybody have been hurt by anything he has said or done nothing has been heard of it. Let it not be understood that he is a "trimmer" or so much a candidate for popular favor as to offer compromise with known sin—far from it; but he seems to have the rare grace of loving the sinner while hating the sin. He is an illustration of the wisdom of evangelizing the world through the means and under the auspices of one of the established denomination, rather than putting forth independents who are answerable to no authority, and whose heresies often bring discredit upon established religion.

"All denominations will see and feel the beneficial effects of the revival of true and undefiled religion in this community long after this teacher has gone on his way."

Dr. J. E. Thacker.
Dr. Thacker has the following to say to the people of Laurens:

It has been one of the pleasures of my life to have had the privilege of conducting this series of evangelistic services in Laurens; to have been with Mr. Rankin a personal friend, a fellow townsman, an earnest, able and efficient co-laborer in the vineyard of the Lord; to have had the united and prayerful support of the good people of his church, the earnest co-operation of the pastors and Christian people of all the denominations, and the good attention and patient hearing of the non-church people of the community, all these things have been gratifying to me beyond measure.

You have a splendid Christian community; a sober industrious, God fearing people and a prosperous and progressive little city. May Heavens richest blessings rest upon Laurens and her people.

I wish to express my deepest appreciation of the support given by the newspapers of Laurens to the evangelistic campaign. Some one has said, "When great moral issues have been at stake, when the pulpit has seemed to be powerless when reformers have been discouraged, when the masses out of sympathy with good government seemed to be in control, it has always been true that the press has been the mightiest agent for arousing public sentiment in favor of rights living, right thinking and right acting." The papers have been our great helpers, and in no place have they given more space and assistance than here, and I hear that you have the "best weekly paper in the state". The excellent notices and unstinted commendations of your press have promoted in no small way the interest and success of the meetings.

The committees, publicity, finance, ushers, music and others, have been untiring in their efforts and unusually

efficient in their work. The splendid choir has done fine singing, and the music has been an inspiration to the meetings, touching the hearts and comforting the souls of the great congregation. I have been hoping and praying for certain definite results from these meetings. I hoped that Jesus would be more real and the Bible more precious to us. I longed for the bringing of God's people closer together that in the unity of the spirit and the bonds of peace they might co-operate more and more for the uplift of the community and the upbuilding of the church; the moving of Christians of all denominations to greater personal consecration and a deeper sense of individual responsibility; the reclaiming of the careless, cold, indifferent, worldly-minded church member and the salvation of the lost. These have been the purposes of this evangelistic campaign which God has richly blessed. The success of the meetings has been brought about not so much by the "Thacker-Fisher combination", but under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, by the excellent preparation and splendid co-operation of the Christian people of the entire community.

"I rejoice that God has blessed your efforts. Christians have been comforted and re-consecrated, back-sliders have returned unto the Lord, many have given their hearts to the Jesus Christ and new members will be received into every church.

"No Christian workers ever received a more cordial welcome, more hearty support and more earnest co-operation than you people have given to us. I speak, I know, both for the Fishers and myself when I say, we cannot find words to express our appreciation of it all. God Bless you every one."

Rev. J. L. McLin.
Of the meetings, Rev. J. L. McLin says:
"The evangelistic meetings now drawing to a close at the First Presbyterian church has been much appreciated by the people of Laurens. This is evidenced by the unusually large congregations that have attended the services, both afternoon and evening."
"Dr. Thacker's methods are somewhat out of the usual order for this section, nevertheless his preaching is thoroughly evangelical. It is characterized by the earnestness, force and simplicity and is calculated, under the blessings of God, to quicken, comfort and strengthen Christians, and lead sinners to repentance and faith in Christ as a personal Saviour."
"The singing of Mr. and Mrs. Fisher has been an attractive and important feature of the meeting. The gospel, as sung by them and the strong choir supporting them, has doubtless made lasting impressions for good upon many hearts."
Personally I have appreciated the services and I trust have been benefited by them."

Mr. D. A. Davis.
Mr. D. A. Davis, one of the leading merchants of the city said yesterday: "The gospel of love is what will win men, and Dr. Thacker preaches that gospel. Brow-beating and intimidating are of little effect."

CHAPTER ELECTS OFFICERS.

Rising Sun Chapter, Number 6, Chooses Leaders For the Year.

At a regular meeting of the Rising Sun chapter, Royal Arch Masons on last Friday night the following officers were elected and installed for the coming year: R. A. Cooper, high priest; Geo. L. Pitts, king; Brooks Swygert, scribe; W. W. Dodson, treasurer; H. Terry, secretary; R. A. Babb, captain of the hosts; C. M. Miller, principal sojourner; T. L. Monroe, R. A. captain; W. G. Lancaster, third veil; Thos. Downey, second veil; Y. S. Gilkerson, first veil; and W. H. Gilkerson, sentinel.

This chapter was re-organized last year, since which time its growth and progress has been remarkable, and intensely gratifying to all its members.

Delegates To Grand Lodge.

Messrs R. A. Cooper, R. A. Babb, and T. Lane Monroe left Monday for Charleston to attend the meeting of the grand lodge of the Masons of this state. Mr. Cooper is a member of the grand lodge; Mr. Monroe is representing Palmetto lodge number 19, and Mr. Babb represents Laurens lodge number 260. The lodge met last night.

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CHARGED WITH ASSAULT.

Young White Man and Negro in Jail On Serious Charge.

Young John Creemer, of the Watts mill village, is in the county jail charged with criminally assaulting an aged white woman in Youngs township some days ago. Before Creemer was arrested, however, Will Johnson, colored, was arrested on the same charge and identified by the victim. But the officers had reason to believe that the woman was mistaken and warrants were issued for two young white men. Thus far only Creemer has been captured.

It is stated that the woman in question is over sixty years of age, somewhat feeble in mind and that there is possibility of her being mistaken. Further, there are rumors that, while there is something in the case, it was not in reality an assault.

Creemer is apparently about 18 years of age; he has relatives living in the neighborhood of where the crime is alleged to have been committed, and that he was visiting there at the time.

Mr. Frank Wright Promoted.

Mr. Frank Wright, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Wright of Tylersville, who has been express messenger on the Southern line from Augusta to Columbia for some time has been transferred to the line from Jacksonville to Charlotte, one of the most important runs on the Southern line. Mr. Wright is quite a young man, barely twenty-one and the promotion is a substantial compliment.

PARROT MILAM OUT ON BOND OF \$5,000

Young Parrott Milam who shot Mr. William M. Irby on Sunday afternoon, November 7th, was released from the county jail on Saturday afternoon on bail to the amount of \$5,000 having been secured by his attorneys, Richey & Richey before Judge Eugene B. Gary in Columbia on Friday. The signers of the bond are as follows: J. M. Hellams, D. E. Tribble, Huger Anderson, Gus Milam, Mrs. Rebecca Christian, Mrs. Lydia Milam, and J. P. May.

Solicitor Cooper opposed the granting of bail, presenting an affidavit by young Irby Fuller which stated that Milam had declared his intention of fleeing the country if he ever got out of jail. This fact, possibly, accounts for the heavy bail required by Judge Gary. Milam will have to answer to the charge of assault and battery with intent to kill.

Woodmen To Elect Officers.

Laurens camp, number 98, will meet on Thursday night of this week for the purpose of electing officers for next year; 7:30 o'clock is the hour. It is desired that every member be on hand for this special meeting.

THE MARION STOCK COMPANY.

Will Be Here For Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights.

The management of the city opera house have secured a three nights engagement with the Marion Stock company to play here on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. This company has eleven members of first class talent and promises to be especially good. One of the plays they present is "The Wolf of the Mines", a beautiful story of frontier life.

In addition to the plays, there are some vaudeville artists who give specialties in dancing, singing and humorous sketches between acts.

Remember the dates; three nights only; this week. Tickets are now on sale at the Dodson-Edwards drug store.

NEW EIDER IS LAURENS MAN.

Rev. T. C. Odell Appointed Presiding Elder at Recent Conference.

Rev. T. C. Odell who was appointed presiding elder at the session of the Methodist conference in Abbeville this week is a Laurens county man, having been born and reared in the Mt. Galliegher section of the county.

Mr. Odell is quite well known in Laurens and in the county and his many friends are pleased at this mark of honor conferred upon him. He has a number of relatives here who will be interested in this news.

New Mercantile Firm.

Mr. J. W. Sparks of Thompson, Ga. will on the first of January open up a millinery and ladies' furnishings establishment in the new store room in the Dial building on West Main street, occupying the one next to the Tribble Clothing Co.

BRIEF NEWS NOTES FROM CROSS HILL

Death of Mrs. B. B. Goodman Wednesday night—Personal Items—A Perilous Job.

Cross Hill, Dec. 13th.—Mrs. Ella Goodman, wife of Mr. B. B. Goodman, died last Wednesday night and was buried Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Goodman was about 35 years old and besides a devoted husband, leaves two children to mourn her loss. She was before her marriage, Miss Ella Fuller of this county, and many friends and relatives will hear of her untimely death with sorrow and regret.

She was a consistent member of the Cross Hill Baptist church and was universally loved for her womanly graces and Christian character.

She is also survived by three brothers, Mr. Ernest Fuller, of Rock Hill; Mr. Gettys Fuller, of Abbeville. Also by one sister, Mrs. Lewis Dantzer, of Hodges.

Rev. J. A. Martin has moved to his home in town.

Rev. and Mrs. G. W. Hollingsworth were in Laurens Saturday.

Miss Summers Nabers visited Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Austin last Thursday and Friday on her way to Conference at Abbeville.

Mr. W. T. Boyce has been quite ill the past week.

Little Miss Vivian Nance, the beautiful seven year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Nance, entertained a number of little folks Saturday at a birthday party.

Mr. C. S. Pinson has an 18 inch bored well, and ashort piece of plank fell into it. He paid a litle ducky to get it out. He tied the rope around his waist and had to go down hands up and get hold of it with his feet. He got it near the top twice and it fell back. The third time he got it out. This was a right perilous job.

This correspondent wishes to congratulate the four young people who won out in The Advertiser Contest.

A CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT.

Mill School Children Will Give Entertainment Tuesday.

On next Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock in the Laurens mill auditorium the children of the mill school will give a Christmas entertainment for the benefit of the mill school library. A most interesting and pleasing program has been arranged under the direction of the teachers of the school and those who attend will be pleased. The cause is worthy and should be aided by everybody. The entertainment will begin promptly at 7:30; the admission will be 10 cents for children and 15 cents for adults.

Bank of Laurens Dividend.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Bank of Laurens yesterday afternoon, the regular 4 per cent semi-annual dividends were declared. The old board of directors were elected and the same officers for the coming year.

A Laurens Pastor.

J. E. Covington of Greenville, is a member of the "old guard" among the pastors at the convention. Mr. Covington is pastor of Pleasant Grove church in Greenville county, and of Landford church, in Laurens county.—Anderson Mail.

Entertainment at Green Pond.

The Green Pond high school will give one of its best entertainments Thursday night, Dec. 23rd, for the benefit of the school building. Admission 10 & 25 cents.

Shower For Thursday.

The jelly and preserve shower that was to have been last week will be held at the residence of Mr. White W. Jones on North Harper street on Thursday afternoon of this week at 3:30 o'clock. This shower is by the Junior Aid society of the First Presbyterian church and for the Thornwell orphanage. All the ladies and children are expected to attend this shower and to contribute some article.

Pythians to Elect Officers.

On next Monday night, December 20th, Laurens lodge number 43, will meet to elect officers for the ensuing year. All the members are urged to be present.

School Closes Thursday 23rd.

The Christmas holidays in the graded schools begin on Thursday afternoon, December 23rd and close on Monday or Tuesday after Christmas. One week will be given. Definite announcement will be made next week.

CHRISTMAS STORIES COMING IN RAPIDLY

Interest In The Advertiser's "Brain" Contest.

\$5.00 TO BE GIVEN AWAY

There Are Many Who Will Contest For Advertiser's Five Dollars In Prizes.

Since the announcement two weeks ago that The Advertiser will give away \$5 in cash for the best Christmas stories, there have been an amazingly large number of stories sent in to the office. Some of them are fine, and some are going to be hard to beat. But the contest is on, and every boy and girl in the county should be on his or her mettle and etrange that one of the prizes must come his or her way.

And yet, there have not been as many stories as there ought to be. Why? It should be a matter of pride on the part of every parent, and every school teacher to have his child or pupil enter a contest where brains count. What have you done, teacher and parent, to assist this work that means something for the child? Not the money, but the honor of winning a prize in such a contest.

Writing compositions, essays and stories is a training that every child must have; it calls into play all their faculties. Get the child in the contest. Do it now.

Now, if there is a child just a little over fourteen years of age, he or she can enter the contest. It is not necessary to reduce the requirements to a matter of a few days, or even a month. Let all who are 14 and under write a story. Write on one side of the paper don't make it over 1000 words; mail it to The Advertiser by Saturday of this week. This is our last announcement. The stories will be printed next week and the prizes awarded.

For the best story The Advertiser will give \$2 in silver; for the three next best, \$1 each. Win a prize.

NEW METHODIST PASTORS.

Rev. L. P. McGee to Serve First Methodist Church of Laurens.

At the Methodist conference in Abbeville on Monday the appointments for the coming year were made by Bishop Wilson. Rev. J. D. Crout was not returned to Laurens; the new pastor of the First church being Rev. L. P. McGee who has served the church in Orangeburg for the past four years.

For the Laurens circuit, Rev. D. R. Roof was assigned. Rev. S. T. McCarty who has served this charge for the past year goes to West Realey in Pickens county.

Rev. F. G. Whitlock goes to Waterloo; Rev. Foster Speer is returned to Princeton; Rev. J. E. Madaffey is returned to Clinton; Rev. S. T. Blackman goes back to Fountain Inn; Rev. R. M. Dubose is returned to Gray Court; and Rev. W. M. Duncan is continued as presiding elder of the Greenville district.

OPERA HOUSE.

Three Nights Only, Friday and Saturday Dec. 16, 17, and 18.

Mr. D. E. Marion presents a company of players, eleven ladies and gentlemen. Dialogue, elate and refined melodrama, "The Wolf of the Mines." A play in four acts, presenting a story of frontier life—the joys and hardships of the pioneer days replete with novel situations, perilous adventure, intrigue, treachery, love and devotion to duty of a young girl of the far west and the dastardly scheming of a Mexican fortune hunter.

Good music. Metropolitan Vaudeville artists; singing and dancing. The cast is composed of eleven people. Reserved seats at Dodson Edwards Drug Co., 25c, 35c and 50c.

Rev. J. D. Crout Located.

Through Presiding Elder Duncan, Rev. J. D. Crout made request to the bishop this week at the Methodist conference to be "located." This term among the Methodists means to be relieved from the ministry. It is understood that Mr. Crout will in the next week or so move his family to Anderson where he owns property and devote himself to farming. Mr. Crout has been pastor of the First Methodist church here for three years and his people regret to give him up; it is a matter of regret also that he has decided to quit the ministry.

(Continued on Page Four.)