

**GOOD ROADS**  
Lexington County's  
Greatest Need

# The Dispatch-News

A Chamber of Commerce  
Would Benefit  
Lexington

VOLUME NUMBER 50.

LEXINGTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1919

NUMBER 9.

## FORK CITIZENS WANT BRIDGE ACROSS RIVER TO COUNTY SEAT

Editor Lexington Dispatch-News:

I have always refrained from having anything to say in the public press pertaining to the welfare of our county, fearing some word might be applied as a personal criticism to some official or law-maker. In the beginning, let me say, that such is not intended. I agree with you, Mr. Editor, that we need improvement in our roads, but such can be only accomplished by an increase in taxation. I have always been an advocate of good roads and bridges, but so far, have been denied that convenience and pleasure. Speaking the sentiment of a large portion of the Fork citizens, an increase of taxation would not be a favorable procedure, unless we are to receive more benefit in the future than in the past.

We are situated on the east side of Saluda River with poor roads and an old ancient style flat as the only means of getting across Saluda River to our county seat. In searching ancient history we find that one of the first flats for crossing Saluda River was at Zion church in 1779. This was in an age when the early settlers had to have a ready rifle for protection against the Indians, with poor means of travel, mostly on foot. Now we have reached the fast age of automobiles and advancement of every phase of life. The cry of better schools, churches, colleges and good roads resound on every side—all of which we need yet, we are still trying to get across Saluda river in the same manner as the settlers in 1779. No one can conceive of the inconvenience of these flats unless forced to use them. Many times you have to exhaust your vocal cords, regardless of weather conditions, before the slow ferryman arrives, and often confronted with an answer: "The flat is sunk"—"flat is full of water, or river too full." So you are forced to change your route via Columbia, a distance of twenty-five miles to go five.

Road improvement, without a bridge, will not benefit the Fork very much. The Fork citizens are true to their county and are taxpayers, and so far have received little public service from her county.

The citizens of the Fork will cheerfully bear an increase of taxation if they are to receive results in return. Some portions of the county might advance an argument that the Fork does not need a bridge, but consider, for a moment, the situation of your section first. Chapin territory has her bridge at Wyse's, Batesburg, Leesville, Lexington, Brookland and Swansea have the Congaree, all of which the Fork has borne her share of taxes without a murmur.

Now, Mr. Editor, we feel that the time is here for old Lexington to raise her voice in her own behalf. You say: "we need roads for comfort and speed. You have no conception of discomfort and slow speed unless you come over to Irmo the first cold, rainy day in a ferry. Then you will see the ordeal we undergo daily."

We haven't any objections to a fine road from Batesburg to Brookland, and offer no criticism, but what will become of the rest of the county in the next two years?—Some estimate that it will take twenty-seven years at the present rate. The fork claims, and really so, that she does not receive her prorata share of good roads and bridges.

DR. R. E. MATHIAS,

### PERSONALS

Mrs. R. L. Rountree has returned to her home at Plum Branch, after spending a few days with her father, Mr. E. J. George, and other relatives near Lexington.

Mr. and Mrs. Robt. F. Bowe of New York city, arrived in Lexington Sunday to spend the Christmas season with Mrs. Bowe's parents, Judge and Mrs. C. M. Efrid.

Dr. R. E. Mathias, popular physician and surgeon of Irmo, was here on business Saturday.

Mr. W. W. Fulmer and son Charlie and Mr. John Derrick were over Monday paying taxes and attending to other business. They are all substantial citizens of Piney Woods section.

We are glad to note that Mrs. W. W. Fulmer, after treatment, is back at home from the Columbia Hospital, much improved.

Mr. W. H. Witt, one of Swansea's prominent citizens, was in town Monday.

Mrs. Moorman, Mrs. Sligh and the little folks are spending Christmas in Lancaster with home folks.

Mr. William Reagin and son Frank from Mineral Wells, Tex., are here to spend the holidays with his brother and family here.

Mr. D. I. Epting and son Charlie were here Monday. They say the Pine Ridge section is O. K., now hog killing time.

Esquire John K. Hayes, formerly of this county and Columbia, now of Macon Ga., is here visiting his people and friends for the season.

Dr. R. B. Harmon is back in his store much improved.

Mr. Julian Miller has returned from Clemson, to spend Christmas.

Mr. Glover and Hobson Corley from S. C. University will spend the Christmas holidays with their old folks at home.

The admired and cheerful young ladies, home for the holidays with their parents, from Winthrop are: Misses Annie Corley, Gladys George, Margaret Hartley, Blossie Clarke, Kathryn Berly, Virginia Riser, Bruce Caughman, Katie Belle Harman.

Miss Mary Susan Roof from Coker College is spending her vacation with the old folks.

Miss Veda Barre, music teacher at Tabor, N. C., is at home for Christmas season.

Mr. M. L. Barre, plant chief of the Southern Bell, Jacksonville division is at the old home for Christmas.

Miss Clara Rawl, clever and obliging, is behind the counters at the Tapp store in town. Mrs. Humphries is amid the silk and satins, while Miss Sallie Roberts serves her many friends of the Providence section. Miss Sallie Roof is looking after the Oak Grove people. Miss Mary Kyzer is residing in the office. All go away pleased after receiving such courteous and kind treatment.

The many friends of Mr. Paul R. Barre, of Gilbert will be pleased to find him at the Tapp new store.

Mr. P. O. McLain an experienced dry goods man is the gentlemanly manager of The Tapp Store at Lexington.

We are glad to know that Col. and Mrs. M. D. Harman have greatly improved after having been very sick. It is pleasing to see friend "Buck" Redd back at his old service with Caughman & Kaminer.

We regret to learn that our old friend Henry P. Roberts is very sick at his home.

Mr. Lucious O. Bickley is back to spend the holidays with folks and friends.

Mr. Joe W. Gunter, one of the lively citizens of Swansea, was in town Monday.

Mrs. Karl P. Oswald and children have returned from a delightful visit of a fortnight to Mrs. Oswald's parents, Col. and Mrs. G. T. Graham, in Florida.

Miss Juanita George is at home for the holidays from Chicora College.

Mr. Samuel A. George, who has taken high rank at Wofford College, is spending the holidays with his parents.

The attractions are so great down at Port Royal that Uncle Jimmie Rawl could not resist so he left us with a smile on his face from ear to ear.

Mrs. Monroe Bowman of Harleyville, nee Miss Lila Pearle Roof, is with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Roof, for the happy Christmas season.

## COUNTY OWES NO 1917 TAXES

Editor Lexington-Dispatch:

An article appearing in your paper of December 17th, regarding the back taxes owed the State of South Carolina by Lexington County, has been called to my attention. I quote herewith a section of the said article:

"According to figures furnished by the State Treasurer's office Lexington County stands well up toward the list in the amount of back taxes owed to the State government. There remains on the books an unsettled balance for 1917 taxes of \$100.67, while for 1918 the amount is only \$638.28, which will doubtless be further reduced when the settlement is made with the Sheriff for executions in his hands."

The above news item is misleading and somewhat unjust to the County officials of Lexington. A close examination of the records will show that Lexington County owes no money

## SARDIS CHURCH WAS ROBBED

Frank Harley, negro, was arrested at Swansea and lodged in the Lexington Jail, charged with breaking into the Sardis Baptist church, near that town and stealing almost everything therein, including the Bible, pulpit furniture and other valuable articles. Harley was also charged with stealing the library of Calvary school.

The crime had aroused great indignation in Swansea and a determined effort was made to apprehend the culprit.

Practically all of the stolen property has been recovered.

Harley, who lives on Callie Gardner's place in Calhoun County, denies his guilt, saying that he bought the stuff from another negro.

G. Melton S. Roof, of the Charleston Medical college, is spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Roof.

## CENSUS SUPERVISOR NAMES AIDES FOR LEXINGTON COUNTY

Mr. Julian S. Wolfe, Supervisor of Census in the Seventh Congressional District with offices at Orangeburg, announces the following appointments as Census Enumerators for Lexington County:

Black Creek Township—Jesse L. Youmans, Batesburg.

Boiling Springs Township—B. Frank Kaiser, Gilbert.

Broad River Township—Ollie T. Stouemire, Peak.

Bull Swamp Township—Swansea.

Batesburg town (that part in Lexington County)—John Bell Towill.

Chinquepin Township—Chas. B. Kneece, Baxter.

Congaree Township—W. A. Price and S. P. Holliday, New Brookland.

Fork Township—P. B. Lindler, Chapin.

Gilbert Hollow Township—Clyde J. Taylor, Gilbert, and Wm. A. Hare, Summit.

Hollow Creek Township—John Hay Wessinger, Lexington, R. F. D. 2.

Lexington Township—John S. Schneider and J. Frank Wingard both of Lexington.

Platts Springs Township and Sandy Run Township—E. K. Furtick, Swansea.

Saluda Township—L. B. Wingard, Chapin.

The men and women appointed to serve as Enumerators will go from house to house in their campaign to secure all the facts for Government. The Act of Congress providing for the Census gives each Enumerator the right to enter every dwelling in his district for the purpose of securing the information required. All Enumerators will carry with them identification cards and also written commissions, and these will be shown when Enumerators are requested to do so. People are required to give answers asked of them and severe penalties are attached if they refuse to answer. Each Enumerator is prohibited by law from publishing or communicating any information obtained thru the Census regarding the affairs of an individual. All persons are then urged to assist by means possible the Census Enumerators that their work might be as near perfect as possible. All co-operation will greatly assist in arriving at all the facts to be gathered.

## To Our Friends

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## An Appreciation

It is the season of Christmas cheer in all the homes where subscribers to The Dispatch-News dwell.

Christmas also in the minds and hearts of you good friends of ours.

Christmas, with all that term implies as to universal fellowship, bounteous unselfishness and renewed recognition of the fact that to give is actually better than to receive.

As you have put into anything, that much will you get out of it. Out of the interest you have taken in this paper in the past we hope you have derived an equal personal pleasure. Your appreciation has made the issuing of this paper a congenial work to us of the staff.

And likewise in that same spirit which makes Christmastime what it is, we take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to the business men of this community, and of the territory within which The Dispatch-News circulates, for their cordial co-operation in practical ways which has made it possible for us regularly to present our best efforts to the community in a creditable manner.

May the kindly glow of this holiday season color life for you and yours throughout the coming year.

### The Publishers

whatsoever on 1917 taxes, and further shows there is no cash on hand due the State for 1918 taxes. There is, however, an item of \$738.95 charged against Lexington County but the records show this amount to be in execution and still in the hands of the Sheriff. During the past year Lexington County collected for the State \$61,819.11, and the balance due of \$738.95, which is in execution, is considered by this office to be a very small portion, which speaks well for the Tax Department of your County.

Sheriff Miller has made an unusual effort during the past year in collecting executions, and a settlement of the 1918 executions will be made within a few weeks.

I will thank you to publish the above letter with the same prominence the article referred to was given.

Yours very truly,  
RUT L. OSBORNE,  
Comptroller General.  
Columbia, Dec. 19, 1919.

**SUNDAY SERMON AT  
LEXINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH**

The Rev. P. H. Funderburk, pastor of the Lexington Baptist church, will use as the subject of his sermon for Sunday morning next "Christ, the Greatest Need of Man." This topic is especially appropriate to the present troublous era and the sermon should be enjoyed by those who attend.

**BRIGHT YOUNG GIRL  
SUCUMBES TO DYPHTHERIA.**

Miss Blanche Victoria Long, age 11 years and six months, died of dyptheria at the home of her mother, Mrs. Cora E. Long, on last Thursday, after a brief illness. The remains were laid to rest in the cemetery at St. James church, Summit, the following day, the last sad rites being performed by the Rev. C. A. Freed, D. D. of Columbia.

Blanche was a bright girl and leaves a mother, two brothers and three sisters to mourn after her, besides many other relatives and friends.

**A BUSINESS CHANGE  
FOR LEXINGTON**

Mr. C. E. Taylor, who several years has operated the Taylor Furniture Co., in the Hendrix building, has disposed of the stock of goods to Steele & Corder, who will continue to operate a first class furniture store. Mr. Taylor has rented the store between the Harmon Drug Co. and The Dispatch-News office and will continue in the undertaking business. He will also carry a line of talking machines, picture framing and novelty goods of various kinds.

Drs. Melvin Farr and Murray Schwartz are in from The Southern College of Pharmacy, Atlanta, half way thru, looking as pleasing as a "jay bird settin' on a hickory bun."

**SUMMERLAND COLLEGE NEWS.**

Leesville, Dec. 22.—President P. E. Monroe held religious service in the college chapel last Sunday.

The regular monthly meeting of the Young People's Missionary Society was held Sunday evening with Miss Annie Belle Dantzer as leader. The topic was "The Challenge of the Hour."

On Monday evening in the college auditorium the members of the faculty of the Music and Expression departments appeared before a large audience.

The following program was rendered.

Etude Melodique—Raff. Romance—Sibelius, Midsummer Night's Dream—S. Smith. Miss Counts.

"Who ate the cake?"—Stanley Schell, "The Bugle Song"—Tennyson "The Coward"—Robert W. Service—Miss Efrid.

The valley of Laughter—Sanderson, Pierrot—J. Johnson, Remembrance—Hamblen, Christmas Song—Adams—Miss Benner.

Scene from "The Christian"—Hall Caine—Miss Efrid.

Etude—Chopin. Eros—Adolph Forester, "Believe Me of all those Endearing young Charms"—Pape, Triosime Ballade—Chopin—Miss Benner.

Mrs. C. M. Efrid, Miss Caro Efrid, Messrs Barr and Carroll and Miss Carroll of Lexington attended the faculty recital Monday night.

Friday afternoon all students left for their homes where they will spend the holiday season. The next term will begin January 7, 1920. Students will return to the college on Tuesday January 6.

Misses Counts and Long will spend the Christmas recess at their homes.

Miss Benner will visit friends in Savannah, Ga., and Gainesville, Fla.

Miss Marriotte will spend a part of the vacation at Pomaria. Miss Keister will visit friends in St. Matthews.

The December issue of the Right Angle is out and is being cordially received by its many friends.

Mr. Marion Commander of Florence was a recent visitor at the college.

Misses Marriotte and Keister of the faculty and Misses Lucile and Alma Golsen were entertained at the hospitable home of Mrs. Walter Shealy last Sunday.

Cards are out announcing the approaching marriage of Miss Marjorie Shaner a member of our musical faculty last year, and Mr. Alexander Denmead. The wedding will take place December 24, at the home of Miss Shaer's mother, Mays Landing, N. Y.

Miss Efrid, teacher of Expression, spent last Monday with Mrs. Shuler in Batesburg.

**DISPATCH-NEWS EDITOR  
HANDS LEMON AT SWANSEA**

It is nothing new for a newspaper man to be handed a lemon, in fact it is such a common matter that ordinarily it calls for no particular attention. But when one is given the kind of lemon that was presented to the editor of this paper Saturday on a visit to Swansea it is worthy of note.

The lemon in question was given the editor by Postmaster S. J. Derrick of Swansea with the compliments of his good wife, to whose untiring care is due the fact that it has been demonstrated that Lexington county, though not enjoying a tropical climate, can be made to produce tropical fruits. The fruit measured 14 inches in circumference, 8 inches in length and weighed just 21 ounces, which as we regard it is some lemon, even for Lexington county. The tree on which it grew will this year produce 50 lemons of varying sizes. It is about ten years old, the seedling having been bought by Mrs. Derrick from a western nursery. Through the winter the tree has been protected from the weather in a flower pit and it has continued to thrive under the care of Mrs. Derrick.

**CHRISTMAS EXERCISES  
AT PROVIDENCE**

There will be the annual Christmas exercises at Providence Lutheran church on next Friday night, December 26, commencing at 6 o'clock. Everybody is cordially invited to attend.

**BETCHMAN—LOWMAN**

Special to The Dispatch-News.

Chapin, Dec. 20.—A most beautiful wedding was solemnized at the Lutheran church on Wednesday afternoon, when Miss Lula Betchman, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Betchman, became the wife of J. Malcolm Lowman of Ballentine.

The church was decorated with palms, ferns and other potted plants, and lighted by rows of white and pink candles. The ceremony was performed by the bride's pastor, the Rev. J. L. Cromer, George Hiller and Willie Williams ushered the guests to their places.

Promptly at 6 o'clock the organ played by Miss Stella Wessinger, pealed forth the notes of the lovely songs "Melody of Love" and "At Dawning," which were beautifully sung by Miss Louise Eargle. As the music changed into the wedding march from Lohengrin and bridal party entered in the following order: J. Dan Lewis with Miss Rubie Williams; Ross Shealy with Miss Eva Summer, and John Brooks Lowman with Miss Rubie Betchman. Next came little Margaret Kleizer, the ring bearer, carrying the ring on a dainty little white satin pillow. She was followed by the bride and bridegroom.

The bride wore a pretty cream georgette dress with satin trimmings and her veil caught with orange blossoms. She never looked lovelier. The bridesmaids also wore pretty georgette dresses.

A brilliant reception was given at the home of the bride's parents immediately after the ceremony. Those who assisted in serving were Mrs. R. W. M. Eleazer, Mrs. L. K. Fulmer and Mrs. James Summer.

The couple received a large number of pretty and useful gifts, attesting their popularity.

**MINSTREL POSTPONED.**

The minstrel show, which was to have been given by the American Legion, on Friday night of this week, has been postponed to January 22.