

CONWAY STORY BACK IN 1865

The Leading Men and Where They Lived Their Lives

WOMEN RAIDERS IN WAR Facts Written in Three Chapters as Told by One Who Remembers

Here is a story of Conway, which begins in the spring of 1864, and ends in the following year when the Civil War ended. The facts stated in it are given to the writer by G. J. Watts, who came to Conway as a boy in the spring of 1864, with his father, Everette Watts, the latter having been appointed to the position of jailer of the county. The family occupied the old jail which was located in the exact spot where the Grace Hotel now stands.

CHAPTER I The Town Itself and its Leading People.

In the spring of the year of 1864, the only buildings of brick within the town of Conwayborough (this was the name of the town at that time) were the court house and the jail, both erected, probably about thirty-five years before that date. What was then the court house is now the city hall of the town of Conway (the name of the town changed to Conway years afterwards) and the county now enjoys a magnificent new structure in a new location. The county also has a new jail, and at the location of the old jail, there now stands a three-story brick hotel in operation since 1915.

On the westward side of Main street in the main business block (from the corner where now stands the Peoples National Bank to the corner where now stands the store of F. C. Todd) was a row of old wooden shacks, some shops, some dwellings, while the opposite side of this street had a few of the same kind of buildings, that side was not full but had large gaps in the housing line.

About the center of the western side was the dwelling of the widow Harmon, and with her was her young son, Henry Harmon. Her grandson, R. T. Harmon, was a merchant in Conway many years afterward.

On the corner of Main street and Third avenue, where the New York Cafe now stands, there was a wooden store, occupied by Immanuel, a Jew. This store was owned by an old man, a paralytic, by the name of Fisk. Fisk does not appear to have been a permanent resident of Conway, but he had a friend, Richwood, who lived in a house where the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. McKeithan now stands. He would come to Conway at regular intervals to collect his rent from the old Jew, and while here he would spend his time with Richwood. Fisk could hardly express himself in such a way as to make what he said understood, but he knew how to make Immanuel pay up his rent.

The first barroom opened in the town was located at the place where the livery stalls of the J. A. McDermott company was later built and where now a brick building is being erected by the Burroughs & Collins Company. Out in front of this barroom, in the center of the avenue, or about that point, stood an ancient oak as large or larger than the one which now grows in the Methodist cemetery. Around this tree rude benches had been built out of slabs and this place was known as the "loafer's rest." The seats extended all the way around the tree and it was as popular as a park would have been. Later other barrooms were opened for business and there were many places among the wooden shanties where strong drink was dispensed to all who wanted to buy.

Aunt Jane Norman lived in an old frame dwelling about the place where the Horry Drug Company now has a building. She was the leading boarding house keeper at that time and for long afterward.

Dr. Norman was the only doctor. He lived in the house which is still standing, just below the corner now occupied by the Buck Motor Company. In the county were two other doctors, Dr. Harrell, and Dr. Grant.

In another old home where the At-

lantic Coast Line Railroad depot now is, there lived another man of that time, Major Holmes. He was remarkable in appearance, by reason of the fact that he did not carry one single tooth in his head. He was not regarded as being more unfortunate than old brother Richwood, who could not show on his head one single hair.

Over in the woods, behind where the new court house now displays its walls of pressed brick, Mike Sellers lived and there he raised a large family in a little crude dwelling that would not be counted as adequate for such purposes at this time. He had a large tract of land which had come down to him from the Durants. In the course of time this land of Sellers' came into the possession of the Lewis family, and this land was sold as a part of the estate lands of the late W. R. Lewis some time ago. Around the humble home of old Sell-

BIBLE MEETING IS ENJOYABLE

Dr. Ramsey and Rev. Mr. McQuilkin Leave For Columbia

The Christian Life Conference, held under the leadership of Dr. A. J. Ramsey, the well known Bible teacher, of Pasadena, Calif., and the Rev. Robt. C. McQuilkin, formerly of Philadelphia, and who has recently moved to Columbia, with his family, came to a close at the Conway Methodist church last Sunday.

The meetings lasted throughout the whole of last week. The meetings were well attended and the teachings thoroughly enjoyed by the congregation.

The conference here was supported and pushed forward by all of the churches of Conway. Dr. Ramsey dealt with lessons of the message for present day living as given in First John, while Mr. McQuilkin handled the problems of the Christian life. Both made a great and lasting impression on their hearers at each and every meeting. The influence for good in this community can hardly be estimated.

Dr. Ramsey and Mr. McQuilkin for a number of years have conducted Christian life conferences in many parts of the United States and Canada. After the present series of meetings that is being conducted in the Southern states, the two Bible teachers join for a series in northern and southern California in the spring and early summer. The opening conference of the southern series was in Conway from January 21st to 28th, the second meeting of the kind for Conway in which all the churches of the town have united. Dr. Atkinson of the Methodist church told his people that this gospel preaching give them Bible holiness in its truest and highest form. Dr. Gordon of the Baptist church said the meetings were one of the greatest blessings that had come to his people. The Rev. Mr. Lemmon of the Presbyterian church said that this was the one kind of revival that the town and surrounding country needed, a revival that struck first at the lives of the Christians and presented a Gospel that results in righteousness in every day living of those outside the church.

These meetings dealt with vital matters of everyday living and are of interest to Christians of whatever denomination as well as to those outside the church.

From here Dr. Ramsey and the Rev. Mr. McQuilkin went to Columbia, where they opened last Monday the fourth conference of the kind that has been held in that city.

HAS REFERENCE IN TYLER CASE

The Clerk of the court held a reference at his office here last Thursday in the case of Morris Fertilizer Company, plaintiff against W. P. Tyler, et al., in which the plaintiff is seeking to foreclose a mortgage of the lands of Tyler under a mortgage which was given by Tyler to D. D. Harrelson, by Harrison transferred to L. D. Suggs, and by Suggs turned over to the Morris Fertilizer Company.

Testimony in the case was taken in Atlanta, Ga., in August, 1922, on the part of the fertilizer company, consisting to some extent of various letters passing between the parties about the matter. The defendant, Tyler, claims a credit for the sum of about \$64.00 as having been made by him to J. A. Goodwin, a representative of the plaintiff. In the testimony taken in Atlanta, Ga., this is explained as having been credited to other items on the L. D. Suggs account. Thomas A. Ratcliff, an officer of the company, testifying in Atlanta, Ga., said that the \$64.00 was applied to an open account of Mr. Suggs, as to a part, and the balance applied on another note that was due on the account of another year's business in the fertilizer account.

At the hearing on last Thursday only this testimony taken by deposition in Atlanta, was read before the referee, the notes and mortgages placed in evidence, and the record completed as to certain admissions that the parties make in the case.

The hearing was then continued until another date to be agreed upon among the parties.

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HORRY BARBER WINS PRIZE

The Koken Companies, of St. Louis, last year offered a total of seventy-five cash prizes for the largest number of applications of a hair tonic or lotion used in barber shops and prepared and sold by them. The prizes ranged from the grand prize of \$100.00 down to a number of five dollar prizes.

This contest was nationwide and hundreds of thousands of barbers all over the United States entered the contest for the prizes.

N. P. Anderson of number 34 Third Avenue, this town entered the contest and has just received a letter announcing that he won the twenty-eighth prize, the sum of \$15.00, and he received a check for this amount with the letter. By winning this prize Mr. Anderson proves that he must have considerable ability as a salesman, especially as he had to compete with such a great number and along with barbers located all over the country.

KU KLUX KLAN FRIGHTENS LEE

While Passing Near Lake Swamp is Overtaken by Klan

According to reports made in Conway last Saturday, the Ku Klux Klan has made another recent appearance, this time in the Lake Swamp section of the county.

It is reported that Refus Lee, a son of William Lee, had an experience with the hooded members of "the invisible empire," on the night of Sunday, January 21st, as he was traveling along the public road.

Lee had been passing along near Lake Swamp and was nearing Woodway Bay when he heard the noise of a number of automobiles. He passed on for a short distance and saw the Klan, or hooded men, whom he took to be klansmen, near the road.

As he passed they made a start to get at him, or he thought they did, but he went by running his horse at great speed. The automobile party went after him and he was pursued for about half a mile.

When he finally stopped and the hooded band came up, they delivered a warning to him, to the effect that he must change his way of life; that he must stay with his mother at nights.

It is said that Lee tremblingly promised to comply with all demands and he lost no opportunity to get away as soon as he could.

The young man was greatly worried and frightened by his experience and it was said that he had not recovered from his fright the next week after the occurrence.

Mrs. Lee, his mother, is also very much excited about the matter. She has been in a worried state ever since it happened.

BOY RECOVERS RETURNS HOME

Leo Johnson, young son of W. H. Johnson, recently shot by accident while playing with a rifle, was brought back from the hospital last week well on the road to recovery.

He was suffering from a partial paralysis of one leg but this difficulty will doubtless disappear as he becomes stronger and is able to walk some. He can sit up and stand up at the present time but is not strong enough to walk about. He says that he will let guns alone hereafter.

The bullet which caused this injury is still in the boy's body, lodged near the spine in the back and not far beneath the skin. It may not ever be extracted.

The cost of the operation and hospital bill amounted to nearly \$200.

ers there grew dense thickets of gallyberry and sweet gum, with here and there a frog pond in which grew big trees. There was an old winding path leading to his house from the wider road behind the present main business square. Between Main street and the home of Sellers there was a thick bay. This disappeared in later years.

At one time the store of Israelite Immanuel was the only one in Conwayborough. Before long Buck & Beaty put up a stock of general merchandise in an old wooden store that stood immediately on the corner where the two-story brick building of Hal L. Buck now stands; and next Burroughs & Gurganus opened up and conducted business in this same store where Buck & Beaty had done a mercantile business. There was probably some other stores conducted about this same time, but the ones mentioned were the leading ones and the others have now passed out of memory.

There were some lawyers at that time. The leading members of the bar were Col. Joseph T. Walsh and Thomas F. Giesseppe. The law library of Colonel Giesseppe can now be found in the library of H. H. Woodward, while many of the books that were used by Colonel Walsh are in the library of Hon. R. B. Scarborough. There were other lawyers coming in

M'DERMOTT IS ONE DIRECTOR

Gives Testimony in Examination Made by Legislature

The Legislature is still engaged in making an investigation of the affairs of the State penitentiary. They have called all of the directors of the institution and taken their testimony on the various questions recently raised following a mutiny at the pen, including certain members of the board of directors who seem to be at odds with the superintendent, Col. A. K. Sanders.

There is an Horryite on the board of directors, Mr. J. A. McDermott, of the Peoples National Bank. He was sworn as a witness in the investigation late last week just before the committee adjourned for the weekend. According to the Daily Record Mr. McDermott testified as follows:

J. A. McDermott another member of the board testified along practically the same lines as the other directors. No books were kept on the penitentiary farms. He had heard rumors about the cotton fire but not such as he thought worth "running down." He testified as to the sale of cotton by Mr. Hawkins and Colonel Sanders and said that it was his understanding that the firm buying the cotton had received a commission of 50 cents a bale. The same firm stored the cotton which bought it. Colonel Sanders, the witness said, seemed to be surprised at the claim as well as the board.

Mr. McDermott said "things looked better in 1922 than in 1921," speaking of discipline at the penitentiary. Prisoners never came to him with complaints.

Should Segregate.

Mr. McDermott thought prisoners should be segregated as he considered it a shame to keep certain classes with others. Asked if he had seen any stocks, he said he was of the opinion they had been done away with and had not seen any. He thought the mutiny was caused by lack of discipline prior to the trouble. He denied that the board tried to usurp any authority from Colonel Sanders. Board did not investigate mutiny.

He testified that he had refunded part of his \$150 expense account allowed for his trip to the prison congress. Said he had spent more than he charged to expense account but out of his own pocket.

A. H. Hawkins, another director, stated that one of the duties of the board was to revise and modify rules. He had heard of some gambling by prisoners. Board did not go to the farms as often as required.

G. A. Moseley also testified as a member of the board of directors but did not throw any new light on the situation.

HUNTS OFFICER BUT IN VAIN

According to Sam W. Todd, a farmer of the Cedar Grove community, of Buck's township, he was notified to appear here before the officers on last Thursday on account of the sale of some stock that he made without any permit first obtained for moving them.

Todd says that he attended in Conway to find out what it was all about and spent most of the day on Thursday here, but that there was no one to tell him what to do or the nature of the charges against him.

He knows, however, that the matter concerns his sale of some livestock a few days ago to his neighbor, H. Herbert Lawrimore. Lawrimore lives in the same community and it was not thought that there would be any interdiction against the removal of stock no further than that from one of the farms to the other.

The full particulars of the matter will doubtless come out later.

from Marion by private conveyances through the Pee Dee river swamps to try cases at court.

(To Be Continued Next Week.)

RETAILERS IN ASSOCIATION

Secretary From Florence Explains in Detail

The general good which may be derived from the retail merchants association, by the public in general, is indicated by the very enthusiastic meeting held in the city hall on the evening of Thursday, January 26th. Mr. D. S. McCarthy, secretary of the Florence association, explained in detail the workings of that association and the many benefits derived therefrom. Nearly all of the merchants of the city were present together with a number of professional men. There were 22 additions to the enrollment of the organization and several more merchants expressed a desire to join.

The objects of the association are to safeguard the interests of the merchants and the trading public in general; to create a better fellowship between the merchant and the consumer; to correct trade abuses; and to disseminate trade information. The scope of activities cover a wide range of usefulness.

The experience of the Florence association has been that the trading public is well pleased with the results obtained.

Every merchant in Conway should join, so that the general public may be better served; membership is entirely voluntary and unsolicited. The organization is open for membership from all merchants, and professional men, who have dealings with the general public. It may be said that the aim of the association is based on a constructive program and will not work a hardship on anyone.

TWO OIL TANKS CAUSE OF SUIT

A law suit was about to develop last week concerning two filling systems that had been used at the store of the Sasser Company, at Gurley, before the stock was sold out under chattel mortgage held by one of the Wilmington banks.

Several months the stock of goods and machinery used in making tobacco flues were sold at public auction and the proceeds applied on a debt that was due to the Murchinson National Bank by the Sasser Company.

It appears that among the equipment disposed of was a Wayne gasoline tank and pumping outfit of a similar nature for dispensing lubricating oils. These were wanted by J. T. Dorsey and he placed a bid on them. Finding that it might be possible for the heirs of the late Mr. John Sasser to save this equipment by obtaining funds to pay on the debt of the bank, they were taken by the agents of the bank and held a while for this money to be put up.

After a time there was no money put up and the agents then turned the things over to J. T. Dorsey and it now appears that J. T. Mishoe, of Conway, became interested in the matter with Mr. Dorsey, and it may be that he was connected with Dorsey in the bidding from the first.

Dorsey sold the tanks to Sims M. Allen, and when Allen went to take the tanks, he found a notice posted up at the place forbidding any trespassing or words to the effect that he must not take the tanks.

It appears that young James Sasser employed attorneys to advise him in the matter and the result was a determination to hold the tanks.

At last accounts the parties were endeavoring to avoid a law suit. The Dorsey interests will, however, insist upon a delivery of the property under their purchase when the things were disposed of under the chattel mortgage. Having sold the tanks to Allen, they are bound to deliver them the purchasers they will bring claim paid by Allen.

If the tanks are not delivered to the purchaser they will bring claim and delivery action in the Court of Common Pleas to recover the property, according to a statement made in Conway last week by J. T. Dorsey.

The tanks will be valued in the case in the sum of \$300. It is not believed that new tanks could be purchased at anything like this amount.

W. L. MISHOE HAS ACCIDENT

W. L. Mishoe was in an automobile accident occurring on January 15th, 1923, the particulars not appearing before on account of his having been confined at his home from illness brought about by the injuries received.

The car in which he was riding turned out of the road at Aynor, running into a hole and throwing Mr. Mishoe up in the back part of the machine and injuring him in the back.

His injuries were, fortunately, not serious, but so painful that he was laid up at his home for two weeks before he had sufficiently recovered to be able to walk out again.

His friends will be glad to know that his hurts did not prove to be serious, and that he has recovered so as to be able to attend to his business affairs once more.

A. BELL FAILS AT BAYBORO

Statement of Assets and Liabilities Given From Schedule

CREDITORS WILL MEET

Two Bad Crop Years Given as Reason For Failure of This Store

On January 25th, Arnold Bell, of Bayboro, was adjudged a bankrupt upon a voluntary petition filed by him on that day in the district court of the United States, in Charleston, S. C.

The case has been referred by the court to R. J. Kirk, referee, Florence, S. C., and notices have been mailed to all of the creditors of Mr. Bell to meet at the office of Mr. Kirk at 12 o'clock, noon, on February 9th, for the purpose of electing a trustee of the estate and considering a sale of the property of the bankrupt. It is stated in the notice that the sale of the stock of merchandise of Mr. Bell will be considered without further notice to the creditors of this estate.

An examination of the schedules filed by the bankrupt, shows his assets and liabilities appear as follows, using the round numbers given in the papers:

Total Assets \$12,000.00
Total debts and liabilities .. 9,000.00

The value of the stock of goods in the store at Bayboro is placed at \$2,000.00. Nearly one-half of the assets given in the above figures consists of debts due to the store by people of Bayboro and nearby sections.

The store has been closed since the petition was filed more than a week ago.

A. Bell started in business on January 1st, 1903, using a store that is still at Bayboro, located near the present residence of Mr. Bell. He did business in that store until in May 1910, when he bought another store from the Burroughs & Collins Company, in the corner, at the Cross Roads, and the business has been kept in the Burroughs & Collins Company store ever since. During that time Mr. Bell has been a useful member of the community, filling the position of postmaster, school trustee, and many useful places on behalf of the people of that section.

His failure is laid to the failure of the crops of the last two years. In 1922, the farmers made a complete failure almost, owing to the heavy rains which fell during the main cropping season. The year before that was a very bad year for the farmers of that community. Running a time business, when the farmers failed to make any money crops with which to pay, Mr. Bell kept up the struggle to pay his creditors as long as he could and when there appeared no further hope for his business, he closed the doors of his store and filed a petition in bankruptcy.

HIGHER COURT ON BELL CASE

Interesting Opinion Dismisses Complaint Against Thompson

ILL CONSIDERED CONTRACT Refuses to Set Aside Deed Made to Mrs. Carrie Thompson

The opinion of the Supreme Court in the case of O. J. Bell against Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Thompson, written by Associate Justice T. B. Fraser, is an interesting document.

The opinion takes up the salient facts in the transaction whereby it was sought to hold the defendant for much more land than he claimed he had sold, and threshes out each phase of the matter in such a way as to make the substance very plain.

The receipt on which the action had to be based, for it could be based on nothing else, contained an addition which included the old store lot across the private road running between the Jones place and the Jake Floyd place. If it had been intended to include the Jake Floyd land also, why did the receipt fail to say so.

Again the complaint sought to set aside, for fraud, a deed which Thompson had made to Mrs. Thompson for this Jake Floyd place, and yet there

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An examination of the records at the court house shows that many farmers are borrowing money, some from the banks and from others who have money to loan.

A word of advice is needed here. Borrow no money unless it is absolutely necessary. If it is necessary, then see that not one cent of the loan is spent for pleasure, or things that can be done without.