

# THE FORT MILL TIMES.

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## WOMEN SWELL VOTE.

### Arthur C. Lytle Wins Mayoralty Contest—Vote Again Tuesday.

In what proved to be one of the most spirited elections ever held in Fort Mill, Arthur C. Lytle Tuesday was nominated in the Democratic primary for mayor. He received 244 votes against 119 for George Fish and 54 for B. C. Ferguson.

Tuesday for the first time in the history of the town, women participated in the voting, about 80 of them going to the polls and registering their choice for this or that candidate. From the time the polls opened at 8 o'clock in the morning until they closed at 4 o'clock in the afternoon automobiles were scurrying to all sections of the town bringing in voters. Numerous workers, notably for the candidates for mayor, were busy throughout the day in the neighborhood of the ballot box urging the claims of those in whose election they were specially interested.

When the polls closed it was announced that of the 465 citizens who had placed their names on the club rolls, 435 had voted, an increase of more than 200 over the number heretofore participating in any election for town officials of Fort Mill. Following the election, many were heard to express their approval of the idea of holding the primary, which gave everyone who had placed his or her name on the club rolls the opportunity to have a voice in the selection of the town's officials for the next two years, thereby shutting off the complaint frequently heard in the past that in town elections in Fort Mill the will of the majority was not expressed because many citizens did not have the necessary county registration certificates to enable them to vote in the general election. There was no disorder incident to the election about the polls or on the streets.

In the race for alderman-at-large, none of the six candidates received a majority of the votes in the first primary and a second primary, set by the executive committee for Tuesday, December 20, will therefore be necessary to select the nominees for the two places to be filled. In the second primary B. W. Bradford, J. T. Young, Jr., J. W. Gunn and W. L. Ferguson will be the candidates, J. C. McElhaney and W. L. Steele having been eliminated in the first primary. The vote for alderman-at-large was: Bradford 181, Young 167, Gunn 143, Ferguson 121, McElhaney 105, Steele 80.

In Ward 1 there was a mixup in the vote for alderman which was taken before the executive committee at meetings Tuesday evening and Wednesday evening before the committee finally decided that W. C. Stroud had won the nomination over R. E. McKibben. A recount by the committee Tuesday evening of the ballots cast in Ward 1 showed 25 for McKibben and 27 for Stroud, with three uncounted ballots for McKibben which had been placed in a box other than that provided for Ward 1 voters. Tuesday evening both men appeared before the committee and agreed between themselves to enter the second primary for the seat in council in question. But Stroud Wednesday morning announced that he had entered the agreement on the spur of the moment and that he wanted the committee to reopen the matter. This the committee did Wednesday evening and decided in Stroud's favor, basing its action on the rule of the party and the statement made at the citizens' meeting Monday evening and the instruction given the election managers that ballots placed in the wrong box would not be counted.

In Ward 2 C. D. Hope was nominated for alderman over W. M. Epps, 91 to 56, and in Ward 3 B. D. Culp was nominated for alderman without opposition as was G. W. McKenzie in Ward 4, the former receiving 110 votes and the latter 101.

For public works commissioner there were four candidates for the three places to be filled, the winners being J. L. Lyles, W. B. Ar-

## C. P. BLANKENSHIP DEAD.

### Well Known Fort Mill Township Citizen Passes Away Suddenly.

The Fort Mill community was greatly shocked to hear of the sudden death of Charles P. Blankenship at his home in the upper section of the township Saturday afternoon. Mr. Blankenship apparently had been in good health and was preparing to come to Fort Mill when he was stricken with heart trouble. He was at his barn at the time and fell unconscious. Within 30 minutes after being removed to his home he died.

For many years Mr. Blankenship had been one of the most prominent farmers of the eastern section of York county. He had taken an active interest in politics for a long time and at the time of his death was a member of the county Democratic executive committee. He was widely known and numbered his friends by the hundred. Mr. Blankenship was a member of the Fort Mill township road commission.

He was born in Steel Creek township, Mecklenburg county, N. C., February 21, 1860. On December 6, 1882, he was married to Miss Annie L. Yarborough. To Mr. and Mrs. Blankenship seven sons and two daughters were born. Two of their sons died in infancy. With Mrs. Blankenship the following children survive: Guy Blankenship, Bernard Blankenship, Miss Kathleen Blankenship, Finley Blankenship, Miss Frances Blankenship, Pruett Blankenship and Van Blankenship. All the children are grown except the baby boy.

The funeral services were conducted by the Rev. J. R. Smith, pastor of Flint Hill Baptist church, of which Mr. Blankenship had for years been a faithful member. The interment was in Flint Hill churchyard Monday at 1 o'clock in the presence of hundreds of friends of Mr. Blankenship whose presence attested their sorrow at the passing of an upright, public spirited citizen.

### Saw Marshal Foch.

The Rev. J. W. H. Dyches, pastor of the Fort Mill Baptist church, who stopped over for the Foch celebration at Greenwood last Friday on his return trip from the Baptist State convention at Greenwood, says that he got a near view of the great French commander and that the pictures of him seen in the papers furnish a striking likeness of the man.

Dr. Dyches further said: "Marshal Foch is a speaker of considerable force, he has a genial face and at Greenwood presented the appearance of a man who was accepting the honors accorded him rather for the pleasure of those who bestowed them than for any gratification that came to himself because of them. His bright eyes betoken his genius and his firmly set jaw and close shut lips indicate that dogged determination which brooks no defeat."

"Though apparently a man of 65 or 70 years, Marshal Foch's stalwart frame, erect carriage and forceful language combine to impress you that this military chieftain is still capable of efficient service to his country and to the world if need for it should develop."

### To Move to Fort Mill.

Capt. Elliott Springs of Lancaster soon is to become a citizen of Fort Mill. Workmen are now converting into a modern home the old White mansion in the upper section of town and when the work is completed a few weeks hence Capt. Springs will move into it. He is a grandson of the late Capt. S. E. White, his mother being before her marriage to Col. Leroy Springs Miss Grace White, and he comes to Fort Mill to make his home in the mansion occupied for so many years by his maternal ancestors. Capt. Springs has many friends in Fort Mill who will welcome him as a citizen of the town.

drey and W. S. Belk, who received, respectively, 348, 338, and 324 votes. T. J. Crayton received 173 votes.

## NEWS OF YORK COUNTY.

### Current Items of Interest From the Yorkville Enquirer.

The Peoples National bank of Rock Hill has inaugurated a rat killing contest. It has offered \$15 in prizes to the persons in the immediate vicinity of Rock Hill who by 12 noon, December 17, bring to it the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th largest number of rat tails.

Secretary Fewell of the Rock Hill chamber of commerce and assistants have been busy for the past several days delivering the several thousand fruit trees that were sold to farmers of the city and community during the fruit tree campaign conducted by the chamber and Miss Juanita Neely, home demonstration agent, some weeks ago. About \$1,500 worth of fruit trees were sold during the campaign.

Arrangements are being made to operate the Bowling Green cotton mill at night as well as day, according to announcement by C. N. Alexander, general manager of the mill. The spindleage of the mill has recently been increased from 2,500 to 5,000 and other additional machinery has been installed. No trouble has been found in securing operatives, according to Mr. Alexander, despite the fact that Bowling Green is a very small place.

Now that Dr. J. B. Johnson has announced his candidacy for mayor of Rock Hill in the January election against Dr. David Lytle, in all probability the issue for that office will close. Ralph Armstrong, the present mayor, can't offer for reelection without resigning and going into the lists anew, for the reason that he was elected mayor by the present board of three councilmen. Armstrong isn't going to do it. The race between Johnson and Lytle will likely be a spirited one.

As yet here is no clue to the identity of the two white men who, driving a high powered touring car toward Yorkville Friday morning, knocked Mrs. Crawford Dunlap, compulsory school attendance officer for York county, and her Ford touring car into a ditch on the Sharon road between Sharon and Turkey creek bridge Friday morning. Although Mrs. Dunlap was pinned under the wreckage of her machine, she was uninjured. The car was badly damaged.

At a meeting of interested educators held in the chamber of commerce hall in Rock Hill Friday morning the Eastern York Citizens' Education association was organized with J. C. Cauthen as president and O. K. Williams as secretary. Five delegates to the meeting of the State association to be held in January were elected as follows: Mr. Sharpe of Lenoir, Dr. D. B. Johnson, Prof. John F. Thomasson, Prof. R. C. Burts, J. A. Barber. The principal talk of the organization meeting was that of Superintendent of Education John E. Carroll.

A valuable horse, the property of J. F. Carroll of Yorkville, was killed Friday night when it was struck by a Buick touring car, the property of J. S. Brice, Esq., of Yorkville and driven by his son, Robert Brice. The buggy which the horse was drawing was torn to pieces by the impact, while Sam Erwin, colored, who was driving the horse, was badly bruised and shocked. Young Brice had his arm cut by broken glass of the windshield and the car he was driving was badly damaged. The accident occurred on the Yorkville-Rock Hill road.

A special meeting of the board of trustees of the Fort Mill graded school was held last night at which a number of matters affecting the interest of the school were considered. The resignation of Miss Caroline Carothers, high school teacher, was accepted. A successor to Miss Carothers is to be elected at a meeting of the board a few days hence. Three members of the board of trustees are to be elected by popular vote on January 10. The board decided that the Christmas holidays for the school will begin on December 21 and close on January 2.

## WINS RACE FOR MAYOR.

### Arthur C. Lytle Receives Flattering Vote in Tuesday's Primary.

Friends of Arthur C. Lytle, successful candidate for mayor in Tuesday's Democratic primary, lost little time in rushing to his place of business on Main street immediately after the announcement of the result of the election to congratulate him over the flattering vote he had just received for chief official of the town for the two year term beginning early in January. From the first these friends of Mr. Lytle were confident the voters would favor his candidacy, but they took nothing for granted in the campaign preceding the election and on election day itself and were active in his behalf from the time he announced his candidacy until the last ballot had been deposited.

Much of the credit for Mr. Lytle's victory, however, is due to his own efforts, for he left no stone unturned to win the office,



ARTHUR C. LYTLE.

putting to good account the experience he had gained in former campaigns in helping other candidates. His friends are confident he will make the town an active, progressive mayor, and that his administration will be marked by numerous accomplishments for civic betterment.

Mr. Lytle is 30 years old. He is a son of the late J. F. Lytle, a splendid citizen who died several years ago, and was born at the old Lytle homestead near York. As a boy 10 years old he moved to Fort Mill with his parents and for several years was a clerk in different drug stores in town. In 1916 he formed a partnership with Dr. J. M. Hutcheson in the drug business as one of the proprietors of the store which had been operated for several years by Capt. S. W. Parks. When the United States declared war on Germany early in 1917 Mr. Lytle sold his interest in the business to Dr. Hutcheson and enlisted in the Fort Mill company of the 118th regiment, 30th division, for service overseas. Before leaving this country as a soldier he was promoted from private to sergeant, which rank he held throughout the war. He was with his company in the numerous engagements in which it took part against the Germans in Belgium and France and did his part in breaking the so-called impregnable Hindenburg line in the early days of October, 1918. He went through that terrific engagement as he did the other engagements in which his command participated without receiving so much as a scratch.

Shortly after returning from the war Mr. Lytle bought the Ardrey drug store, of which business he and Dr. W. H. Martin are now the proprietors. He was one of the moving spirits last year in organizing the Tom Hall Guards, National Guard company of Fort Mill, in which he served as first lieutenant until some months ago when he resigned to organize the third battalion headquarters company of the First regiment, S. C. N. G. He is now the commanding officer of that company.

Mrs. Hattie Mack, who for several months has been away from Fort Mill visiting relatives at Orange, Va., Decatur, Ga., and Columbia, has returned to her home in Fort Mill.

## HERE AND THERE.

### Comment and Facts Picked Up by The Times Reporter.

"Elections in Fort Mill are not what they were some years ago," Tuesday night said a citizen of the town in commenting on the orderliness of the crowds on the streets and around the polls all day Tuesday as a result of the municipal primary. "Perhaps the presence of a large number of women who came up town to vote had a good effect, but however that may be, the day passed in most commendable fashion and was without the slightest display of disorder of any kind, and if there was engendered any ill feeling incident to the election I have not heard of it. Why the marked contrast between this election and some former elections held in Fort Mill? The question almost answers itself. Formerly, liquor was plentiful and easy to get."

"The report of the department of agriculture Monday forecasting a cotton crop for the current year of more than 8 million bales hits the farmers of the South another wallop," continued The Times' talkative friend. "I was one of the number who had concluded that at most the yield would not go beyond 7 million bales. If the estimate had not exceeded that number, there is reason to believe that immediately after the first of the new year the trend of the market would have been upward, and it may yet take a turn for the better, but with me that hope is about dissipated. Now I am inclined to think that the farmers who sold their cotton this fall as soon as it was ginned acted wisely. How the production could reach 8 million bales with the boll weevil at work over practically the entire cotton States and the limited amount of commercial fertilizer used under the crop, I confess my inability to understand. It leads to the conclusion that in some sections at least they have learned how to get the upper hand of the weevil."

"Well, this was my first effort to obtain public office," said one of the candidates in Tuesday's primary, "and I think it will be my last. I went into the primary reluctantly and thought of withdrawing a few days ago, but stayed in at the solicitation of some of my friends. I got the office I was seeking and a little later on shall perhaps get the cussing I am told comes to all office-holders. To my way of thinking there isn't much to holding public office."

"The Fort Mill contingent at the football game in Rock Hill last Friday between Chester and Gaffney pulled hard for the Gaffney boys, as did most of the Rock Hill folk who were present, but all our cheering and encouragement otherwise did not have the effect of warding off defeat for them," said a Fort Mill man in whose heart the Chester team evidently lacks a warm spot. "The truth is, the Chester team outclasses every team it has played since the season opened. They are not only a husky lot, but they understand the game and play it for all that is in them. My prediction is that when the Chester boys meet Charleston for the State championship in Columbia Friday, Charleston will get the small end of the score, much as I would be pleased with the success of the low-country lads."

An illustration of how to get votes by the short speech route was furnished at the citizens' meeting in the town hall Monday night. J. F. Lyles, candidate for public works commissioner, was invited to make a speech. He said: "A friend of mine invited me to enter the race. I asked him how much it cost to get in. He said, 'Nothing.' Then I asked him how much I'd get out of it. Again he replied, 'Nothing.' I told him to count me in." Mr. Lyles then sat down. In the election Tuesday he led the public works commission ticket.

## WORLD'S BIGGEST FIRM.

### Uncle Sam's Postal Department Employs 326,000 Persons.

The United States postal service, with 326,000 employees immediately connected with its operation, serving 110 million customers, is the biggest distinctive business in the world, according to a statement recently made by Will H. Hays, postmaster general. The department spends 600 million dollars annually.

The department has the largest express company in the world, handling more than 2,509,000 packages this year. It has over a half million depositors in postal savings, the largest savings bank in the world, with 75 per cent of the depositors being of foreign extraction. There is twice as much postal savings business done in New York city alone as there is in the entire Dominion of Canada. It has increased 289 per cent since 1912, with no increase in postal facilities since that date.

The statistics of the postal department show that in every single hour of the day 1,400,000 letters are sent, and this year more than 12 billion letters will be handled. The department also handles more than a billion and a quarter postal cards every year. A big sum in debts is satisfied each year through the sale of 150 million postal money orders. The earth could be circled ten times with the two rails on which the mails are carried in the United States, and postal employees use enough lead pencils in one year to place one behind the ear of more than a million persons.

In New York city alone there are a quarter of a million letters addressed each day by clerks using city directories, and there are 19 million letters handled annually by the division of dead letters at Washington, all owing to the negligence of the public in addressing mail. The cost of this service to the taxpayers all comes back to the careless individual.

Each day 43,000 rural carriers go out in the morning, serving more than 6 million families, and before sundown every day these carriers travel 1,170,000 miles, a total of 353 million miles every year over the highways of the country. The postal service uses 800,000 miles of twine every year, enough to girdle the earth 30 times. Mr. Hays figures that the department will save 15 million dollars in the current year from appropriations already made by Congress without any detriment to the service.

### Young People in Session.

The B. Y. P. U. convention of the York Baptist association met last Sunday in the First Baptist church of York, with delegates in attendance from various churches in the county. The meeting was called to order by the president, J. A. Bass of Rock. After prayer and a praise service devotional exercises were conducted by C. W. McGee of York. The address of welcome was made by Mrs. C. W. McGee and was responded to by Chas. A. Scott.

Problems in B. Y. P. U. work were then discussed by several of the delegates in a helpful manner. Miss Beatrice Parks of the Fort Mill union was elected convention chorister and Miss Lula Smith was chosen reporter for the convention to succeed S. A. Lee of Fort Mill, resigned. It was decided to award the convention banner to the union with largest percentage of enrollment present.

### James E. Steadman Dead.

Following an illness of several months, James E. Steadman died at his home in Fort Mill last Wednesday. Mr. Steadman had lived in Fort Mill for many years and had many friends in the community who greatly regretted to hear of his death. He is survived by his widow and a number of sons and daughters. The funeral services were conducted by the Rev. R. H. Viser, pastor of the Fort Mill Presbyterian church, and the interment was in Flint Hill churchyard Thursday.