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The Clinton Chronicle

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NUMBER 1

YEAR OF PROGRESS FOR THE COLLEGE

Presbyterian College Makes Considerable Gain During Past Year and Faces A Bright Future.

With the close of the year 1923, a resume shows that the Presbyterian College of this city, has made forward strides in many ways.

A cause for gratification is the award of the contract during the past few days for the new Smyth dormitory at a cost of approximately \$100,000. An Anderson concern has secured the contract and will begin work at once.

Another outstanding event of the present year is that of the new gymnasium, the gift of Colonel Leroy Springs of Lancaster. The gymnasium will represent a cost of approximately \$125,000 including the swimming pool, and is the gift solely of the Lancaster mill executive. It will be the largest recreational building in the state, and in every detail of its construction and equipment will be unsurpassed. It is hoped to have this building completed by the beginning of the 1924-'25 session.

It also became necessary during the year to enlarge the dining hall, this work having been completed about the 1st of December. The present dining hall is now capable for caring for all students in the college and for additional ones that may come when the new dormitory is completed.

The athletic field started in 1922 was also completed in 1923. It provides excellent playing field for baseball and football and is encircled by a cinder track, generally said to be one of the best in the South.

Another distinction during the present year was that shown by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, which admitted the local institution to membership. The Presbyterian College of South Carolina is one of the seven colleges in South Carolina holding membership in this organization.

Another cause for gratification among the college officials and student body is the announcement that came just preceding Christmas that a five year contract renewal had been signed by Coach Walter A. Johnson. This put at rest the many rumors that he would leave here to go elsewhere. Coach Johnson began his career here in 1915 and since that time has placed P. C. well near the top in South Carolina college circles. The fact that he is to remain with the institution brings genuine satisfaction to all.

The present student body numbers over 200, but as soon as the proposed dormitory becomes a reality, Dr. Douglas believes the student body at the beginning of the 1924-25 session will number, perhaps, 100 more. Limited rooming capacity had been one of the largest hinderances in the growth of the college in the last few years.

In every way the institution is advancing and the coming year bids fair to be filled with even more good things than any other year in the history of the institution.

A BUSINESS CHANGE

W. S. Denson Buys Interest In Well Known Grocery Firm of City.

Following the dissolution of the firm of King & Little as announced last week, W. S. Denson of this city, has purchased from John W. Little, owner of the firm, half interest in the business and beginning January the first it is now conducted under the firm name of Little & Denson, with Messrs. John W. Little and W. S. Denson as owners.

Mr. Little has been associated with this firm since its organization. Mr. Denson is well known in the grocery circles of the city, having been a member of the firm of Simpson Grocery Company and later the sole owner of the business before selling out to Baldwin Bros. Both of these young men are well experienced in the fancy grocery business and state that it is their intention to conduct one of the most complete and modern grocery stores in the city or this section.

Guests of Laurens Club

The members of the Thornwell Orphanage football team, accompanied by Dr. L. Ross Lynn, were the guests of the Laurens Business League at their monthly luncheon-meeting held Tuesday evening.

NEW YEAR GIVEN NOISY GREETING

Birth of 1924 Heralded Forth Over City In Noisy Fashion.

The birth of Young Miss 1924 was greeted with riotous acclaim Tuesday morning by a number of Clintonians who welcomed its arrival. As the big orphanage clock chimed its twelve melodious notes, the air was pierced with the ringing of church bells, the shooting of firecrackers, pistols, etc., heralding forth the news that the old year was dead. Even to those who had gone to sleep, the midnight noises were heard and many were awakened to give vent to their joy in the coming of another year, reminding all that 1923 was passing away painlessly.

The postoffice and banks of the city observed the first as a holiday. Several mercantile establishments were closed taking stock and getting the ledger ready for the journey down another milestone—1924.

SELLS DRUG BUSINESS

Dr. E. Mood Smith of Laurens, Buys Drug Business of Dr. D. O. Rhame.

Dr. E. Mood Smith of Laurens, Pharmacist and Optometrist, has purchased the drug business of Dr. D. O. Rhame and took charge on the first of January.

For the past several months Dr. Smith has been located in Laurens for the practice of Optometry. Formerly he was engaged in the drug business in Leesville but had the misfortune last May of losing his store by fire. Since going to Laurens he has been engaged in the practice of Optometry exclusively, and upon locating here he will conduct a drug and optometry business jointly at the same stand on West Main Street.

Dr. Smith is the father of Dr. Felder Smith of this city, and since locating in Laurens, has frequently been a visitor here where he has a number of friends and acquaintances, all of whom are glad to learn that he is to become a citizen of Clinton. He expects to move his family here as soon as arrangements can be perfected.

Dr. D. O. Rhame in disposing of his drug business, has made no announcement as to his future plans, though it is understood he will continue to make Clinton his home. His friends in the city will be glad to know that the business change does not carry him elsewhere.

Go To Baltimore

Dr. Bernard N. Hatcher, colored physician, left Monday for Baltimore where he will be located for the practice of his profession. Dr. Hatcher came here seven years ago and during that time enjoyed a large practice among his people. He stated that he will have a larger field in Baltimore and for that reason decided to leave Clinton.

COLLEGE OPENS TODAY

Students Return To City for New Session's Work Following Holidays.

Though the children of the public schools will not be required to put in appearance for school work until next Monday, the other institutions in the city are resuming work this week. The Thornwell Orphanage schools re-opened Monday following the holiday period. The Presbyterian College will resume work this morning, the incoming trains yesterday bringing in the students throughout the day.

CHILDREN SELL SEALS

Names Are Given of Those Leading In Sale of Little Christmas Red Cross Seals.

Several children of the city schools volunteered to assist in the sale of the little Christmas Red Cross Seals. They had as their territory the residential section of the city and many of them made splendid records in their work under the direction of the chairman, Mrs. J. Hamp Stone. The distinction of selling the largest number of seals goes to the following young folks: Reginald Peake, 700; Isaac Copeland, 500; Elizabeth Todd, 369; Lottie Chase, 225; Ouida Cox, 200.

At A. R. P. Church

The meetings of the Billy Sunday Club for the month of January will be held in the A. R. P. church. The club meets every Sunday afternoon at two o'clock and a cordial invitation is always extended all visitors.

OPTIMISTIC NOTE SOUNDED AS NEW YEAR STARTS

OUTLOOK FOR PROSPERITY FOR COMING YEAR IS BRIGHT THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, BUSINESS LEADERS SAY.

New York, Dec. 30.—Leaders in the field of business and banking in the United States are looking forward to a prosperous year in 1924.

Forecasts for next year's trade, prepared by some of the leading industrial and financial executives of the country, generally breathe the spirit of optimism. Opinion among them is virtually unanimous that the adoption of Secretary Mellon's tax reduction program would be a great stimulus to business and industrial activity. While it is admitted that the unsettled European economic situation has an adverse effect on shipping and the copper and wheat markets, it is generally agreed that it does not control domestic business prosperity.

There is nothing in sight to cause apprehension for the near future, in the opinion of E. H. Gary, chairman of the board of directors of the United States Steel Corporation. Next year, he said, should be a better year than 1923, which was characterized by a marked revival of business followed by a period of decreased activity, and then a period of renewed optimism and cautious buying.

"As an indication of our confidence in the business future of the country," asserted Charles M. Schwab, chairman of the board of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, "I would point out the fact that our corporation is spending \$25,000,000 to perfect its facilities for turning out steel and steel products at the lowest possible prices at our Lackawanna plants in Buffalo."

"Business men," Mr. Schwab added, "should be very much heartened by the soundness of the views expressed by President Coolidge in his initial message to the country. I feel the president, to a remarkable degree, has voiced the opinion of the American people and that congress cannot disregard his suggestions."

"Business may be hampered at times, but the driving force, the common sense and the initiative of the American people will, in the end, overcome any and all obstacles and we are bound to proceed on our prosperous way."

While expressing the belief that "no other industry holds quite the amount of uncertainty that the oil business does, for the reason that no one can foretell for any long period ahead the course of petroleum production," W. C. Teagle, president of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, takes a somewhat optimistic view of the outlook for 1924.

"Throughout 1923," Mr. Teagle said, "the volume of business has been good, but much of it at prices that allowed no profit to the producer, refiner or marketer unless the latter happened to be a jobber with no liabilities either as a producer of crude or a refiner."

Over-production of crude oil brought about by flush yields in certain Texas, Oklahoma and California fields, Mr. Teagle went on to say, contributed so generously to the production from older fields as to mean throughout much of the year a daily surplus in excess of consumption of about 300,000 barrels. In recent weeks, the Powell field has dropped off to well under 50 per cent. of its maximum output, and the California wells have evidenced failing gas pressure.

"With further gains in consumption probable," added Mr. Teagle, "it looks right now as though the country

should begin consuming more petroleum than it is producing around the middle of next summer. If new production does not upset this estimate, there should be a movement of storage oil into consumption the latter half of the year. There has been a decided lift in sentiment apparent in the last fortnight, and so far as I see no reason to think that this new optimism will not prove to be justified."

"Nineteen-twenty-four should be a banner year for the petroleum industry," declared H. F. Sinclair, chairman of the Sinclair Consolidated Oil Corporation. "In the last two years eight major fields have been discovered or brought to their peak of production. Any two of these fields, ten years ago, would have demoralized the industry. Naturally, production has exceeded the immediate demand, but the tide began to turn last summer and consumption should soon exceed production."

"The American public should realize that the present price of petroleum products is abnormally low and cannot be permanently maintained. No industry can be expected to continue operation at a loss. It is an economic impossibility. A few companies may be making profits, but the industry as a whole is losing money, and has been since 1920. This has resulted in a seeming benefit to the consuming public, but in the long run the unprofitable operation of any basic industry cannot be beneficial to consumers."

"A peculiar aspect of the last two years of 'depression' has been that during this period crude oil consumption has actually increased 33 per cent. This fact in itself gives ample assurance that the industry will be able to climb back to a normal condition and earn a reasonable profit."

"It is not easy at this time to make a forecast very far ahead," declared Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., president of the General Motors Corporation, "nevertheless I cannot see any fundamental reason why 1924 should not be at least a satisfactory business year, and I can see many reasons why it ought to be an exceedingly good year."

"There is nothing in my judgment," Mr. Sloan added, "that would be more constructive than a general recognition on the part of both parties of Secretary Mellon's proposal for tax reductions. I do not think any other single thing would inspire as much confidence or do as much to stabilize business in this country, and it would surely rebound to the prosperity of all classes."

"I do not think European conditions are going to have a great deal of influence. Of course it is hoped that the situation will be cleared up and, if it does, it is bound to have a good effect on sentiment in this country. My own impression regarding that situation, as evidenced by yearly visits since the war, is that irrespective of the financial status of the various governments, the economic position of the individual is continually improving, and as long as that continues a satisfactory result is sure to work out sooner or later."

"Taking it all in all, I am optimistic as to the outlook for 1924, but believe that caution should be exercised and especially large enterprises should watch their position carefully. Probably that pertains at all times, but I believe it especially applies to the forthcoming year."

Prosperity for 1924 is assured if
(Continued on Page Four)

COLUMBIA GIRL RETURNS HOME

Virginia Boozer Starts 1924 Under Parental Roof—Was In Florida.

Columbia, Dec. 31.—After two months of experimenting with life on her own resources, Virginia Boozer returned to Columbia this morning on the train from Jacksonville, arriving at 5 o'clock. Her homecoming was entirely unexpected.

It will be a happy New Year in this home. Thanksgiving had passed, Christmas with its preparations for the girl's home-coming had gone, and it was on the brink of a new year that Virginia came home. It is singular that with all of the notices sent out over the country through fraternal orders and theater employment agencies, Miss Boozer during the entire two months that she was away was never accosted by anyone who knew her identity, she says.

"Experimenting," She Said. Her statement is to the effect that she merely intended to make an experiment to see if she could, unaided, make her way alone in the world, and after she had found out to her own satisfaction that she was capable of earning her own living, she decided to return home. She says that while she was in Jacksonville she was employed in a department store and lived at the Y. W. C. A. There is a wee bit of suspicion that the girl might have been just a tiny bit homesick Christmas and that hurried her home.

She denies that she ever had any ambition to seek a career in the movies, that naturally in the course of conversation she had told friends casually what she would do if she were on her own initiative, but she had never intimated that she was ambitious for stage career.

Also she denies that she ever changed trains at Denmark and went to Florence, but she says she went straight to Jacksonville. The people of Columbia rejoice with Dr. and Mrs. Boozer, who have had a wealth of sympathy and attention shown them.

Worked In Store.

Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 31.—Miss Virginia Boozer, University of South Carolina student, who has been missing from her home for two months and who returned to Columbia today after an extended search had been conducted for her, came to Jacksonville in November and obtained employment in a local department store, it was learned tonight.

Miss Boozer, it was said, in asking for employment stated she was out of funds and was making her own way. She is quoted as saying her family was once wealthy, but had lost their money. She was given a job at the pattern counter and has worked there since coming to Jacksonville.

Dispatches from Columbia today stated she left her home early in November, ostensibly to visit friends in Spartanburg, S. C., but never arrived there.

WORK BEGINS ON NEW POSTOFFICE

Ground Is Broken for Handsome Structure on North Broad Street.

During the past week ground has been broken for Clinton's new postoffice building on North Broad Street. The Perkins Construction Company of Greenville, has the contract and the building must be completed within one year. The digging of the foundation and laying off of the lot is now under way and work will be pushed to complete the building at the earliest possible date. It will be of pressed brick with white trimmings, 62x64 feet in dimension, and will be modern in every respect and well adapted to a town this size.

Schools Open January 7th

The Clinton city schools will resume work next Monday morning, January 7th, following a two weeks' Christmas vacation. The members of the faculty are expected to return from their respective homes in time to enter upon the new term's work which will proceed without interruption for the remainder of the session.

Now With Kellers

Dr. Fayette Henry, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Henry of this city, has accepted a position with Kellers Drug Store as pharmacist and is entering upon his new duties this week. Dr. Henry is a recent graduate of the Medical College in Charleston and has been located at Pickens. His friends here with learn with interest of his return to the city.

CONTRACT LET FOR NEW DORMITORY

Thomas Smyth Dormitory At Presbyterian College Is Now Under Construction.

The handsome new dormitory of the Presbyterian College, bearing the name of Thomas Smyth, will soon grace the campus of the institution, the contract for the building having been let during the past week to Contractor C. M. Guest of Anderson. The price for the dormitory complete without heat and plumbing, was \$73,000. It is estimated that the plumbing and heating will cost \$15,000. Added to this the architect's fee of five per cent, the total cost of the building will be \$92,400.

There has been subscribed outside of the Town of Clinton for this building, \$74,000. This is approximately the cost of the dormitory without the heating and plumbing system, and it is going to be necessary to raise this additional amount of \$20,000, covering these two items, before the contract can be let. Clinton has been asked to give \$10,000 and up to date only about one-half of this amount has been subscribed. It is hoped that a number of citizens of the community will become interested and avail themselves of this opportunity of assisting to make possible the proposed building.

The dormitory will be one of the most modern and attractive in the South. Work is to begin at once and it is planned to have the building completed before next fall at which time the Synod of South Carolina is to meet with the college and the members of this body are to be entertained in the new dormitory upon its formal opening.

KIWANIS CLUB ELECTS ITS 1924 OFFICERS

Rev. Edward Long Will Lead Club For the Ensuing Year—Other Officers Named Also.

The Rev. Edward Long, pastor of the First Baptist church of this city, was elected president of the Kiwanis Club to head the organization during 1924, at the regular annual election of officers meeting Tuesday at the luncheon at the Clinton Hotel.

The remaining officers elected were: Vice-President, Dr. A. E. Spenser, Treasurer, W. D. Copeland, District Trustee, Dr. Dudley Jones. The board of directors: B. H. Boyd, R. E. Ferguson, Dr. G. W. B. Smith, C. W. Stone, C. J. Killen, W. H. Simpson and B. L. King.

The new officers will be installed at an early date. Immediately after their installation, the directors will select the new secretary.

At Tuesday's meeting the club selected Friday evening, January 13th, as "Ladies Night" at which time the members will have their wives and friends as their guests.

ANOTHER DIVIDEND DAY

Clinton Institutions In Splendid Condition and Pay Regular Semi-Annual Dividends.

January first, is dividend day, and to those who are numbered among the stockholders of the various financial institutions of the city, is looked forward to with keen interest. The banks, cotton mills, and warehouses, have enjoyed a good business during the past year and the annual reports show all of these institutions in prosperous conditions. The dividends as announced, January first, are as follows:

The Commercial Bank, 5 per cent semi-annual on a capital stock of \$50,000.

The First National Bank, 4 per cent semi-annual on a capital stock of \$100,000.

The Clinton Bonded Warehouse paid a 10 per cent dividend in the summer on its capital stock of \$10,000.

The Peoples' Bonded Warehouse, 10 per cent on \$20,000 capital stock.

The Lydia Cotton Mills, 4 per cent semi-annual on \$100,000 capital stock.

The Clinton Cotton Mills paid 5 per cent semi-annual on its capital stock of \$350,000.

The Banna Manufacturing Company of Goldville, paid a dividend of 4 per cent semi-annual on its capital stock of \$250,000.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry M. Young and children were guests of Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Hipp in Newberry Tuesday and Wednesday.

THE SEARCHLIGHT

The mariner stands on the bridge of his ship, peering into the dark. Suddenly the flaming finger of a searchlight flashes out. The surrounding waters become bright as day. The course is clear.

Advertising is analogous to the searchlight. It throws its broad beams across the pages of this paper, pointing out with shining clearness just where to go for what you want, and how much you will have to pay.

In the advertising columns you can find the wares of progressive Clinton merchants. You can read the offerings, compare the values, check up the statements with your previous shopping experience, and then make your selections. There's no wasted time, no needless footwork, no inconvenience.

The mariner wisely follows the searchlight. You can just as wisely follow the advertisements. They are here for your guidance. They lead you through the broad, straight channel of safety, security and satisfaction.

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