

# THE FORT MILL TIMES.

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## MINING OF DIAMONDS.

### Story of How Precious Stones are Taken from Earth.

A "rush" such as this country knew in its free land days, but in this case to peg out claims in a newly discovered diamond field, was mentioned in recent dispatches from South Africa. This new diamond country opens up possibilities of a rival to the great Kimberly diamond field.

The method of mining diamonds at Kimberly, which may be followed in the new fields if the formation proves the same, are outlined in a bulletin of the National Geographic society.

"The mines at Kimberly," says the bulletin, "are in very ancient volcanoes which ages ago lost all semblance of activity. But during their youth the great heat and pressure of the volcanoes created gigantic laboratories in their depths in which thousands of the hard white carbon crystals which are diamonds were created. The precious little lumps are embedded in a great volume of worthless rock known as 'blue ground,' and under old conditions were as hard to find as the proverbial needle in a haystack. But just as a clever searcher could probably locate his needle with a powerful magnet, despite the straw, so engineers have evolved mechanical means cleverly to separate the few tiny diamonds from the many tons of dirt in which they are hidden.

"The effectiveness with which nature has concealed the crystals is evidenced by the fact that the 'blue ground' brought up from the depths of the mines and carrying its priceless gems is spread out in the open for four months to a year to the weather. The diamonds are perfectly safe, for officials who have walked over the weathering 'floors' for many years assert that they have never found a diamond in this way. As the 'blue ground' weathers it crumbles and great harrows like those used on the bonanza farms of the West are dragged over it to facilitate the process.

"Eventually the material is broken down into relatively fine particles. It is then taken in truck loads to the mechanical plant of the mine for treatment. The ground is mixed with water in great mixing machines and passed over screens of fine wire meshing.

"When as much as possible of the foreign material has been removed in this way the coarse residue, containing the diamonds, is passed over sloping, vibrating tables covered with thick grease. Because of some little understood physical property, diamonds stick to the grease while the worthless material flows over the edge of the tables. The grease with its load of crystals is then scraped into a perforated container and heated by steam. The grease melts away and leaves the small but highly valuable objects of these months of work.

"One of the most striking features of the mining of diamonds by the large companies in Kimberly is the existence of the unique labor compounds. Since diamonds are so easily stolen, only those native laborers are employed who will agree to 'enlist' for at least three months and remain for that period (when not in the mines or on the 'floors') within a walled inclosure. In the largest compound, covering more than four acres, 3,000 men live. Not only are these compounds surrounded by high walls, but they are also covered overhead by fine wire netting so that diamonds cannot be thrown outside to confederates.

"Only certain articles may be taken into the compound, and no boots, shoes or other hard or solid materials may be taken out—only clothing which has been searched. In the largest of the compounds, where some laborers have chosen to stay for years, are stores, a church, a school, a hospital and dispensary, athletic grounds and a swimming pool. The manager of the compound is a sort of mayor and judge rolled into one and is called upon to decide innumerable disputes."

## INTEREST IN ELECTION.

### Increased Vote Expected at Primary Next Tuesday.

According to local politicians, vote will be polled in Fort Mill the indications are that a larger in the second Democratic primary next Tuesday, September 12, than was polled in the first primary on August 29. Aside from the race for governor, in which everybody seems to be more or less interested, the contest for county treasurer between Mrs. Lucia Ewart Quinn and W. D. Thomasson also is attracting the attention of many voters.

Other county officers to be selected in the primary Tuesday are a supervisor and judge of probate. In the former race Hugh W. Brown, incumbent, and Thos. W. Boyd, a former supervisor, are the opposing candidates, neither having received a majority vote in the first primary. For judge of probate, J. L. Houston, who has held the office for four years, and G. P. Smith are the candidates.

Still another office to be filled in the primary is State superintendent of education. In the first primary there were six candidates, but all save J. E. Swearingen of Columbia, who is seeking reelection, and J. H. Hope of Union were eliminated. Swearingen has held the office since 1909. Hope is an experienced school man and a former superintendent of education of Union county.

In the race for the governorship between former Governor Cole L. Blease and Thos. G. McLeod, Blease came out of the first primary with a lead over McLeod of 12,030 votes, having received 77,798 votes against 65,768 for McLeod. The total vote of the other four candidates was 30,001. Assuming that the total vote will be the same in the second primary, the former governor must gain 9,986 votes to win, while McLeod must not only gather in 12,030 votes to catch up with Blease, but in addition must gain 9,986 to defeat him.

### Missionary Union in Session.

The Woman's Missionary union of the York Baptist association closed a successful two day session at the Fort Mill Baptist church with the afternoon meeting last Thursday. One hundred and forty delegates, representing the woman's missionary societies and affiliated organizations from most of the Baptist churches in the York association, were present for the meeting.

A feature of the sessions was the addresses on missions subjects by Mrs. Maud R. McClure, president of the Woman's Missionary Training school at Louisville, Ky.

All the officers of the union were reelected as follows: Mrs. J. T. Garrison, superintendent; Miss Florence Thomasson, secretary and treasurer; Miss Ina Smith, mission study superintendent; Mrs. Ralph Moss, Sunbeam superintendent; Miss Esther Meacham, G. A. superintendent; Mrs. Serpuz, Y. W. A. superintendent; Miss Minnie Garrison, R. A. superintendent.

### Fort Mill's First Bale.

The first bale of new crop Fort Mill township cotton was picked during the last two or three days on the plantation of Col. Leroy Springs and yesterday afternoon was taken by J. M. Gamble to Rock Hill, where it was ginned, and then brought back to Fort Mill and delivered to the Fort Mill Manufacturing Co. Mr. Gamble, who is the manager of Col. Springs' farming interests in Fort Mill township, says that he does not expect more than half a crop of cotton on Col. Springs' place this year—that with the boll weevil and drought working simultaneously on the cotton there will be no top crop and that if the dry weather of the last three weeks continues a few days longer practically all the cotton will be open and ready to pick in two or three weeks.

Henry Ford is establishing a factory in Mexico and about half the paragraphs in the country have remarked that Mexico needs a shaking up anyway.

## NEWS OF YORK COUNTY.

### Items of General Interest Found in the Yorkville Enquirer.

Dr. D. B. Johnson, president of Winthrop college, who has been spending several weeks touring Europe, is on his way home. He sailed from Liverpool, England, for New York on the steamer Adriatic September 2 and is expected to arrive in New York September 9.

The McLeod vote in York county last Tuesday was 1,482 instead of 1,532, the official figures published last Friday. The figures as published were taken from the record filed with the clerk of the court, as required by law, but a second addition of the detailed vote at the various precincts showing these figures incorrect.

"I predict that the farmers of York county will make 55 per cent as much cotton and as much corn as they did last year," said John R. Blair of Sharon, demonstration agent for York county when asked about crop conditions the other day. Mr. Blair has just completed a crop inspection trip over practically the entire county.

Monday, salesday for September, brought quite a number of horse traders to town carrying with them a large number of horses and mules, ranging from "plugs" to "good uns." Most of the traders were looking for "boot" in connection with trades and since the "boot" was rather scarce, there was not a great deal of trading in horseflesh.

Several members of the sect known as the "Holy Rollers," who are said to be more or less numerous in the Blairsville section, did not get to vote in the first primary election for the reason that they refused to take the oath required of voters. Their argument was that it is contrary to their religion to swear or take an oath, and rather than comply with that requirement they stayed away from the polling precinct at Blairsville.

Some of the voters have an idea that because of the number on the ticket there is some way of connecting them with the candidates for whom they vote. There is nothing to that. The number does not serve any other purpose than to keep track of the tickets used. The number is on the coupon only and not on the ticket, and when the coupon is torn off before the deposit of the ticket in the box, there is no means by which the ticket can be identified again.

"No matter whether Mr. Blease or Mr. McLeod is the next governor of South Carolina," remarked a steward of the Methodist church Tuesday morning, "the next governor of South Carolina will be a member of the Methodist church. Both Mr. Blease and Mr. McLeod have been members of our denomination for years. Governor Manning was an Episcopalian, Governor Cooper a Baptist and Governor Harvey a Presbyterian."

Army overcoats worn by so many young men during 1917-18 and 1919 appear to have gone out of style entirely. A man who has been living at one of the local mills and who intends leaving the State offered most of his household and personal belongings at auction on the court house lawn Monday. Most of the property sold readily, although none of it brought anything like its value. However, when the army overcoat was offered for sale not a single bid was offered, although the auctioneer cried it lustily. The result was that the owner had to carry it with him.

Two tracts of land and timber rights in a third tract were sold by Clerk of the Court McMackin Monday before the court house door in accordance with previously advertised notice. The case was that of O. J. Corpening, trustee, plaintiff, against the Consolidated Trust company et al. One tract of 481 acres in Fort Mill township was bought by the Consolidated Trust company for \$1,700. Timber rights in 325 acres and a tract of 41 acres in the same township were purchased by the Consolidated company for \$250.

## OUTWITTING THE WEEVIL.

There is so much said and written about the boll weevil treatment and remedies and theories vary so markedly that some people are still skeptical, says the Calhoun Times, published at St. Matthews. It is not unusual to hear a farmer say that a neighbor makes just as much cotton without fighting the pest as does the man who marshals his forces and fights like grim death. It is time to settle this point that we may know, once for all, where we stand.

Here is some pretty strong evidence from reliable sources. Mr. W. G. Peterkin, a large farmer of the Fort Motte section, was known to have put out a splendid barrage against the enemy. With the rainiest spring and summer ever known in this section there were boll weevils by wholesale to encounter. It was, therefore, with much interest that several farmers from St. Matthews went out to see what they might see.

They all proclaim with one accord that the weevil has been knocked down and dragged out in the melee and they estimate that Mr. Peterkin will make all the way from a half bale to a bale of cotton per acre. To clinch the argument in favor of a fight to the death with the weevil they compared the Peterkin lands and cotton with those adjoining and owned by H. G. Kaminer of Gadsden. The lands are on par as to quality, although there may have been some difference of fertilizer in favor of Mr. Peterkin, as the Kaminer lands, we understand are farmed by share croppers. It is said, however, that the yield on the Kaminer lands will not be over 50 pounds of seed cotton to the acre.

Mr. Peterkin was in town Thursday and he was asked to give his method of warfare in a nutshell. He said that he used two or three applications of the Coker molasses mixture when the cotton was very small. He saw that this was done thoroughly. In the meantime he also had the bugs picked and the squares, later on, taken from the ground. Further on, he began to use the calcium arsenate powder and applied it seven times. The frequent use was doubtless necessary on account of excessive rains.

This goes to show and prove that the boll weevil can be successfully fought and practically whipped with a great deal of work and considerable expense.

The question naturally arises, "Does it pay?" That will, of course, depend on the price. The chances are that it also proves that a lax and careless man will not do much with cotton in a wet year, especially. This is a big and puzzling question ahead of us for several years to come.

### Maker of Heirlooms.

The Charlotte Observer tells a story of a lady in that city who has discovered that she has the sewing machine on which her baby clothes were made by her mother. The machine has been in use 50 years. The lady, it seems, had noticed that a certain store was opening up a new sewing machine department and she concluded that they might be interested in knowing that she had a machine with their brand, "The New Home," on it some place between the hemstitcher and the middle of next week. Then the publicity man for the store sent the story to The Observer with the special request that the make of the lady's machine be mentioned in the paper.

### E. T. Hughes Dies Suddenly.

E. T. Hughes, chairman of the ways and means committee of the South Carolina house of representatives, was found dead at his home in Marion Tuesday night. A coroner's jury found that he "came to his death from causes unknown to the jury, but with no evidence of foul play." Mr. Hughes was said to have been ill for the last six months or more. Mr. Hughes was 42 years old and was serving his second term in the house as a representative of Marion county.

## RESULTS OF PRIMARY.

### State Executive Committee Announces Final Figures.

The State Democratic executive committee met in Columbia Tuesday and canvassed the results of the first primary, held on Tuesday, August 29. Cole L. Blease and Thos. G. McLeod were ordered into a second race for governor, to be held on Tuesday, September 12. The official vote for governor in the first primary was announced as follows:

Blease 77,798, Cantey 1,260, Coleman 3,797, Duncan 1,780, Laney 23,164, McLeod 65,768.

E. B. Jackson of Aiken county was declared nominated for lieutenant governor over his two opponents. The vote was declared to be: Adams 39,457, Jason 78,663, Owens 35,527.

W. Banks Dove was declared the nominee for secretary of state with a vote of 109,954 against that of 73,356 for Jas. C. Dozier.

Samuel M. Wolfe was declared nominated to succeed himself as attorney general, the committee announcing the vote to be: Eubanks 36,228, Winter 45,454, and Wolfe 90,091.

Samuel T. Carter was declared nominated for State treasurer. He ran without opposition.

Walter E. Duncan, comptroller general, led the entire field of State candidates who had opposition, receiving 109,390 votes against 56,527 for T. Hagood Gooding.

A second race was ordered between J. E. Swearingen and J. H. Hope for State superintendent of education. The vote for the various candidates was as follows: Mrs. Drake 35,180, J. H. Hope 37,669, O. D. Snav 8,663, Cecil H. Seigler 9,112, John E. Swearingen 45,006, Mrs. Wallace 22,126.

Robert E. Craig was declared the nominee for adjutant general with 91,278 votes against 80,895 for T. B. Marshall.

The official vote gave B. Harris 107,852 and George Wightman 60,722 for commissioner of agriculture. Harris was declared the nominee.

### Will Lay Cornerstone Sunday.

Fitting services will mark the laying of the cornerstone of St. John's Methodist church Sunday morning. Following the sermon at 11 o'clock by the presiding elder of the Rock Hill district, the Rev. G. C. Leonard, the stone will be placed in position. In the stone will be deposited a list of the subscribers to the building fund for the new church, the names of the building committee and the officers of the church and Sunday school. The pastor of St. John's, the Rev. W. R. Bouknight, says there are a number of unpaid subscriptions to the building fund which he is anxious to have paid before the cornerstone is laid.

### Patterson Store Reorganized.

The Mutual Dry Goods Store is the name of a newly organized mercantile concern for Fort Mill which has taken over within the last week the business formerly conducted by the Patterson Dry Goods company. The new business is applying to the secretary of state for a charter, with L. A. Harris, J. L. Spratt and E. R. Patterson as the incorporators.

It is understood that Mr. Patterson will be the manager of the new business. Mr. Patterson is generally considered a live merchant and his friends in this section will be pleased to learn that he has reentered business here.

Government ownership of post-office buildings in all cities and towns where such is not already the case is the gist of the proposal to Congress by the postmaster general, with the approval of the president. Reports show, it is claimed, that the adoption of the plan would mean a saving of 500 million dollars within the next ten years.

Candidates for Congress in the North and West who are running on light wines and beer platforms seem to overlook the fact that there are still a good many people who like straight licker.

## SHORT NEWS STORIES.

### Items of Interest From Various Sections of Country.

A public spanker for boys who are too young to send to jail for their misdeeds is asked by the chief of police of Toronto, Canada. Corporal punishment, the officer declares, is the best method of punishing mischievous boys.

Chinese wine said to worth 7 million dollars may be poured into sewers of San Francisco as the result of an action pending by the California prohibition director. The liquor has been classified as as liquor instead of medicine.

Playing in the yard while its mother was hanging out the clothes, the 15 months' old child of Cecil Thomas of Augusta, Ga., became entangled in apron strings dangling from the line and strangled to death before it could be released.

Fear that he would strike a young woman who stopped in front of his machine to pick up her handkerchief caused the death of Wm. A. Creme of New York city. Creme fell dead over the steering wheel as he narrowly missed the girl.

Found guilty of holding his little daughter's hand over a fire, burning it almost to the bone, Wm. H. Moore, blacksmith of Bayonne, N. J., has been sentenced to spend one year in jail. The father burned the child's hand to correct her for cutting pictures out of books.

An order instructing postmasters throughout the country to stop delivery of mails at every dwelling not having a slot in the door or mail box in front of the house has been issued by the post-office department. Four months is to be given citizens to provide the slot or receptacle.

Twenty-two billion eggs were laid by American hens thus far during 1922, says a department of agriculture report. This is a record which was made possible by Americans killing and eating fewer chickens, leaving more hens on the farms.

"I'd marry a fat man every time—they're jolly and therefore make good husbands," declared Miss Adah Mae Williams, 19 year old heiress of Syracuse, N. Y., in announcing her engagement to Walter Heirs, moving picture heavyweight comedian.

New York has a new skyscraper that is a leader in its class. At Park avenue and Sixty-fourth street the only church skyscraper built exclusively for religious purposes has just been opened. It rises nine stories above the ground. Inside there are four auditoriums.

While praying beside the grave of his mother in a cemetery near New York city, Robert Lake, 28 years old, was robbed of his pocket book and \$7 in cash. As he knelt beside the grave he was struck on the head. When he revived he found that his pockets had been looted.

A race across the Atlantic ocean, with a speed crown as the reward, is expected to determine the worth of oil as a fuel for steamships. The race will be run between Southampton, England, and the United States some time soon, according to present plans. Six vessels will take part, all but one using oil as fuel.

The Ku Klux Kan at Paterson, N. J., has made a protest against the announcement that the German language will be taught in the city schools during the coming term. The resumption of teaching the language in the public schools is a plot of the German nation to regain the place she formerly held in the world, says a letter to the board of education signed by the klan.

When he made a mistake in houses while serving a warrant, Sheriff William Mathias of Muhlenberg county, Ky., and his daughter, Mrs. Ella Smith, were shot and killed and three others were wounded. The sheriff attempted to force his way into the wrong house and its owner killed the officer, not knowing who he was. In the battle that followed the woman was killed and the three other persons wounded.